

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #63 (2007-2008)

October 8, 2007

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON  
AFTER SCHOOL - OCTOBER 18, 2007

*ASD Goal: Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by providing safe, caring, barrier-free schools; promoting health and wellness.*

PERTINENT FACTS:

Lights On After School! is a nationwide effort to focus on the importance of after-school programs in America. Nationally, one in four youth, approximately 14 million children, are unsupervised after school, including about 40,000 kindergarteners.

In Alaska, more than 30,000 K-12 students benefit from after-school programs, but another 28,600 are responsible for taking care of themselves when school lets out each day. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers initiative, the only federal program dedicated to after-school programs, provides safe places for about 5,000 of Alaska's kids.

The hours of 3-6 p.m. are prime time for kids to get into trouble, whether it is committing juvenile crime or experimenting with drugs, alcohol and sexual behaviors. After-school programs preempt such activity by continuing education and personal development after the school doors close.

Activities around the District are planned to celebrate Lights On After School! Oct. 18, including book giveaways, family costume night, safety fairs and poetry presentations, among others, at local schools.

This is a request to recognize the successful efforts of after-school programs such as the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers, in providing useful activities for our students. The administration recommends the approval of the attached resolution for Lights On After School!

CC/ME/TW

Prepared by: Terry Wilson, Communications Specialist

Approved by: Michelle Egan, Communications Director

**ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD**  
ASDR 2007-2008-05

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OCTOBER 18, 2007 AS LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL! DAY**

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Anchorage stand firmly committed to quality after-school programs and opportunities because they:

- Provide safe, challenging, engaging and fun learning experiences and help youth develop social, emotional, physical, cultural and academic skills;
- Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;
- Build stronger communities by involving our students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of our young people;
- Engage families, schools and diverse community partners in advancing the welfare of our children;

**WHEREAS**, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers in the district have provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth;

**WHEREAS**, Lights On After School!, a national celebration of after-school programs on October 18 promotes the critical importance of quality after-school programs in the lives of children, their families and communities;

**WHEREAS**, many schools in the Anchorage School District are hosting activities to celebrate Lights On After School!

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Anchorage School Board does hereby proclaim October 18, 2007, as "Lights On After School! Day" in the Anchorage School District and support after-school programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

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Tim Steele, President

Macon Roberts  
Jeff Friedman  
Crystal Kennedy

John Steiner  
Mary Marks  
Chris Tuck

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Carol Comeau, Superintendent