



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
330 Harbor Drive
Sitka, AK
(907)747-1811

Meeting Agenda

City and Borough Assembly

*Mayor Gary Paxton
Deputy Mayor Steven Eisenbeisz,
Vice Deputy Mayor Kevin Mosher,
Kevin Knox, Dr. Richard Wein, Valorie Nelson, Thor Christianson*

*Interim Municipal Administrator: Hugh Bevan
Municipal Attorney: Brian Hanson
Municipal Clerk: Sara Peterson*

Thursday, February 6, 2020

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

SPECIAL MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. ROLL CALL

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the mayor imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- A [20-034](#) Discussion / Direction / Decision of local support of education to the Sitka School District contained in the proposed FY2021 General Fund Budget and other issues pertaining to the financial support of educational related activities

Attachments: [Motion](#)

[Memo](#)

[CBS Presentation](#)

[School Board letter](#)

[SSD Advocacy Flyer](#)

VI. PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

Public participation on any item on or off the agenda. Not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not anticipated.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Note: Detailed information on these agenda items can be found on the City website at <https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> or by contacting the Municipal Clerk's Office at City Hall, 100 Lincoln Street or 747-1811. A hard copy of the Assembly packet is available at the Sitka Public Library. Assembly meetings are aired live on KCAW FM 104.7 and via video streaming from the City's website. To receive Assembly agenda notifications, sign up with GovDelivery on the City website.

*Sara Peterson, MMC, Municipal Clerk
Publish: February 4*



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

Legislation Details

File #: 20-034 **Version:** 1 **Name:**

Type: Item **Status:** AGENDA READY

File created: 1/29/2020 **In control:** City and Borough Assembly

On agenda: 2/6/2020 **Final action:**

Title: Discussion / Direction / Decision of local support of education to the Sitka School District contained in the proposed FY2021 General Fund Budget and other issues pertaining to the financial support of educational related activities

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: [Motion](#)
[Memo](#)
[CBS Presentation](#)
[School Board letter](#)
[SSD Advocacy Flyer](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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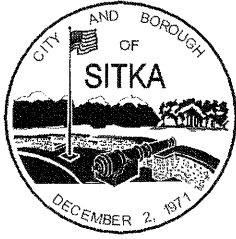
Step 1

Discussion / Direction / Decision

of the local support of education to the Sitka School District contained in the proposed FY2021 General Fund Budget and other issues pertaining to the financial support of educational related activities.

Step 2

I MOVE TO direct the Interim Administrator to include in the FY2021 draft Administrator's budget the amount of \$7,618,993 for local support of public education (including, \$7,161,993 to paid in even monthly disbursements, \$250,000 to be disbursed upon receipt of Secure Rural Schools funding, \$150,000 for reimbursement for maintenance of school buildings, and up to \$57,000 to be used to pay for the performing arts center utility account #5417-002)



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Paxton and Assembly Members

From: Hugh Bevan, Interim Municipal Administrator *HB 1-29-20*

Date: January 29, 2020

Subject: FY21 Sitka School District Funding
February 6, 2020 Joint Meeting of the Assembly and School Board

Background

At your December 23 and January 23, 2020 budget meetings we touched the issue of funding for the Sitka School District.

Based on what we have heard from the Assembly, staff is proposing funding schools to the cap as well as matching FY20 funding levels for additional items such as school maintenance and non-instructional items such as Blatchley Pool and Community Schools.

School funding is the single largest line item in the General Fund Budget. As such we need Assembly guidance in this matter so our Finance Department can continue to develop the FY21 budget.

The School Board will be present to discuss this topic with the Assembly.

Fiscal Note

The proposed level of school funding of \$7,618,993 (which includes 50% of budgeted Secure Rural Schools) increases school funding in the General Fund by \$333,293 over FY20.

While there are still many items pending and if we project capital funding near FY20 levels, the preliminary General Fund budget shows a slight surplus.

Recommendations

Provide \$7,618,993 in FY21 funding from the General Fund for the Sitka School District and seek School Board commitment that this will be funding level requested by Sitka School District.



