

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #78 (2005-2006)

October 24, 2005

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD: PALS LITERACY AND LIBRARIES PROJECT

ASD Goal: Increase student academic achievement using data to guide adoption of curriculum, methods, materials, and professional development specifically designed to ensure that each group as designated by No Child Left Behind and the Quality Schools Initiative makes adequate yearly progress.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award in the amount of \$37,225 from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development's Interlibrary Cooperation Grant Program for Willow Crest Elementary School.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The Interlibrary Cooperation Grant competition awards funds to public entity libraries for partnership projects that target underserved groups and individuals, particularly children and youth from low income families. Willow Crest's project is designed to promote literacy and library usage among immigrant families. The effort is a partnership that includes the District's Parents as Liaisons (PALS) Program, school libraries, ASD Bilingual/Multicultural Education, and the Anchorage Municipal Libraries. Grant funds will provide family language kits with minority language collections of literature, children's books, dual language dictionaries, pamphlets, and AV materials for municipal and school libraries. Kits will include information about libraries and library use, complemented by promotional materials and how-to-use-the-library materials in translation.

The targeted languages are the top ten non-English languages in the Municipality: Spanish, Tagalog, Samoan, Hmong, Korean, Yup'ik, Lao, Albanian, Tongan, and

Russian. Kits and promotional materials for municipal libraries will be in the five most widespread languages. Kits and materials for school libraries will be in all ten languages, specified for school populations. PALS parent volunteers who are native speakers of the targeted languages will familiarize immigrant and other underserved families with the family language kits and with library services. They will conduct school library tours when new families enroll their children, offer home visits, organize tours of public libraries, and contact families about library events. Participating ASD libraries are those with PALS support.

The budget does not include release time. Grant funds are for books, audiovisuals, supplies, contracted services for translators, and addenda for Bilingual tutors to create bibliographies and translations.

Budget Summary:

Added Duty	\$ 6,000
Library and Audio Visual Supplies	28,025
Teaching Supplies	<u>3,200</u>
Total	\$37,225

CC/JC/PM/DH/PF/BT

Prepared by: Patricia McRae, Executive Director, Elementary Education
Diane Hoffbauer, Principal, Willow Crest Elementary School
Philip Farson, Bilingual Teacher, Willow Crest Elementary School
Beverly Thornburg, Coordinator, Discretionary Grants

Approved by: Jan Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction