



Alaska Association of Student Government

Resolution #12

**An Increase in Funding to The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development
Capital Improvement Projects Major Maintenance Grant Fund**

Submitted by: Sitka High School

Submitted: 24 Oct. 2025

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that: AASG supports a significant Increase in Funding to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development's Capital Improvement Projects Major Maintenance Grant Fund.

1. **Whereas**, Schools in Alaska can apply to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Major Maintenance Grant Fund, to ask for assistance in funding for maintenance projects over \$50,000;¹

2. **Whereas,** To be eligible for DEED CIP funding, districts must have a six-year plan, a fixed asset inventory system, adequate property loss insurance, and a preventive maintenance and facility management program certified by the department;²
3. **Whereas,** the CIP Major Maintenance Grant fund can cover unstarted and started projects;²
4. **Whereas,** the CIP Major Maintenance Grant Fund can reimburse complete or incomplete projects if they meet certain qualifications;²
5. **Whereas,** eligible maintenance projects are placed on a priority list formulated by the state after applying;²
6. **Whereas,** districts that previously had an application ranked by the department, are eligible to re-apply in the next fiscal year if not funded in the fiscal year they applied for;²
7. **Whereas,** the Alaska Senate Finance Committee adopted a committee substitute for the Senate funding bill in April that included \$19,055,000 for the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development CIP Major Maintenance Grant Fund;⁴
8. **Whereas,** the final FY 2026 budget only has \$12,975,001 for the DEED CIP Major Maintenance Grant Fund;⁵
9. **Whereas,** there are 84 items on the State's major maintenance list for FY2026;⁶
10. **Whereas,** \$19,055,000 would only have covered the first five projects on the State's major maintenance list;⁶
11. **Whereas,** \$12,975,001 will only cover the first 3 items on the list;⁷
12. **Whereas,** in FY 2025, the legislature funded 26 projects on the state's major maintenance list, with a budget of \$63 million;⁸

13. **Whereas**, many items on the list never receive state funding, as they need to reapply due to a lack of funding at the state level;⁹
14. **Whereas**, Alaska's education department has received 1,789 funding proposals from rural school districts since 1998.⁹
15. **Whereas**, only 14% of all rural communities that have applied for the CIP Major Maintenance Grant Fund since 1998 have received funding.⁹
16. **Whereas**, Since 1998, at least 135 rural school projects have waited for state funding for five years or more;⁹
17. **Whereas**, Thirty-three of those projects have sat on the state's funding list for more than a decade;⁹
18. **Whereas**, Thorne Bay School District, has requested money to replace the fire sprinklers 17 times, without success;⁹
19. **Whereas**, The Superintendent of the Sitka School district, Deidre Jenson, when asked about the FY2026 priority list, has said “This is last year's list, and Sitka isn't even on it. We have submitted one project for years and it never made it past number 14. We did not submit it again this year.”;
20. **Whereas**, many individuals displaced by Typhoon Halong in western Alaska had to take shelter in local schools;¹⁰
21. **Whereas**, many of the schools used for shelter in western Alaska have strained or broken heating, fuel, water, and sewer systems;¹⁰
22. **Whereas**, due to the strain, local officials said it wasn't safe for people to stay in these schools or communities;¹⁰

23. **Whereas**, at least 81 schools will have to reapply to the DEED CIP Major Maintenance Grant Fund to receive state funding, excluding any new applications;
24. **Whereas**, if major steps aren't taken now to address the school infrastructure problem, it will continue to worsen;¹¹
25. **Whereas**, Funding maintenance through the CIP sooner, will lessen the costs of deferred maintenance that may worsen and cause more issues over time;⁹
26. **Whereas**, A lower number of deferred maintenance projects on the current priority list will make room for other projects to be accepted by the state;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports a significant increase to the future average State funding put toward the Alaska Department of Education and Early Developments Capital Improvement Projects Major Maintenance Grant Fund.

Action Statement: If passed by the general assembly of AASG, this resolution will be brought before the Alaska State Legislature for their consideration, in addition to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

Sources:

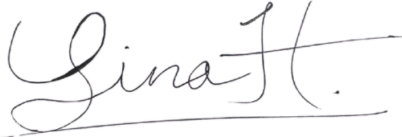
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3. Schwing, Emily. "Nearly 2 Decades After Alaska School Asked State to Fund Repair, Its Building Is About to Collapse." *Alaska Beacon*, 7 Mar. 2025, alaskabeacon.com/2025/03/07/nearly-2-decades-after-alaska-school-asked-state-to-fund-repair-its-building-is-about-to-collapse. Accessed 23 Apr. 2025.
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5. "Major Maintenance Grant Fund." *Alaska Department of Education and Early Development*, omb.alaska.gov/ombfiles/26_budget/EED/Enacted/2026proj65863.pdf.
6. Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. "Alaska Department of Education and Early Development FY2026 Capital Improvement Projects Major Maintenance Grant Fund Final List." *Alaska Department of Education and Early Development FY2026 Capital Improvement Projects Major Maintenance Grant Fund Final List*, 7 Jan. 2025, education.alaska.gov/Facilities/final/FY26MaintenanceFinalList.pdf.
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The resolution passes with unanimous consent.

Passed by the Fall 2025 General Assembly of AASG

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lina H.". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

AASG Vice President, Lina Hischer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cassandra Mirosch". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

AASG Executive Director, Cassandra Mirosch