

## **House Bill 273 Education Funding Bill Alaska's FY09 Education funding legislation**

**This bill was signed by Governor Palin on March 28, 2008**

1. Places the updated district cost factors in law. In FY09, it provides 50% of the recommended increase to school districts, followed by 12.5% each of the next four years until 100% of the new recommended district cost factors are in law. This provides school districts with the predictability that the geographic cost differences will be funded on an ongoing basis through the public school funding formula.
  2. Increases the base student allocation by \$100 each of the next three years. FY09 \$5,480, FY10 \$5,580 and in FY11 \$5,580.
  3. Increased funding for intensive needs students is placed in law. Intensive students require high cost support services and full time attendants while receiving their educational instruction each day. Typically, there is a high concentration of these students in large communities because the medical facilities and specialized services that so many of these children need are readily available. In FY09, the funding level will be approximately \$49,320 per student, increasing to \$61,380 in FY10, and \$73,840 in FY11.
  4. Recalibrated the pupil transportation grants so districts do not have to subsidize this program at the expense of other educational programs.
  5. This bill was passed early in the legislative session. This allows school districts to know what their level of funding will be for the school year beginning in July 2008.
- In addition to the foundation funding program changes, the legislature provided school districts with one-time energy grants that are based on the FY08 adjusted average daily membership (enrollment) times \$100.

Prepared by Eddy Jeans, Director of School Finance  
907-465-8679  
Email [Eddy.Jeans@Alaska.gov](mailto:Eddy.Jeans@Alaska.gov)