

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AGENDA STATEMENT

No. 12

MEETING OF September 11, 2019

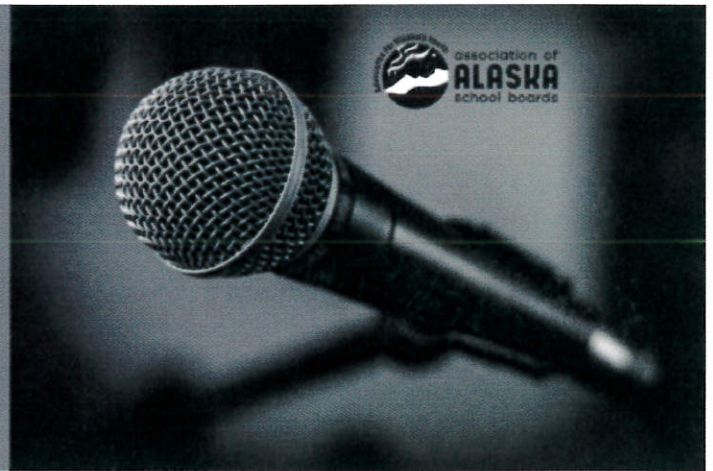
ITEM TITLE: DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION topics

- a. Association of Alaska School Boards' Call for Resolutions and nominations for its Board of Directors  
*(Information from AASB is attached.)*
- b. Process for Board policy review and revision *(Board Bylaw 9311- Board Policies is attached).*
- c. Discussion concerning a permanent superintendent contract.
- d. Joint Resolution with the Ketchikan Gateway Borough concerning state education funding. *The resolution adopted by the Assembly on September 3, 2019, is attached as well as the background information from the Assembly meeting packet.*

# 2019 AASB Resolutions Process

Get Info Here



## Call for Resolutions – Response due by Midnight October 8, 2019

Attention all Board Presidents, Superintendents, and Board Secretaries:

AASB is soliciting resolutions, resolution amendments and comments from local school boards for consideration at the 2019 Annual Conference, November 7-10 in Anchorage. These resolutions will guide our association for the coming year, starting on November 11, 2019. They will also guide our advocacy and positions during the upcoming legislative session.

Looking ahead to 2020, the 31st State Legislature and the Governor will continue to deal with the state's fiscal crisis. Education issues, such as a focus on the Base Student Allocation, will continue to be a primary concern. The State Board of Education and Commissioner Johnson will continue moving forward with the state strategic plan for education and Alaska's Education Challenge, which AASB has helped to facilitate. AASB continues to work closely with DEED in trying to move Alaskan education forward so that every student can receive an excellent education everyday. As you review the resolutions packet, please think about the issues facing your district, and possibly others across the state, and our role in advocating for quality public education through effective local governance.

The following documents are hosted here for your convenience and to assist your board's work:

- [2020 Where-We-Stand-paged- Draft #1.pdf](#)
- [2020 Where-We-Stand-paged- Draft #1.doc](#)
- [Sunsetting Resolutions-BOD Recommendations.pdf](#)
- [AASB\\_Resolution\\_ Fillable \\_Form.pdf](#)
- [AASB\\_2019\\_Resolution Process\\_and\\_Timeline.pdf](#)
- [Resolutions and 2019 Bills Status.pdf](#)

The AASB Board of Directors at its July 2019 meeting in Kodiak reviewed the current resolutions scheduled to sunset. The AASB Board has recommended the renewal of 14 resolutions that are scheduled to sunset. One resolution has been recommended to sunset. A list of all resolutions due to sunset is included in a separate document (Sunsetting Resolutions-BOD Recommendations.pdf).

The AASB Board of Directors has one new resolution to put forward: The Board also recommended amending The AASB Board continues to be concerned about student achievement of all students, but in particular Alaska Native students. The Board continues to want to focus on personalized learning, parent and community engagement, and the application of social-emotional and culturally responsive educational practices.

Your board may wish to comment on, amend any existing resolutions. Your board may also wish to submit new resolutions for consideration. Remember, only the title and resolution are voted on by the membership, not the rationale. We do welcome comments about rationale.

In order to comment on or put forward suggested resolution changes, AASB requests your board schedule time to discuss the resolutions at a regular meeting and vote by official board action. The deadline specified by AASB bylaws for the AASB office to receive your comments and proposals is October 8, 2019.





