

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #53 (2007-2008)

September 10, 2007

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM UPDATE

ASD Goal(s): *Ensure public accountability through effective communication with students, staff, parents, community and government at all levels.*

PERTINENT FACTS:

With Board approval in June of a contract with C-Innovations, the Zangle Student Information System implementation began in earnest. Phase I of the contract is the Fit Gap Analysis, during which the district will determine how well the proposed solution meets district requirements. Phase II is installation and implementation of the system, contingent upon the successful completion of the Fit Gap Analysis. The project is currently on schedule for secondary schools to "cut over" in August, 2008. Elementary schools are currently slated to transition in August, 2009. Listed below are several preparatory tasks accomplished or underway since the kick-off meeting on August 8, 2007.

Tasks completed

- C-Innovations installed Zangle on virtual server, conducted kickoff meeting, and verified data center readiness for system installation.
- District staff developed communications plan and initial training plan.

Projects underway by district staff

- preparing data in legacy system for conversion
- collecting data from secondary schools for base configuration
- hiring additional school-based project team members - anticipate two secondary certificated and one clerical staff to join the team
- project manager conducting overview/demonstration of product for end-users
- technical team traveling to C-Innovations headquarters September 10-14 for base configuration and technical training
- data conversion to begin September 15

Additional explanation is provided on the following two items, for clarification:

- Scheduled first phase of training for end-users (Intro to Windows)  
The Front Office application of Zangle is a Windows product. Administrators, front office clerical staff, and counselors will utilize this system. The training plan includes an “Introduction to Windows” session for each employee who will be transitioning from Mac OS to Windows for this application.

*Please note:* Zangle applications for teachers and nurses are web-based and do not require Windows OS. Teachers will have the ability to access their Zangle applications from any computer with an internet connection.

- Fit Gap Sessions: Session 1: 9/25-9/27, Session 2: 10/15-10/19, Session 3: 11/12-11/16

During these sessions, C-Innovations will demonstrate the functionality of Zangle on each module. School-based experts and the technical team will identify gaps between the functionality of the system and district needs. Following each session, gaps will be assessed for alternative solutions. It is anticipated that most issues will be addressed through changes in business processes within the district. For gaps that cannot be resolved through internal business process changes, customization will be considered. The Fit-Gap process will also enable us to finalize our budget related to the project in time for this year’s budget development process.”

CC/JW/MM

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