



Alaska Nurses  
Association

*The unified voice of nurses in the Last Frontier*

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February 16, 2026

Anchorage School Board  
Anchorage School District Education Center  
5530 E Northern Lights Blvd  
Anchorage, AK 99504

Re: Anchorage School District FY 2026-27 Budget & School Nursing Services

Dear Members of the Anchorage School Board,

The Alaska Nurses Association appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of maintaining one nurse per school in the Anchorage School District.

Safe nurse staffing is a growing public health concern in Alaska. Healthcare facilities across the state are cutting nurses and increasing the workload of the nurses who remain. The consequences of unsafe nurse staffing in hospitals are mirrored in our school districts.

Nurses across all specialties know that reducing staff does not equate to a reduction in workload. The remaining school nurses will be left with a tremendous amount of responsibility to care for hundreds more children over a greater distance. This model neither attracts nurses to the profession nor retains them in roles with ever-increasing responsibilities. Instead, it inflicts profound moral injury, forcing nurses to practice in a system that prevents them from providing the level of care they were trained to provide and are ethically bound to deliver.

Our community's school nurses deserve better. Most importantly, our district's children deserve better. The Alaska Nurses Association urges the Anchorage School Board to reconsider the implementation of the Regional Model of school nursing. We ask the Board not to test the limits of an already fragile system of care delivery. We ask that school nurses be recognized not as a luxury, but as a necessity.

Sincerely,

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