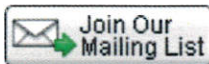
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## AASB Awards and BOD Nominations

*Memo from Tiffany Jackson, AASB President*

In order to encourage greater participation in the AASB nominations and elections process our members have asked us to get the information out so that school boards can begin considering nominations in September. **Even though the deadline doesn't occur until October, we hope you will schedule this for discussion at your September meeting.**

This year there are 5 positions available for the AASB Board of Directors. Copies of the nomination forms for distribution at your next board meeting are attached. **The deadline for the Board of Directors Nominations is October 15, 2019.**

Nominations forms for the Board of Directors are accompanied by an AASB Director's Job Description adopted by the AASB Board to help nominees fully understand what the position entails. The Board has also adopted a Code of Ethics they would like all nominees to read and acknowledge by signing and returning with the nomination forms.

We have also attached the nomination forms for **Outstanding School Board** and the **Carl Rose Governance Award**. The criteria for Outstanding School Board and Carl Rose Governance nominations are included with the nominations forms. **The deadline for submission of nominations for these two awards is also October 15, 2019.**

We understand how hard it is to choose from among so many deserving members in these categories and we congratulate you in advance for taking on this task!

**Remember to place this on your next school board meeting agenda to meet the October 15th submission deadline.** Please note that all nominations require official board action.

## BOARD POLICIES

*Note: Pursuant to A.S. 14.14.100, policies relating to the management and control of the district must be expressed in written bylaws formally adopted at regular Board meetings.*

The School Board recognizes that its most important function is to establish policies which communicate its direction for the management and control of the schools. Policies are written statements adopted by the Board which communicate the guidelines and limits within which the Superintendent or designee and staff may take discretionary action. The policy manual in its entirety may also be accessed on the school website.

*(cf. 2210 - Administrative Leeway in Absence of Board Policy)*

The Board encourages members of the community to contribute information and opinions for the Board's consideration and propose revisions to policy.

The adoption of policy shall conform with Board bylaws governing agenda, meetings, and voting. Only those written statements adopted and recorded in the minutes shall constitute official Board policy.

Prior to adoption, policies shall normally be given two readings by the Board. At its second reading, the policy may be adopted by a majority vote of all members of the Board. Readings may involve reading the title and a summary, if any. If a policy is passed unanimously by the Board and it is unlikely that the policy change will generate public interest or debate, the Board Chair may waive the second reading, provided a majority of the Board Members do not object. The Board Chair, or a majority of the Board, may require additional readings following the second should it be in the public's best interest.

In addition to presenting drafts or suggestions for new policy and policy revisions when changes in law occur or when a specific need arises, the Superintendent or designee, shall maintain procedures for the continuous orderly review of existing policies at a time allocated for this purpose on the agenda of regular Board meetings. When policies are amended, the Superintendent or designee shall review corresponding administrative regulations to ensure that they conform to the intent of the revised policy.

When drafting or revising Board policies which affect other governmental agencies or areas of common interest, the Superintendent or designee shall seek input from these agencies and shall express the Board's desire to cooperate with them in addressing matters of mutual concern.

*(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*

### Legal Reference:

#### ALASKA STATUTES

*14.14.100 Bylaws and administrative rules*



**Assembly - Regular**

**9. a.**

**Meeting Date:** 09/03/2019

**Submitted By:** Kacie Paxton

**Department:** Clerk

**Approved for Submittal:** Cynna Gubatayao, Finance Director  
Deanna Thomas, Asst Manager  
Ruben Duran, Manager

**Approved as to form:** Glenn  
Brown,  
Borough  
Attorney

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**Information**

**TITLE**

Resolution 2817, a Joint Resolution with the Ketchikan Gateway Borough School Board, Opposing Actions by the State of Alaska to Shift the Costs of its Constitutional Obligation to Maintain a System of Public Schools Open to all Children of the State

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

"I move to adopt Resolution 2817, a joint resolution with the School Board, opposing actions of the State that shift the costs of education funding to local municipalities."

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE**

Resolution 2817, a joint resolution with the Ketchikan Gateway Borough School Board, opposes actions of the State that shift the costs of education funding to local municipalities. The State of Alaska has certain obligations for maintaining public schools and the funding of those schools. Resolution 2817 outlines the State obligations for maintaining public schools and urges the Governor and Legislature to oppose any legislation that would shift responsibilities and costs to municipalities.

