



## Great Alaska Schools

### PRESS ADVISORY

For Immediate Release:

June 7, 2017

**Save Our State  
Fully Fund Education**



**Contacts:**

Alyse Galvin  
907-884-2299

[alyse.galvin@gmail.com](mailto:alyse.galvin@gmail.com)

Evelynn Trefon  
907-444-8875

[evelynn.trefon@gmail.com](mailto:evelynn.trefon@gmail.com)

### **Yard Sign Blitz on the Budget Crisis – Starts Today, June 7, in Sand Lake!**

**The SOS (Save Our Schools, Save Our State) bus is delivering yard signs to help generate awareness of the urgent need for a sound fiscal plan for Alaska.**

Great Alaska Schools is hosting a large grassroots yard sign planting this week! SOS “Forget-Me-Not” signs will be sprouting up on lawns in neighborhoods all over the state. The message is simple: Don’t let Alaska shut down, pass a sustainable budget now, and keep public education whole.

Great Alaska Schools has long advocated for a sound fiscal plan, but not by sacrificing public education. When asked why the group is moving from their more traditional methods of advocacy like phone calls, letters and rallies, member Leslie Kraemer says, “We have fully exhausted the traditional means of reaching our legislators only to have them refuse to do the job they were elected to do, so now we are trying something new.”

Member (and new mother) Evelynn Trefon from Newhalen (Lake and Peninsula School District) shares why she is excited for this, “I’ve been fortunate to go to Juneau several times over the past few years and learned about the process of advocating. I am frustrated, and it is time for legislators to take real action and pass a full comprehensive budget for the long-term, while protecting our kids’ education. Our district cannot take even a one percent additional cut.”

The yard sign blitz aims to attract the attention of lawmakers but more importantly, to generate thoughtful discussions among neighbors about what needs to be done to fix Alaska’s fiscal crisis without sacrificing education. Expect to see “Forget-Me-Not” signs popping up in neighborhoods throughout the week and look for the SOS Delivery Bus! Volunteers will be handing out SOS yard signs, popsicles, balloons and bubbles and engaging in discussions with neighbors about our state’s fiscal crisis. The message is urgent and serious, but the approach will be fun, festive and will celebrate education.

“We need to encourage Alaska’s leaders to work cooperatively and diligently to solve this fiscal crisis, so we can ensure a secure future for all Alaskans, including our children,” says Alyse Galvin with Great Alaska Schools. “The time to fix this problem is now.”

###