



Nome Public Schools

PO Box 131~Nome, Alaska 99762
Phone: (907) 443-2231~Fax: (907) 443-5144

June 17, 2025

Nome Common Council
Mayor John Handeland
City of Nome
102 Division Street
Nome AK 99762

Honorable Sirs:

As you may be aware, Governor Dunleavy recently utilized his powers of veto on the state operating budget to reduce school funding below the statutory amount, effectively reducing the recent increase of \$700 to the BSA to \$500. The effect on Nome Public Schools is to reduce our foundation formula funding by an addition \$315,000 for the 2025-2026 school year.

This reduction, combined with the previous reduction in the City of Nome's contribution by \$700,000, is a \$1,000,000 cut to the school district with little time for the district to plan for such a significant change in revenue. At this time, we have few options to remove an additional \$315,000 from our budget without severely impacting the operations of schools. While we anticipate the Legislature will attempt a budget override, this will not occur until January, and there is no guarantee of success.

As such, we are formally requesting that the City Council agree to increase their contribution by \$315,000 to a total of \$3,015,000 for the FY26 school year.

Sincerely,

Jamie Burgess
Superintendent

Cc: Lee Smith, City Manager
Genevieve Hollins, Nome Public Schools CFO
Nickie Crowe, City of Nome CFO
Darlene Trigg, Board President, Nome Public Schools