

2027 Legislative Priorities

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

Our 2027 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 all state mandates.
- Align state assessment systems with existing district assessments, such as mCLASS and NWEA, to better measure student growth over time and provide timely information to guide instructional improvement.
- Provide adequate CTE funding to align programs with state and local workforce needs, expand student access to high-quality career pathways, and improve postsecondary outcomes.

2. Sustainably Fund Alaska's Public Education System

- Modernize Alaska's education funding formula to better reflect the actual costs of educating students, including the unique challenges of small and rural schools, declining enrollment, and diverse student needs.
- Review and strengthen Alaska's charter school application and approval process to ensure rigorous expectations, reasonable timelines, and adequate state support, while ensuring funding allocations reflect actual costs and do not reduce the resources needed to serve students in other district schools.
- Provide stable, predictable, forward-funded, and inflation-adjusted education funding to support long-term planning, consistent staffing, and strong student programs.
- Fully reimburse school transportation based on actual district-reported costs, including transportation required for students with disabilities, students in foster care, and students experiencing homelessness under the McKinney-Vento Act.
- Ensure adequate and equitable funding for special education services, including the increasing costs of meeting students' individual needs.
- Support competitive retirement systems and other initiatives that strengthen the recruitment, preparation, and retention of qualified educators, particularly in rural and hard-to-staff communities.
- Prioritize funding to reduce the backlog of deferred maintenance in Alaska's public schools.

3. Ensure Safe, Supportive School Environments

- Support evidence-based strategies and resources that help schools reduce chronic absenteeism.
- Expand access to mental health support in communities across Alaska; support counselors and trauma-informed practices in both schools and communities.