

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #151 (2006-2007)

December 11, 2006

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION AWARDS

ASD Goal: Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by continuing to retain, recruit and train highly qualified staff.

PERTINENT FACTS:

Five Anchorage educators were recently honored with awards from the Alaska Association of Career and Technical Education for their outstanding efforts to connect students with the world of work.

Rick Rios: The CTE Administrator of the Year went to Rick Rios, who heads the office of Career and Technology Education for the district. Rick's passion and enthusiasm for his profession were duly noted and his willingness to work collaboratively with business partners and students to create more workforce development opportunities for the district. Rick has "become an increasingly important part of the Anchorage School District's mission to prepare productive and engaged citizens," the association stated.

Tressa Whitten: The title of Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher of the Year went to Tress Whitten of Romig Middle School. The association remarked on Whitten continuing energy, after 24 years in education, to develop lesson plans and activities that prepare her students for real-life situations. She is adept at designing unique instructional techniques and teaches across the curriculum to incorporate reading, math, English and science into many of her lessons.

Rebecca Jesse: Named Hospitality/Tourism Teacher of the Year by the association, Rebecca Jesse of East High School was praised for continually reaching beyond her standard role to bring positive work experiences to her students. "Her energy, vision, passion and professionalism are winning

combinations as her program continues to grow and develop,” the association said.

Bill Corbett: The association presented its “Promising Practices” award to Bill Corbett of Service High School and described him as a “true visionary who has taken his school beyond conventional computing practices.” Due to his forward thinking and considerable talents, Bill has implemented technology that enhances every aspect of his students’ educational experience.

Jack Nurmi: The New Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year award went to Jack Nurmi of the King Career Center. In his short tenure as chef instructor, Jack has demonstrated a passion for his craft and an intuitive ability to impart those skills to his students, according to the association. His patience, people skills, community contacts and vast experience have resulted in taking KCC’s culinary program to a new level of excellence.

This is a request that the School Board recognize these fine employees for the honors they received.

CC/ME/TW

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