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**Fiscal Impact**

**Attachments**

Resolution 2817

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**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH  
AND  
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD**

**ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 2817  
SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 20-02**

**A Resolution of the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough School Board, Opposing Actions by the State of Alaska to Shift the Costs of its Constitutional Obligation to Maintain a System of Public Schools Open to all Children of the State**

**RECITALS**

- A. WHEREAS**, Article VII, §1 of the Alaska Constitution commands that the Legislature "shall by general law establish and maintain a system of public schools open to all children of the state", a provision that obligates the legislature in equal measure to provide for all 53 school districts in the State of Alaska; and
- B. WHEREAS**, in support of this mandate of the Constitution, the Legislature enacted AS 14.17.410 which provides the formula by which the adequate funding for each school district is calculated, commonly referred to as the Base Student Allocation or BSA; and
- C. WHEREAS**, the calculation set forth in AS 14.17.410 imposes an additional requirement on only 34 of the state's 53 jurisdictions, to wit: a Required Local Contribution (RLC) equivalent to a 2.65 mill tax levy on the full and true value of the taxable real and personal property in those selected school districts; and
- D. WHEREAS**, the RLC operates functionally as a tax levied on residents of incorporated boroughs, home rule municipalities, and first class cities, and it arbitrarily permits residents within the 19 Regional Educational Attendance Areas (REAA's) to bear no responsibility whatsoever for the funding of their schools; and
- E. WHEREAS**, the State of Alaska (State) has broad authority over public education in Alaska, a Constitutional duty shared by no other unit of government in Alaska; and
- F. WHEREAS**, in the exercise of its authority over public education, the State established a Teachers Retirement System (TRS) and statutorily requires that all teachers in public schools be included in that system; and
- G. WHEREAS**, the State established the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS)

in 1961; and

- H. WHEREAS**, in recognition of the State's responsibility for the majority of the unfunded pension and health benefit liability, in 2008 the State amended its Statutes regarding employer contributions to PERS and TRS, placing a cap on employer contributions to PERS at 22 percent of payroll, and on TRS contributions at 12.56 percent of payroll, with the State accepting responsibility for any costs in excess of this amount; and
- I. WHEREAS**, in partial recognition of the State's obligation to provide a system of public schools which includes the facilities required to carry out this obligation, the State, in AS 14.11.100, established the School Bond Debt Reimbursement Program, providing assistance to municipalities for the payment of principal and interest costs related to the construction and major maintenance of school facilities; and
- J. WHEREAS**, municipalities have, in good faith, incurred debt to assist the State in carrying out its obligation to provide a system of public schools; and such debt represents a substantial portion of the total debt load borne by municipalities; and
- K. WHEREAS**, any change in the School Bond Debt Reimbursement rate imperils the finances of municipalities that have developed responsible, long-term debt management plans in reliance upon the State answering its Constitutional obligation; and
- L. WHEREAS**, the State has additionally created the formula in AS 14.17.400, et seq., to determine the necessary level of per pupil State funding for basic and special education, a formula that municipalities properly rely upon to ensure appropriate, predictable funding of the schools they operate.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE FACTS, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH** as follows:

**Section 1.** The Assembly and the School Board find the Required Local Contribution is an invidious and unconstitutional measure, contrary to the mandate of the Alaska Constitution's Public Schools Clause, that its selective imposition has no rational basis in law, and opposes any effort by the State to increase the RLC.

**Section 2.** The Assembly and the School Board oppose any legislation which would increase the burden on PERS and TRS employers beyond the current employer contribution limits of 22 percent for PERS and 12.56 percent for TRS, including reducing on-behalf rates, imposition of termination study costs, and efforts to shift more of the net pension liability for PERS or TRS onto municipalities.

**Section 3.** The Assembly and the School Board oppose any efforts to reduce School Bond Debt Reimbursement payments for approved debt incurred by municipalities under the promise of State assistance and prior to the moratorium enacted in 14.11.100(s).

**Section 4.** The Assembly and the School Board oppose any effort by the State to shift its responsibilities for education to municipalities by reducing the base student allocation, the method of calculation of average daily membership (ADM), or the multipliers set forth in the public school funding formula contained in AS 14.17.410, et seq.

**Section 5.** Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective upon adoption by the Assembly and the School Board, whichever occurs later.

ADOPTED by the Assembly this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_, 2019.

ADOPTED by the School Board this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Eisenhower, Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sonya Skan, Board Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Landis, Borough Mayor

*ATTEST:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kacie Paxton, Borough Clerk

*APPROVED AS TO FORM:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Glenn Brown, Borough Attorney