

Academic Year 2022-23

# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District has the following legislative priorities in order to provide an excellent education to Alaska students while maintaining fiscally responsible operations.

#### **#1 PRIORITY**

### Adjust Base Student Allocation (BSA)

Change the Base Student Allocation formula to adjust for yearly changes to cost of living and inflation.

The district strongly believes the BSA formula should be adjusted to be responsive to cost of living and inflation changes. In years where there is "flat" educational funding, it is essentially a reduction for the district as expenses increase approximately 2-4% each year due to rising labor costs. Alaska school districts need dependable education funding that responds to a shifting financial landscape.

# Alaska K-12 Funding Base Student Allocation FY 2011 ~ FY2022 Updated 11/12/2021 \$6,500 \$6,500 \$6,600 \$20 \$25 \$44 Million Outside Outside Outside Outside Outside Outside Outside Outside Formula \$5,680 \$5,880 \$5,880 \$5,930

## #2 PRIORITY Staff Recruiting & Retention

Address the educator shortage through defined benefit retirement and a statewide recruitment effort.

A strong education system needs a stable work force. Alaska school districts need a recruitment package that enhances a district's ability to attract and retain quality educators. Vacancies, and the time it takes to fill them, have risen sharply this school year and the trend is expected to continue. Shortages in educators, support staff, and substitute employees directly impact students' continuity of education.



"I'm inspired when students work hard and succeed at difficult tasks." Charmaree Cook, 5th grade teacher at North Pole Elementary.

#### 2021-22 FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT



The following information summarizes the 2021-22 academic year.

18 Elementary Schools • 8 Secondary Schools • 8 Schools of Choice • 7,444 Square Miles

#### **ENROLLMENT**

Grade	2021-22
Elementary (Pre K-6)	6,652
Middle/Jr High (7-8)	1,480
High School (9-12)	4,136
Total	12,268

#### TARGET CLASS SIZE

Grade	2021-22
Kindergarten	25.0
1st - 2nd	25.0
3rd - 6th	26.0
7th - 8th	29.0
9th - 12th	32.0

#### **FAST FACTS**

- Approximately 19% of students receive special education services.
- 2,870 students, or 23.4%, are economically disadvantaged
- Over 23% of students are military connected
- The 2020-21 four-year graduation rate was 77.6%
- Districtwide attendance is 92%
- 87% of the district's operating fund is spent on employee salaries and benefits

#### **ETHNICITIES**

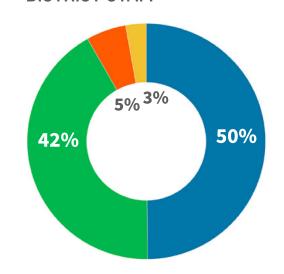
Includes students who identified as an additional race or ethnicity.

- 78.1% Caucasian
- **24.6%** Two or More Races (includes students who also identified as Hispanic)
- 20.6% Alaska Native/American Indian
- 10.4% African American
- 10.0% Hispanic
- 8.6% Asian/Pacific Islander

#### LANGUAGES

There are **over 68 different heritage languages** spoken in our students' families across the school district. Approximately 10% of all students have a heritage language.

#### DISTRICT STAFF



Fairbanks Educators
Association

Education Support Staff Association

Fairbanks Principals
Association

Non-Represented



The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District is an equal employment and educational opportunity institution, as well as a tobacco and nicotine-free learning and work environment.