

## **2026 Legislative Priorities**

KPBSD is committed to working with the Alaska Legislature to support students in life success.

Our 2026 priorities focus on expanding student opportunities, responsible funding, and supporting safe and healthy schools.

### ***1. Strengthen Student Success Through Support for Strong Literacy and Math Skills and Career & Technical Education (CTE)***

- Provide adequate funding for the Alaska Reads Act and other legislatively enacted initiatives.
- Implement state assessment systems that prioritize student growth over time rather than one-time proficiency scores.
- Maintain CTE funding sufficient for districts to align CTE programming with state and local workforce demands; improve post-graduation outcomes and expand access to high-quality CTE opportunities across all districts.
- Support District partnerships with the University of Alaska and local industries to strengthen career pathways for students.

### ***2. Sustainably Fund Alaska's Public Education System***

- Guarantee stable, predictable, inflation-adjusted funding to support long-term planning, consistent staffing, and robust student programs.
- Fully reimburse transportation based on actual district-reported costs.
- Establish a competitive retirement system to attract and retain high-quality educators statewide.
- Prioritize funding to reduce the backlog of deferred maintenance in Alaska's public schools.
- Increase funding for correspondence students to 1.0 ADM while also ensuring meaningful measures of accountability for all schools.

### ***3. Ensure Safe, Supportive School Environments***

- Establish state regulations that help schools improve attendance and reduce truancy.
- Expand access to mental health support in communities across Alaska; support counselors and trauma-informed practices in both schools and communities.
- Invest in student wellness through robust support for music, art, and extracurricular activities.
- Support ongoing staff training to strengthen student well-being, safety, and professional conduct.