Special Budget Meeting

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA ASSEMBLY
AND SCHOOL BOARD

FEBRUARY 6, 2020

Process and law pertaining to local funding of public education



1. By May 1 School Board must submit budget to Assembly



2. Within 30 days of receiving formal school budget, the Administrator must inform the School Board in writing of the level of local funding to be made available for public education



3. No action means that whatever is in the SSD budget will be the local contribution and the CBS budget would have to be amended to reflect the amount in the SSD budget (if different)



4. As school funding is our single largest expense, we hope to finalize the amount of local funding early, and seek the School Board's commitment to include an amount in their budget that is agreed upon by the Assembly

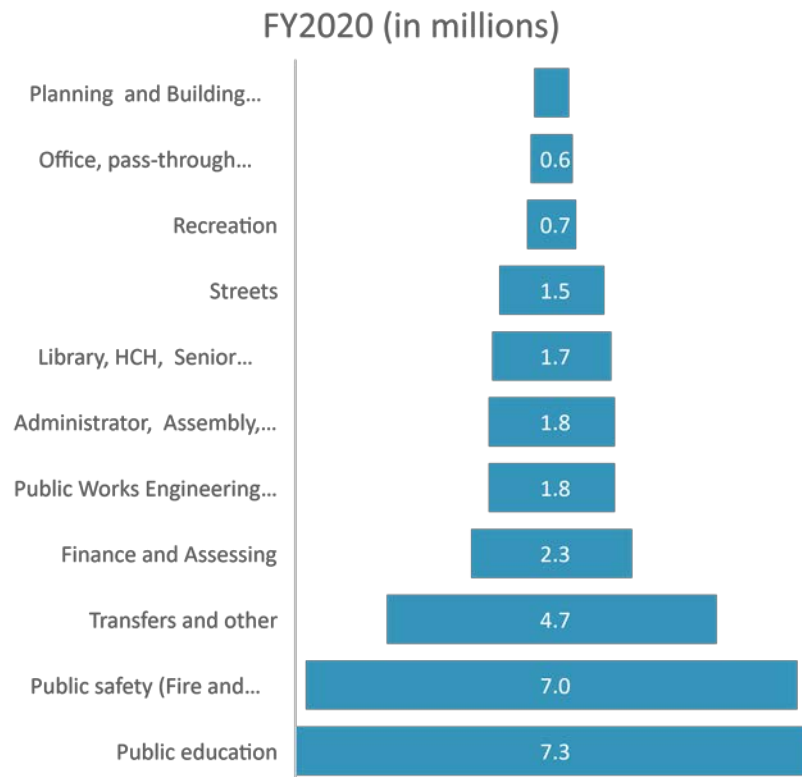
Proposed funding for public education

Total amount of local support for public education proposed for FY2021 budget \$7,618,993 to be disbursed as follows:

	PROPOSED FY2021	FY2020	Increase FY2020 to FY2021
◦Total amount for monthly disbursement*:	\$7,161,993	\$7,078,700	\$83,293
◦Total to be disbursed upon receipt of SRS:	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
◦To be reimbursed for school building maintenance:	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0
◦Direct in-kind for PAC utilities (payment of utility bill):	\$57,000	\$57,000	\$0
	\$7,618,993	\$7,285,700	\$333,293

*The intention is for the total disbursement plus any SRS funds to fund instructional to maximum allowable (\$7,053,234 plus keep the FY2020 level as non instructional \$358,759) but unless the assembly directs the Administrator to indicate these designations, the School Board may allocate these funds as needed, as the law does not require the CBS to direct that the funding be split between instructional and non-instructional and the CBS has not historically done so.

Early and definitive decision on funding levels



School funding is the single largest expense of the municipality, and the Interim Administrator seeks definitive guidance on funding levels to include in the FY2021 draft budget

Proposed motion:

I move to direct the Interim Administrator to:

- ...include in the FY2021 Draft Administrator's budget the amount of \$7,618,993 for local support of public education (including, \$7,161,993 to paid in even monthly disbursements, \$250,000 to be disbursed upon receipt of Secure Rural Schools funding, \$150,000 for reimbursement for maintenance of school buildings, and up to \$57,000 to be used to pay for the performing arts center utility account #5417-002)



February 3, 2020

TO: Mayor Gary Paxton and City of Sitka Assembly Members
FROM: Sitka School Board President Elias Erickson
RE: FY21 Local Contribution to the Sitka School District

Dear Mayor Paxton and Members of the Assembly:

Throughout your deliberations in recent weeks, I have been encouraged by the conversations happening in regards to the City's local contribution to the Sitka School District's FY21 Budget. By the time school districts in Alaska must submit their budgets to their municipalities, they often don't know exactly what their final revenue amount is going to be, and therefore it is typically based on projections and educated guesses. It is greatly appreciated to be able to hear at the beginning of the budget process so clearly from City Administration and the Assembly regarding your intent in the amount of our local contribution.

The City's contribution of local funding is an important part of our overall revenue. As you know, our only revenue sources for our Operating Budget can come from the City, State, and Federal governments. Since the City's allocation is only a part of our overall revenue, we are not in a position to take official action on our FY21 Budget until we have all of our revenue sources clearly identified and/or projected. That being said, I wanted to make you aware of the process we will be going through to provide some indication of the School Board's intent regarding our request for our FY21 local contribution.

