

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #279 (2007-2008)

April 14, 2008

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH
PROJECT LEAD THE WAY, INC.

ASD Goal: Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by challenging each student academically; maximizing opportunities for lifelong learning, including the development of 21st century skills; and collaborating with other community agencies to maximize opportunities for lifelong learning.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the superintendent to sign a memorandum of agreement with Project Lead the Way, Inc. in preparation for the opening of Dimond High School's Engineering Academy.

PERTINENT FACTS:

Throughout the 2007-2008 school year, Dimond High School has been engaged in a collaborative process to begin an Engineering Academy at the school. In addition to building strong staff involvement, the principal has engaged numerous members of the science and engineering profession, university professors, parents, and students to serve on an advisory board for the program. Efforts to begin this program have been financially supported primarily by Siemens of Alaska with the assistance and guidance of the National Association of Career and Technical Education. Conversations are currently underway with the Gates Foundation to secure possible additional funding.

After much review, the *Project Lead the Way*® curricula have been selected for a portion of the academy's coursework. Use of these curricula requires a memorandum of agreement approved by the Board (Attachment A). The MOA has been reviewed and approved by IT, Purchasing, Risk Management and

Instruction. Funds for the training and curricula required in the MOA have been provided by grants from Siemens of Alaska.

CC/RG/MH/CG

Attachment

Prepared by: Rhonda Gardner, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
Mike Henry, Executive Director, High School Education
Cheryl Guyett, Principal, Dimond High School

Approved by: Rhonda Gardner, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction