



# Anchorage School District

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## Education Center

5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd. • Anchorage, AK 99504 • 907-742-4000 • www.asdk12.org

March 15, 2024

Dear Members of the Anchorage Legislative Delegation,

On behalf of the more than 43,000 students enrolled in the Anchorage School District, their families, and their educators, we write to you today to say that it is imperative that you and your colleagues override Governor Dunleavy's veto of SB 140. Your vote to override SB 140 will mean that:

- Every legislative district in Anchorage will retain the educators that they would otherwise lose next year due to our structural deficit. The attached charts identify which schools will retain classroom FTE courtesy of the funds that SB 140 would make available, and how that translates to each local legislative district.
- Class sizes will not increase in grades 4-12 next year.
- Elective opportunities for secondary students will not decrease next year.
- A dedicated pool of “holdback” teachers will be able to mitigate unexpected enrollment bubbles—wherever they emerge—next fall.
- Our remarkable language immersion programs will retain their programmatic integrity.
- The elementary school-based gifted pull-out program known as IGNITE (which serves more than 2,000 students across ASD) will remain in place for the 24-25 school year.
- All high school students at our eight comprehensive high schools will have the same evidence-based access to counselors.

While we are disappointed that Governor Dunleavy has chosen to veto the bill, we believe that the Anchorage community still supports the following comprehensive changes to State statute embedded in SB 140:

- AS 14.03.277 (Charter School Coordinator)
- AS 14.03.010(a) (Transportation of Students)
- AS 14.17.430 (State Funding for Correspondence Study)
- AS 14.17.470 (Base Student Allocation)
- AS 14.30.773 (Support for reading improvement plans)

Finally, should the Legislature override the Governor's veto, SB 140's adjustments to the above statutes would generate additional support for public education as well as stable and predictable revenue through the State of Alaska's Foundation Formula.

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*Educating All Students for Success in Life*

**Anchorage School Board** Margo Bellamy, President

Carl Jacobs, Vice President

Dora Wilson, Clerk

Kelly Lessens, Treasurer

Dave Donley

Pat Higgins

Andy Holleman

**Superintendent** Dr. Jharrett Bryantt

For the Anchorage School District, these changes would have the following bottom-line impacts:

- Additional support for the 2,605 students currently enrolled in ASD's eight charter schools, as well as increased support for families who may be interested in starting new charter schools in future years.
- An increase of \$50 per pupil for Student Transportation. This increase would offset more than \$2 million of the \$9 million that ASD is requesting that Anchorage taxpayers contribute to Student Transportation for the 2024-25 school year.
- A generous increase to the funding received by ASD's nearly 1,700 correspondence students and families to allocate additional allotments directly towards students' curricular needs.
- An increase of \$680 to the Base Student Allocation, from \$5,960 to \$6,640, will simultaneously support ASD's public charter schools and allow the Anchorage School Board to:
  - Reverse the proposed FY25 elimination of 10 holdback teacher FTE;
    - *Note: 1 FTE = 1 "Full time equivalent" position*
  - Reverse the proposed FY25 elimination of 36.3 teacher FTE across the divisions as noted below, which would otherwise incur a Pupil:Teacher Ratio (PTR) + 1 increase for grades 4-12;
    - 8.5 FTE at elementary schools
    - 9.8 FTE at middle schools
    - 14.2 FTE at high schools
    - 3.8 FTE at alternative schools
  - Reverse the proposed FY25 elimination of 5 Immersion FTE;
  - Reverse the proposed FY25 elimination of 18 IGNITE (gifted elementary) FTE; and
  - Ensure that the Pupil: Counselor metric for FY25 is 300:1 or less at all eight comprehensive high schools by allocating an additional 1.5 net Counselor FTE across Chugiak, Service and South high schools.
- An additional \$500 per kindergarten thru 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student identified to have a reading deficiency would allow the Board and administration to craft predictable, long-term, and highly effective strategies for accelerating student growth in reading.

Thank you again for your historic, collaborative passage of SB 140 earlier this session and thank you for your support of ASD's students, families, and educators.

Sincerely,

Margo Bellamy, President, Anchorage School Board  
Carl Jacobs, Vice President, Anchorage School Board  
Kelly Lessens, Treasurer, Anchorage School Board

***ASD schools, by legislative district, which will retain classroom teachers\* for 2024-25  
pending a legislative override of SB 140***

<b>E</b>	<b>Giesel</b>	Mears, Ocean View, Service, South, Dimond, East, Goldenview, Hanshew, Huffman
<b>F</b>	<b>Kaufman</b>	East, Goldenview, Hanshew, Huffman, Kasuun, O'Malley, Service, South
<b>G</b>	<b>Gray-Jackson</b>	Airport Heights, Central, Dimond, East, Mears, Romig, Steller, West
<b>H</b>	<b>Claman</b>	Dimond, Mears, Romig, West
<b>I</b>	<b>Tobin</b>	Airport Heights, Bartlett, Begich, Central, Denali, East, Government Hill, Romig, Tyson
<b>J</b>	<b>Dunbar</b>	Airport Heights, Bartlett, Central, Clark, College Gate, East, King Tech, Tyson, West
<b>K</b>	<b>Wielechowski</b>	Bartlett, Begich, Clark
<b>L</b>	<b>Merrick</b>	Bartlett, Begich, Chugiak, Mirror Lake
<b>9</b>	<b>Shaw</b>	East, Goldenview, Huffman, O'Malley, South
<b>10</b>	<b>C Johnson</b>	Dimond, Goldenview, Hanshew, Mears, Ocean View, Service, South
<b>11</b>	<b>Coulombe</b>	Hanshew, Huffman, O'Malley, Service, South
<b>12</b>	<b>Schrage</b>	East, Hanshew, Kasuun, Service
<b>13</b>	<b>Josephson</b>	Dimond, East, Hanshew, Mears, Romig, Service, West
<b>14</b>	<b>Galvin</b>	Central, East, Romig, Steller, West
<b>15</b>	<b>McKay</b>	Dimond, Mears, Sand Lake
<b>16</b>	<b>Armstrong</b>	Dimond, Mears, Romig, Sand Lake, West
<b>17</b>	<b>Fields</b>	Airport Heights, Central, Denali, East, Romig, West
<b>18</b>	<b>Groh</b>	Bartlett, Begich, Central, Denali, East, Government Hill, Tyson, West
<b>19</b>	<b>Mina</b>	Airport Heights, Bartlett, Central, Clark, East, Tyson
<b>20</b>	<b>Gray</b>	Bartlett, Clark, College Gate, East, King Tech
<b>21</b>	<b>Mears</b>	Bartlett, Begich, Clark
<b>22</b>	<b>Wright</b>	Bartlett, Begich, Clark
<b>23</b>	<b>Allard</b>	Bartlett, Begich, Chugiak, Eagle River HS, Mirror Lake
<b>24</b>	<b>Saddler</b>	Chugiak, Eagle River HS, Mirror Lake

***\*This chart represents SB 140's capacity to restore 36.3 classroom FTE, 5 elementary immersion FTE, & 1.5 additional counselor FTE c/o ASD's FY25 Proposed Budget (as amended). It excludes the 28 district-wide teacher FTE (18 IGNITE + 10 holdback positions) that would also be restored through an override of SB 140 but are not assigned to a specific site.***

**Sources:**

FY25 Proposed budget (2/20/24), Appendix F (p 481-482)

FY25 Proposed budget, as amended (3/1/24), Appendix F (p 479-480)

"FY25 Teaching FTE Change Based on Board Amendment." ASD Finance Committee, March 7, 2024.

Code	Organization Code	School	FY25 Teachers ORIGINAL	FY25 Teachers UPDATED	FY25 Change Based on Board Amendment
110	1110	Airport Heights	10.00	11.50	1.50
112	1112	Alpenglow	14.50	14.50	-
114	1114	Aurora	18.00	18.00	-
115	1115	Baxter	10.50	10.50	-
116	1116	Bayshore	16.50	16.50	-
118	1118	Bear Valley	15.50	15.50	-
120	1120	Birchwood ABC	11.00	11.00	-
125	1125	Bowman	20.50	20.50	-
130	1130	Campbell	14.50	14.50	-
140	1140	Chester Valley	10.00	10.00	-
150	1150	Chinook	18.00	18.00	-
160	1160	Chugach Optional	12.00	12.00	-
170	1170	Chugiak	22.50	22.50	-
174	1174	College Gate	16.50	17.50	1.00
180	1180	Creekside Park	17.00	17.00	-
190	1190	Denali Montessori	16.00	17.50	1.50
200	1200	Eagle River	13.00	13.00	-
210	1210	Fairview	14.50	14.50	-
215	1215	Fire Lake	10.00	10.00	-
220	1220	Girdwood K-8	8.50	8.50	-
230	1230	Government Hill	20.00	21.00	1.00
235	1235	Homestead	13.00	13.00	-
237	1237	Huffman	12.00	13.00	1.00
240	1240	Inlet View	10.00	10.00	-
242	1242	Kasuun	14.50	16.00	1.50
245	1245	Klatt	11.50	11.50	-
246	1246	Kincaid	16.50	16.50	-
248	1248	Lake Hood	8.50	8.50	-
250	1250	Lake Otis	13.50	13.50	-
260	1260	Mountain View	12.00	12.00	-
270	1270	Muldoon	18.50	18.50	-
280	1280	North Star	15.00	15.00	-
290	1290	Northern Lights ABC	26.50	26.50	-
300	1300	Northwood ABC	10.00	10.00	-
310	1310	Nunaka Valley	6.50	6.50	-
315	1315	Ocean View	13.50	14.50	1.00
320	1320	O'Malley	15.50	18.50	3.00
324	1324	Orion	18.00	18.00	-

