



# City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

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## 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

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### 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.