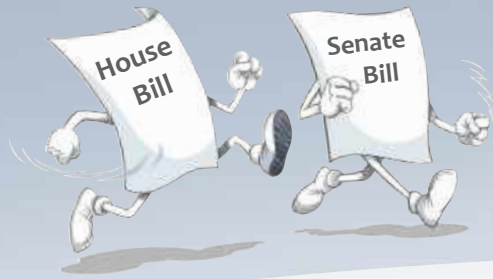


Advocacy Begins With YOU!

**Lon
Garrison**
Executive
Director



**Norm
Wooten**
Director of
Advocacy



2nd Session - 32nd Legislature

The Year of Education

- HB 19 – Limited Teacher Certificates; Languages
- HB 53 – Military Children School Residency Waiver
- HB 114 – Education; Schools; Funding Programs
- HB 281 – FY 23 Operating & Capital Budget; FY22 Supplemental Budget
- HB 282 – Mental Health Budget
- HB 363 – Broadband; Office; Parity
- SB 20 – Out of State Teacher Reciprocity
- SB 34 – State-Tribal Education Compact Schools
- SB 174 – Students: Allow Natural Hair Style, Dress Code
- SB 198 – Rampart School: Yukon-Koyukuk School District



2022 Statewide Election

Systemic Process or Utter Chaos?

- Statewide Election – November 8
- Ranked voting is now the law in Alaska which is “blurring” party lines. First utilized in the special election for Rep. Don Young’s seat with many voters crossing traditional party lines.
- 2020 Census Redistricting re-drew election boundaries in all 40 House districts and 19 Senate districts. Only Senate district T remained the same (Sen. Donny Olsen (D) Golovin) and does not require an election in 2022.



U.S. Senate Race

Probably the hardest fought battle of this this election cycle! This election is being watched nationally since it could affect the Senate majority.

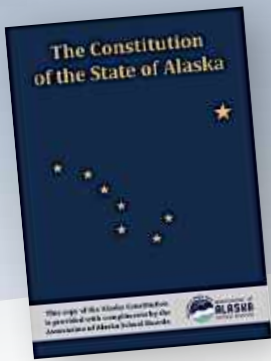
- Patricia Chesbro (D)
- Buzz Kelly (R)
- Lisa Murkowski (R) *Incumbent*
- Kelly Tshibaka (R)



U.S. House Race

Rep. Peltola's win in the special election was a surprise to many, with her success attributed to the ability of many to cross party lines under ranked voting.

- Nick Begich (R)
- Chris Bye (L)
- Sarah Palin (R)
- Mary Peltola (D) Incumbent



Constitutional Convention

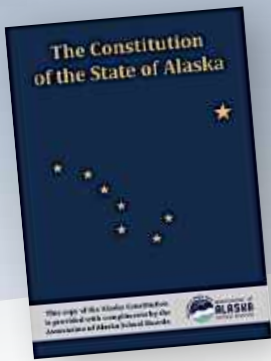
There are three ways in Alaska for a constitutional convention to occur:

1. Through a citizen ballot referendum;
2. Through a call by a 2/3 vote of both bodies of the legislature;
3. Five states, including Alaska, have an “automatic ballot referral” to place the question on the ballot every ten years.

The citizens of of Alaska have always voted “no” on a constitutional convention since the original 1956 convention prior to statehood.

It seems disingenuous that the proponents of the constitutional convention question on the upcoming ballot are using the “statutory PFD” to gain a “yes” vote. *Alaska Constitution, Article 13*





Constitutional Convention

A constitutional convention question is a three part process:

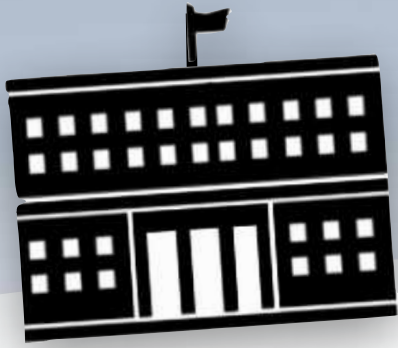
1. The ballot question; “Shall a Constitutional Convention be Convened?”
2. If the ballot measure passes, at the next regular election or special election, delegates to the convention would be elected.
3. A final ballot measure would be offered during an election for voter approval or rejection of any proposed amendments.

