

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution 04-05-3

RESOLUTION ON STUDENT FUNDING

Whereas, the Governor recognizes the challenge of creating a quality educational system and desires to continue to improve education; and

Whereas, the Governor said in the State of the State Address: "... increases in the retirement system costs and unforeseen energy expenses have put too great a burden on local governments in the short term," and he introduced a funding bill to increase the foundation funding by \$62 million resulting in a base student allocation of \$4,880; and

Whereas, increasing student achievement and improving school performance (required by both the No Child Left Behind Act and Alaska statute and standards) will require schools to go beyond status quo operations and institute new or improved programs over the long term to address the specific unique needs of each student; and

Whereas, increasing student achievement and improving school performance require resources *beyond* those needed to simply address the increased costs of the retirement system and the unforeseen energy expenses; and

Whereas, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District recognizes that improving student achievement will require a combination of the following strategies at a minimum:

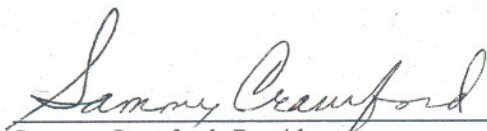
- reducing Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) to 20:1 average at kindergarten
- reducing PTR to 22:1 average at 1-3rd grade
- reducing PTR to 26:1 at 4-6th grade
- expanding literacy resources and training in primary grades
- expanding distance education opportunities; and

Whereas, reaching a level of truly adequate foundation funding that will increase student achievement and improve school performance will require a reasonable and dependable trend of funding increases over a number of years; and

Whereas, by our district requesting a higher level of funding increase for 2006 than currently proposed by the Governor, we recognize that the benefit would accrue not only to our students but also to all students in Alaska, both urban and rural; now therefore be it

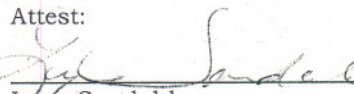
Resolved, That the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District strongly supports the funding bill introduced by the Governor to increase foundation funding; and be it further

Resolved, That the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District requests the Governor and Legislature increase the base student allocation to \$5086 for FY06 and make an additional appropriation of \$114 per Kenai Peninsula Borough School District student to assist with the additional fixed costs of operating rural schools. As the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is a model for the State, with your support we can work together to make our children a true priority.



Sammy Crawford, President
School Board

Attest:


Lynn Sandahl
Notary Public

My Commission Expires 7/25/05

