FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION 2019-20:

OPPOSING REDUCTIONS IN EDUCATION FUNDING

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

WHEREAS, the policy of education is defined in Alaska Statute AS 14.03.015 to ensure all students will succeed in their education, work, and lives; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature has previously committed to forward fund K-12 education for FY2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s budget proposal reduces the Base Student Allocation (BSA) by 22.9%, the largest reduction since statehood; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget eliminates early childhood programs harming our most vulnerable population; and

WHEREAS, the budget proposal dramatically reduces funding to the University of Alaska, thus jeopardizing the many partnership programs between the university and the school district and limiting post-secondary options for high school graduates; and

WHEREAS, the budget proposal eliminates school bond debt reimbursement, shifting the liability onto municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget will mean the catastrophic loss of teaching positions, untenable increased class sizes, and complete elimination of academic and extra-curricular programs; and

WHEREAS, budget reductions of this magnitude will have significant detrimental effect on student achievement, reverse academic gains, and adversely affect current and future students for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for FY2020 will cause significant and irreparable harm to the state's economy, school districts, communities, families, and students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education is adamantly opposed to reductions in educational funding;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education urges the Alaska Legislature to act on education funding by April 14, 2019, on behalf of public education.

Passed and Approved: March 19, 2019

Wendy Dominique, President
Board of Education

ATTEST:

Sharon Tuttle
Executive Assistant to the Board of Education