

Presented by: The Manager
Introduced: 9/2/80
Drafted by: G.L.S.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 691

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THAT TWO ADVISORY
PROPOSITIONS RELATING TO SCHOOLS BE PLACED ON THE
BALLOT AT THE NEXT REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

WHEREAS, the continuing shift of population to the Mendenhall Valley has created the need to bus an ever increasing number of children from the valley to the Juneau and Douglas service area schools, and

WHEREAS, the school board has requested certain advisory ballots relating to school construction in the valley be placed before the voters at the next regular municipal election;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

1. That the Clerk of the City and Borough of Juneau shall take all steps necessary to place the following advisory propositions before the qualified voters at the next regular municipal election.

ADVISORY PROPOSITION A.

AN ADVISORY QUESTION RELATING TO WHETHER
THE SCHOOL BOARD SHOULD BUS AN INCREASING NUMBER
OF MENDENHALL VALLEY STUDENTS TO JUNEAU AND DOUGLAS
OR SHOULD CONSTRUCT A NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE VALLEY.

BACKGROUND. The Juneau School Board is confronted with a serious problem regarding which we are seeking your advice. At the present time, Auke Bay and Glacier Valley elementary schools are filled far beyond normal capacity. This has resulted from the substantial housing developments in the valley which have occurred to meet the demand of new residents to the area, as well as those who previously lived in town but wanted to move to the valley. The three elementary schools in Juneau and Douglas do have

empty classrooms and can accommodate the additional children from the valley. This solution will, however, necessitate busing an ever increasing number of elementary school children from the valley area to town. The other obvious potential solution would be to build another elementary school in the valley. Finally, the middle school concept, which is being considered, if put into effect would partially alleviate the problem, but for probably only one to two years.

QUESTION. Based on the foregoing explanation, which of the following alternates do you feel the school board should pursue? (Vote for only one.)

(1) Continue to bus an increasing number of elementary students to the schools in town.

(2) Build another elementary school in the Mendenhall Valley.

(Your vote on this advisory ballot is for information purposes only. It does not authorize or require the school board or assembly to take any particular action relating to the problems set out above.)

ADVISORY PROPOSITION B.

AN ADVISORY QUESTION RELATING TO HOW A NEW SCHOOL IN THE MENDENHALL VALLEY SHOULD BE PAID FOR AND FINANCED.

BACKGROUND. If a new school is to be constructed in the valley, the normal procedure would be to issue bonds to be repaid over several years and incur the additional cost of interest which, over the life of a bond issue, normally doubles the total cost. It has been recommended to the school board that as an alternate to bonding, we consider requesting voters to approve an areawide sales tax to raise the necessary funds. In either event, the State of Alaska will reimburse a local municipality for 80 percent of the actual total cost, including interest, of constructing a new building. This reimbursement begins two years after a payment is made toward the cost of constructing the building.

QUESTION. If the decision is made to build another school in the Mendenhall Valley, how would you prefer to have it financed? (Vote for only one.)

(1) Through normal bond issues.

(2) Through an additional areawide sales tax of up to 2 percent for approximately 4 years.

(Your vote on this advisory ballot is for information purposes only. It does not authorize the assembly or school board to issue bonds or to levy an additional areawide sales tax.)

ADOPTED this 2nd day of September , 1980.

Mayor

Attest:

Deputy Clerk