

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #220 (2007-2008)

March 24, 2008

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF AARP ETHEL PERCY ANDRUS AWARD
RECIPIENT, EAST HIGH SCHOOL

ASD Goal: Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by collaborating with other community agencies to maximize opportunities for lifelong learning.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The Alaska office of the **American Association of Retired Persons** has bestowed its \$10,000 **Ethel Percy Andrus Award for Innovation**, on **East High School**. Named for the founder of AARP, Dr. Andrus was an innovator herself, becoming the first woman to lead a public high school.

Alaska AARP Director Dr. Kenneth Osterkamp told **Principal Michael Graham** that his school's application "stood head and shoulders above the rest." The judges noted three innovative student-led programs at East: Change of Heart, Be the Change and Partner's Club and its Advisory Program.

Judges comments included such praise as "Excellent programs for all students;" and "At a time with so much emphasis on a testing culture, East has implemented several programs that create a caring schoolwide culture, increased student connectedness and student-staff partnerships."

East's innovative programs will be featured in the next issue of the state chapter's newsletter, which is distributed to 93,000 members in Alaska.

This is a request to recognize AARP for its generous and substantial support of public education in Alaska, and to congratulate our award-winning East High School principal and personnel for their efforts to increase student success.

CC/ME/TW

Approved by: Michelle Egan, Communications Director
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