

**ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASDR 2019-2020-01**

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET VETOES

WHEREAS the Constitution of the State of Alaska in Article 7, Section 1 provides for public schools open to all children;

WHEREAS the policy of education is defined in Alaska Statute AS 14.03.015;

WHEREAS Alaska's public education and postsecondary education systems are the backbone of Alaska's future citizenry, government, and economic security;

WHEREAS the veto cutting funding for Early Childhood and Pre-K programs may impact the readiness of our incoming students to kindergarten and diminish student success;

WHEREAS the veto cutting school bond debt reimbursement shifts the liability to local government, with the possibility of a decrease in ASD funding, and may financially impact our families and community;

WHEREAS the veto to cut forward funding of education for 2020/2021 may cause loss of teaching positions, increased class sizes, and possible elimination of academic and extra-curricular programs;

WHEREAS the reduction in Medicaid funding may adversely impact the health of our students and their families and therefore impact students' ability to focus and learn;

WHEREAS the Anchorage School District sources many of its educators every year from the University of Alaska, and the veto reducing University of Alaska funding will have an impact on its ability to recruit and graduate students;

WHEREAS many of our students live in families experiencing homelessness and will be negatively impacted by the reduction in funding to the Homeless Assistance Program;

WHEREAS there is currently insufficient mental health support for our students and adults in need and the vetoes include a \$6.1 million reduction in the mental health budget; and

WHEREAS any state level funding vetoes may have detrimental effects on student achievement, reverse academic gains, stymie innovation, and adversely affect current and future students for many years to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anchorage School Board opposes the Governor's vetoes to educational funding, which may indirectly affect the ability to educate, and calls on the Alaska Legislature to stand up for Alaska's children today and in the future by coming together to override the Governor's vetoes.

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD



Starr Marsett, President

Alisha Hilde
Dave Donley
Margo Bellamy

Deena Mitchell
Andy Holleman
Elisa Vakalis



Dr. Deena Bishop, Superintendent