

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #42 (2008-2009)

August 11, 2008

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD: PROJECT KI'L

ASD Goal: Increase student academic achievement using data to guide methods, materials, and professional development specifically designed to ensure that that each group as designated by No Child Left Behind makes adequate yearly progress; maximizing opportunities for lifelong learning; challenging each student academically; 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 accept a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Alaska Native Education Program, in the amount of \$435,805 for the first year of a three-year project to develop and support the unique educational needs of Alaska Native boys.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The District's Indian Education Program has won an Alaska Native Education grant for Project Ki'l: Promoting Academic Success for Alaska Native Boys (Ki'l is a Dena'ina Athabascan word for boy). The project builds a path of success for Alaska Native boys from preschool through the third grade. Boys are the focus of this project due to the great academic disparity that exists between Native boys and other groups, including Native girls. Ki'l is based on collaborative efforts to build strong academic, social, and cultural foundations for Native boys and their families. This project works in collaboration with Southcentral Foundation Head Start. The program targets Native boys in SCF Head Start preschool and K-3 Native boys at 12 elementary schools with high populations of Native boys.

A major component of Ki'l is the PATH (Inclusion, Inc.'s Planned Alternatives for Tomorrow with Hope), a guided process for boys, their families, and other supporters, that creates a graphic picture of each boy's future, academic goals, and action plan. Ki'l also includes a two-week summer program for boys, which is designed to ease transition between preschool and kindergarten, preceded by a

workshop for parents of preschoolers, to be held each May. K-3 parents will also receive training in grade level transitions each August. During each year, there will be a series of four boy-focused family nights featuring family reading, writing, and math games, cultural celebrations, and ways to make positive home-school connections. Professional development opportunities for SCF Head Start staff, Indian Education staff, and ASD teachers and principals will include in-service training on the minds of boys, cultural training on male roles provided by the Alaska Native Heritage Center, and a credit course for teachers on learning issues of Native boys. The model includes professional development for school staff on ASD's Culturally Responsive Continuum.

Primary grant expenditures are for a full-time project coordinator, staff addenda, parent stipends, contractual services for Southcentral Head Start, supplies and equipment for the summer program, and evaluation.

Budget Summary, Year One (FY 2009)

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|-------------------|---------------|
| Personnel | \$205,528 |
| Employee Benefits | 55,734 |
| Travel | 2,222 |
| Equipment | 4,400 |
| Supplies | 17,375 |
| Contractual | 30,634 |
| Other | <u>88,490</u> |
| Total Direct: | \$404,383 |
| Indirect Costs | 14,922 |
| Training Stipends | <u>16,500</u> |
| Total, Year One: | \$435,805 |

CC/RG/ES/EG/DB/BT

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