



25 Reasons for a Personalized Learning Opportunity Grant Program *Formerly the AASB Statewide One to One Digital Learning Initiative*

The Personalized Learning Opportunity Grant Program (SB100) currently under consideration by the legislature:

1. Provides a positive, proactive, future-focused initiative to transform learning in Alaska.
2. Responds to the interest elected officials have in promoting real change.
3. Drives change more than any initiative currently under consideration, because once every student has access, a whole world of options will be at their fingertips (teachers can no longer teach the way they always have).
4. Provides cost containment for school districts, enabling all kids to have the tools of the future for less than the current cost of “carts in the hall” that cannot be used consistently as part of the curriculum.
5. Eliminates the tendency to utilize digital devices only occasionally, rather than as an integral part of the curriculum.
6. Has the potential to accelerate learning in the early years (House District 6 Project 2 1/2 times the expected learning gains) to improve our low 4th grade NAEP scores.
7. Exponentially multiplies resources available for student learning, through interactive apps, multi-media content and simulations, rather than strictly print content.
8. Opens access to coursework from around the world.
9. Enables distance delivery, as students in these classes generally need ready access to devices.
10. Provides adequate professional development to each teacher for a range of technology and instructional strategies, including distance delivery.
11. Provides the legislature with an effective means of ensuring a guaranteed, viable curriculum as the courts have mandated.
12. Eliminates out-dated student and teacher technology, ensuring our schools keep pace, for less \$\$ than current spending.
13. Honors local control by providing vendor choice and leaving curricular decisions to school districts.
14. Bridges the gap by using self-contained content and apps on the devices when internet access is unreliable,.
15. Makes personalized learning possible in large districts, as One to One is virtually impossible without a predictable funding source.
16. Opens the door to reduced cost in other operational areas, due to changes in instructional practice (blending of face-to-face and distance delivery or new ways of structuring the school day, for example) and other efficiencies.
17. Avoids political pushback from education groups who oppose some other recommendations for change, since most education organizations (NEA Alaska, AASA, etc.) have expressed support for the initiative.
18. Does not grow government, due to the public private partnership with AASB outside state government (does not require hiring more state personnel).
19. Enables successful implementation due to the AASB Consortium for Digital Learning’s long years of experience in One to One programs in our state and elsewhere.
20. Provides opportunities to establish the Alaska Center for 21st Century Learning as a hub to showcase instructional strategies and the latest technologies, promote real-world research projects and collaborate with entities around the world to advance educational practice.
21. Increases student engagement and attendance (based on evidence from existing One to One programs in our state).
22. Reduces behavior infractions (based on evidence from existing One to One programs in our state).
23. Breaks down the barrier of Alaska being geographically remote (a boon to our future economic outlook).
24. Demonstrates a commitment to fulfill the Constitutional mandate and provide excellence in our education system.
25. Establishes Alaska as an educational leader in the nation.

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