At our February 5, 2020 School Board meeting, I have added an agenda item so the entire Board can discuss our intention to honor the funding request identified in Interim Administrator Hugh Bevin's memo to you on the topic of our FY21 local contribution. Although I cannot speak for the Board, I do suspect that they may share my feelings of encouragement and support for the local contribution levels identified. Not only because they indicate a clear level of support for the Sitka School District, but also because of the advanced notification and interest in working collaboratively between our two elected bodies. I will then be able to share the results of our discussion at our February 6, 2020 Special Meeting.

It eases my mind to know that one of the major revenue sources we depend upon is making it clear this early on in the process in regards to what they plan to give. The way you distribute resources reflects the things you consider priorities in this City, and I thank you on behalf of the Board for making education so obviously a high priority for you.

Sincerely,

Elias Erickson



Highlights of our schools:

- ❖ Student achievement is above state averages... and we don't teach to the test
- ❖ Commitment to cultural responsiveness and place-based education
- ❖ Robust Career and Technical Education (CTE) program
- ❖ Leaders in social emotional learning and alternative education practices
- ❖ Strong community partnerships that enrich the learning experience for students
- ❖ Technology-rich learning environment to prepare students for success in life
- ❖ Integration of the arts into our schools to provide a well-rounded education
- ❖ Wooch.een Yei Jigaxtoonei (We Are Working Together) Preschool in partnership with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska



REACH homeschool students work with a local scientist to learn about and study birds that live in our community.



2nd grade students design and code a counter to track donations during a student-initiated Holiday Food Drive.



Middle School students practice a duet to be performed. A majority of our middle school students play an instrument.

Sitka High design class marries tradition and technology in student paddle carving project

Posted by Enrique Pérez de la Rosa, KCAW | Dec 18, 2018



Sitka High School junior Asa Demmert, center, shows off his nearly-finished paddle featuring an eagle alongside Sitka High design instructor Mike Vieira, left, and STA traditional arts instructor, Charlie Skultka Jr., right. (KCAW Photo / Enrique Pérez de la Rosa)

Pacific High carving class brings serenity to students

Posted by Enrique Pérez de la Rosa, KCAW | Nov 28, 2018



Students from Pacific High School travel to Sitka National Historical Park's visitor center every Friday to learn traditional carving techniques from artist Mark Sibbey. From left to right, senior David Abril, sophomore David Bean and sophomore Eric Alvarado pose with the paddles they have carved. (Photo by Enrique Pérez de la Rosa)



Over 125 families attended Baranof Elementary School's Family Reading Night, and they especially liked Officer Wheeler reading to them.

2019-2020 School Board Goals

The Sitka School District will:

- ❖ Close the achievement gap for each demographic
- ❖ Improve the positive response rates on the School Climate and Connectedness Survey in the areas of respectful climate, school safety, student involvement, parent involvement, and peer relationships

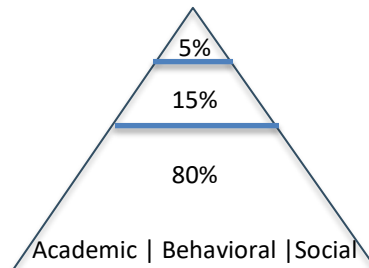
Our Vision: Educating our children to realize their potential and contribute in a connected global society.



Watch our Fund the Future videos at <https://www.sitkaschools.org/ftf>

Multi-Tiered System of Support for Student Behavior and Well-Being

We are in year 2 of a 3-year process to implement a district-wide school-specific tiered system to support students who are struggling to progress with academic and/or social emotional skills. By systemically addressing the whole child we will achieve equity and close the achievement gap.



Sitka School District

300 Kostrometinoff St., Sitka, AK 99835 / 907-747-8622 / [sitkaschools.org](https://www.sitkaschools.org) / Facebook: Sitka School District

Our Mission: Discover Potential – Nurture Growth – Inspire Lifeline Curiosity



The Sitka School District is a proud member of the League of Innovative Schools, a national network of forward-thinking school districts. There are 114 school districts nationwide in the League and only 2 districts in Alaska.

CTE @ SITKA HIGH SCHOOL



100% GRADUATION

CTE concentrators[‡] are 28% more likely to graduate than their non-CTE counterparts.

[‡] Students with ≥ 2.0 HS CTE credits



23%

Of Sitka graduates are CTE concentrators



Of students took at least one CTE class in high school

68%

Of CTE concentrators go on to postsecondary, adv. training, the military, or employment.

Pacific High School, our alternative high school, serves a student population where 59% are on free or reduced lunch* and 28% are homeless. Over the past 27 years, 175 students have graduated from Pacific High School! *District average is 36%