Alaska Constitution, Article 13, Section 1



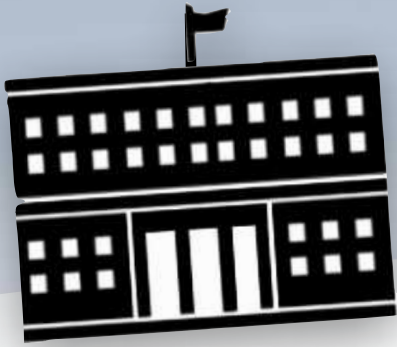
Governor/Lieutenant Race

- Mike Dunleavy (R) – Nancy Dahlstrom (R)
- Les Gara (D) – Jessica Cook (D)
- Charlie Pierce (R) – Edie Grunwald (R)
- Bill Walker (NP) – Heidi Drygas (NP)



Alaska House Races

- 14 members retiring, ineligible, or running for a senate seat. That means 35% of the House seats will change. 6 R's and 8 D's.
- Only three members running unopposed: Andi Story (D), Ben Carpenter (R), Bryce Edgmon (NP), and Josiah Patkotak (NP)
- House Education Co-Chair Harriet Drummond (D) running against Zack Fields (D) due to redistricting.
- Rep. David Eastman remains on the ballot but is scheduled for trial on Dec 12 to determine his eligibility to serve while a member of the Oath Keepers organization (*Alaska Constitution, Article 12, Section 4*)



Alaska Senate Races

- 19 of the 20 Senate seats are up for election as a result of redistricting. Only Senate district T boundary remains unchanged (Donny Olsen).
- 1 Senate seat is unopposed, District B – Jesse Kiehl.
- 5 Senators are retiring – 1 D, 4 R's.
- Senate Education Committee Chair, Senator Roger Holland, is being opposed by former Senate President Cathy Giessel.



What Might the Political Landscape Look Like in 2023?

- The balance of power in the U.S. Senate might change. Currently Vice President Kamala Harris often needs to break a tie with her vote.
- Numerous seats in the U.S. House of Representatives are up for election and could have an effect on bi-partisanship.
- The candidates for Alaska's governor race have VERY different beliefs.
- The Alaska Senate majority will undoubtedly remain with the R's but could tilt toward a more conservative outlook.
- The Alaska House is "anyone's guess." With so many retirements it is impossible to predict the outcome.



What are School Districts Seeing as the Most Important Issues?

1. **Funding** – The 32nd Legislature provided a \$30 “bump” in the Base Student Allocation. This is the first BSA increase since 2017. Every school district in the state is feeling the “pinch.” Costs for every commodity have increased and districts have absorbed those costs for the last 5 years.
2. **Teacher Recruitment & Retention** – Teaching positions all across Alaska are remaining unfilled for entire school years. Districts are allocating both staff time and money in an attempt to fill positions. Retirements are increasing, fewer are entering the profession, and increasing numbers are leaving for better careers.



Advocacy Begins With You

1. Connect with the Senator and House members in your school district – (NOTE: this may include multiple Senate and/or House districts inside a single school district)
2. Following the election, arrange for a meeting with legislators and the school board (i.e. in-person or virtually)
3. Provide legislators with your district's needs
4. Develop a personal relationship with your legislators
5. Invite legislators for school visits



Advocacy Begins With You

6. Place legislators on lists to receive school and district newsletters
7. Notify legislators of special school events
8. Notify legislators when students are recognized (i.e. sports, academics, awards, etc.)
9. Read every weekly copy of AASB's legislative newsletter, *The Session*, to keep up with what is occurring in the legislature
10. Attend the AASB Fly-in (February 4-7, 2023)