

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #293 (2005-2006)

May 8, 2006

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: PRIOR APPROVAL OF DISCRETIONARY GRANT: FOREIGN
LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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 makes adequate yearly progress.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to apply for a grant in the amount of \$150,000 from the U. S. Department of Education's Foreign Language Assistance Program. The project will expand the Russian partial immersion program at Turnagain Elementary School.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The U.S. Department of Education has issued a request for proposals for its Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP). The purpose of this federal competition is to support foreign language study for less commonly taught languages of major economic and political importance to the United States. The Anchorage School District will propose an expansion of the Russian partial language immersion program at Turnagain Elementary School, building on the foundational work of a FY 2003 FLAP award. The three-year project will add a grade level each year. This will extend the scope of the Russian immersion program from K-2 to K-5 by FY 2009, as delineated in the World Languages Six-Year Instructional Plan. The project will capitalize on the District's longstanding track record of building uninterrupted sequences of K-12 language learning.

Preliminary budget estimate is \$150,000 for the first year of the three-year project. The budget will support a certified project coordinator/resource teacher in the school, professional development for teachers over the three years, materials and supplies, curriculum development, whole-school enrichment, program recruitment, and external evaluation.

CC/RG/ES/PM/JG/BT

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