Code	Organization Code	School	FY25 Teachers ORIGINAL	FY25 Teachers UPDATED	FY25 Change Based on Board Amendment
328	1328	Ptarmigan	16.00	16.00	-
330	1330	Rabbit Creek	16.00	16.00	-
335	1335	Ravenwood	17.00	17.00	-
340	1340	Rogers Park	10.00	10.00	-
345	1345	Russian Jack	13.00	13.00	-
350	1350	Sand Lake	20.00	21.00	1.00
360	1360	Scenic Park	19.00	19.00	-
362	1362	Spring Hill	13.50	13.50	-
363	1363	Trailside	16.50	16.50	-
364	1364	Susitna	18.00	18.00	-
365	1365	Taku	10.50	10.50	-
370	1370	Tudor	13.00	13.00	-
380	1380	Turnagain	13.00	13.00	-
384	1384	Tyson, William	15.00	16.00	1.00
386	1386	Ursa Major	-	-	-
388	1388	Ursa Minor	15.50	15.50	-
390	1390	Williwaw	14.50	14.50	-
400	1400	Willow Crest	12.50	12.50	-
410	1410	Wonder Park	12.50	12.50	-
418	1418	Gladys Wood	9.50	9.50	-
		Total Elementary School FTE	819.00	832.50	13.50
Code					
700	1700	Central	20.60	21.80	1.20
710	1710	Clark	28.20	29.60	1.40
730	1730	Gruening	30.80	30.80	-
740	1740	Hanshaw	38.60	39.80	1.20
750	1750	Mears	43.80	45.00	1.20
755	1755	Mirror Lake	23.20	24.40	1.20
760	1760	Romig	43.80	45.00	1.20
770	1770	Wendler	25.80	25.80	-
780	1780	Goldenview	41.20	42.40	1.20
785	1785	Begich	34.80	36.00	1.20
		Total Middle School FTE	330.80	340.60	9.80
Code					
800	1800	Bartlett	49.20	51.60	2.40
810	1810	Chugiak	32.80	34.00	1.20
820	1820	Dimond	48.00	51.60	3.60
830	1830	East	59.60	62.00	2.40

	Organiza tion Code	School	FY25 Teachers ORIGINAL	FY25 Teachers UPDATED	FY25 Change Based on Board Amendment
Code	840	1840 Service	53.80	56.20	2.40
	850	1850 West	62.00	63.20	1.20
	860	1860 South	44.60	44.60	-
	865	1865 Eagle River	28.20	29.40	1.20
		Total High School FTE	378.20	392.60	14.40
Code	450	1450 Polaris K-12	21.40	21.40	-
	805	1805 King Tech High School	24.80	26.00	1.20
	835	1835 Save I	8.00	8.00	-
	845	1845 Steller	14.20	15.40	1.20
	870	1870 AMCS	3.00	3.00	-
	875	1875 McLaughlin	10.80	10.80	-
	878	1878 AK Choice	8.00	9.00	1.00
	880	1880 Benson Secondary	13.60	13.60	-
	882	1882 Special Schools	17.50	17.50	-
	892	1892 ASD Virtual	12.00	12.00	-
		Total Alternative School FTE	133.30	136.70	3.40
		Unallocated Teachers	21.00	31.00	10.00
		Total Teacher FTE	1,682.30	1,733.40	51.10