

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #26 (2007-2008)

August 13, 2007

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD: SIEMENS ENGINEERING  
ACADEMY

*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 planning grant from the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) for \$10,000 to inaugurate a Siemens Engineering Academy at Dimond High School.

PERTINENT FACTS:

Siemens Corporation, ACTE, the University of Alaska, and the Anchorage School District have formed a partnership to develop a pilot four-year engineering academy at Dimond High School. The replicable program will be designed to articulate with post-secondary programs in science, engineering, and engineering technology. The ACTE grant is funded by Siemens and is leveraged locally by collaboration with Siemens Building Technologies. Funds support data collection, exploration of such exemplary high school engineering models as Project Lead the Way, concept design for a four-year curriculum framework, and other development costs as appropriate.

The attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) delineates the District's commitment to designing the pilot, ACTE technical assistance, the role of community partners with Dimond High School in forging an implementation plan, adherence to national quality standards for career academies, and curriculum structures that meet industry and post-secondary expectations. FY

2008 activities will be overseen by a District/community advisory committee. As specified in the MOU, the grant can be used for staff development, books, software, supplies, or other necessary development costs.

Budget:        \$10,000

CC/RG/MH/BT

Attachment

Prepared by: Mike Henry, Executive Director, High School Education  
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Approved by: Rhonda Gardner, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

**MODEL MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA)  
BETWEEN  
ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AND  
ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (ACTE)**

**I. PURPOSE**

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is between the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) and the Anchorage School District (the District). The Anchorage School District wishes to explore the implementation of an engineering academy. The ACTE in partnership with the Siemens Corporation wishes to establish a pilot engineering academy with the full expectation of replicating the success of the pilot. The purpose of this MOA is to outline the responsibilities between the Anchorage School District and ACTE and the initial activities to be implemented to achieve the desired goal.

**II. STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS**

The ACTE will assist the Anchorage School District, through professional development and technical assistance, in exploring the feasibility and potential of the development of a pilot engineering academy which will culminate in a high school to college transition. The Anchorage School District will conduct its exploratory activities in accordance with the outline of the MOA.

**III. AGREEMENT OF THE PARTIES**

**A. ACTE WILL:**

1. Provide on site, phone and electronic technical support to assist in the development of the Siemens Engineering Academy.
2. Serve as a liaison between Anchorage School District and Siemens Building Technology

**Year One 2007-2008: - Planning**

ACTE will assist the Anchorage School District in the following:

1. Development of an implementation plan: Develop an implementation plan for the engineering academy. The implementation plan will include a vision and mission for the academy.
2. Creation of Scope and Sequence with Data Collection for Engineering/Manufacturing Career Academy: ACTE will assist the District in identifying data which needs to be collected for the academy. ACTE will assist the District in developing a data collection system
3. Development of an advisory committee: ACTE will assist the district in the development of the Engineering Academy Advisory Committee. The purpose of the Advisory Committee will be to determine the feasibility and interest in establishing an Engineering Academy. An ACTE staff member will serve as a member of the Advisory Committee and be a resource for the initial meeting.
4. Site Visit: ACTE will coordinate a site visit for up to three District staff members, one of which is to be the lead instructor, to an existing engineering academy. Travel expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with ACTE travel policies.
5. Grant to School for Academy Development and materials: ACTE will oversee a grant of \$10,000 to the school to offset the costs of the academy development. This grant can be used for staff development and/or books, software, or other supplies deemed necessary for the

creation of the academy. A budget must be submitted and approved in advance by the ACTE offices.

6. Scheduling ACTE will provide on-site consultation and assistance regarding scheduling alternatives and options. The assistance will include :
  - a) Identifying an academy implementation model appropriate to the needs of the individual school.
  - b) Analyzing curricular offerings in regards to the number of levels and options for students and suggesting adjustments conducive to implementing “pure” career academies.
  - c) Planning of academy specific course offerings and teacher assignment in grades 9-12.

B. Anchorage School District WILL:

**Year One 2007-2008: - Planning**

1. Develop an implementation plan: Develop an implementation plan for the academy which includes a vision and mission for the academy.
2. Develop an advisory committee: The advisory committee shall include but no be limited to representative (s) from Siemens Building Technologies, other business and industry individuals representing manufacturing and engineering, a guidance counselor, the lead instructor, an administrator, representative from UAA, an academic instructor involved with the program, a student, a parent, an ACTE staff member and the Project Director. The advisory committee should have its first meeting during the first two weeks of September at a time mutually agreeable to the district and ACTE.
3. Create a Scope and Sequence with Data Collection for Engineering/Manufacturing Career Academy Define a standard scope and sequence for the engineering/manufacturing career academy. The scope and sequence must meet the National Standards of Practice for Career Academies and post-secondary requirements and include a curriculum that is flexible enough to provide the necessary learning for 2 or 3 different engineering/manufacturing industry fields. There is a need to develop a scope and sequence structure that represents the ideal mix of infused core academic subjects and electives to meet engineering/manufacturing industry and post-secondary expectations. Data must be collected on students in engineering/manufacturing academy to validate successful practices. Project Lead the Way is the recommended engineering curriculum.
4. Academy site visit: The district will provide time for three (3) district employees to visit another engineering academy site. The cost of the travel will be covered through an ACTE/Siemens arrangement.
5. Designate a lead instructor: The district will designate a lead instructor for the academy.
6. Assure that the lead instructor is a member of the state and national ACTE. The membership requirement runs for the 2007-2008 school year.

- 7. Create a proposed schedule. The schedule will consist of cohesive programming through the combination of appropriate core classes, CTE courses, and meaningful externship and work experiences.

**IV. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

- A. ACTE will pay Anchorage School District 100% of the grant amount at the beginning of the year\_\_\_\_. Payment is contingent upon Anchorage School District signing the MOA and submitting a budget which is approved by ACTE. The district must submit a final accounting of all expenditures under the grant within 30 days of the end of the grant. Any expenditure not approved by ACTE via the budget or budget amendment must be repaid to ACTE within 60 days of the end of the grant period.
- B. ACTE will pay for all fees and any travel related to the completion of the tasks as outlined as part of ACTE’s commitment to the grant.
- C. Anchorage School District will pay for all Anchorage School District staff time and travel as required to complete the grant requirements. This includes, but is not limited to instructor(s) time and travel for professional development. The district may use up to 50% of the grant to pay for travel.

**V. EFFECTIVE DATE AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION**

- A. This agreement shall become effective upon date of final signature and shall remain in effect until June 30, 2008.
- B. This agreement may be amended in writing at any time by mutual agreement of the parties.
- C. This agreement may be cancelled by either party by giving one hundred and twenty (120) days written notice.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the last signature as of the last date of the last signature.

Janet B. Bray, Executive Director Association of Career Technical Education	Date

(Anchorage School District)	Date