

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #102 (2008-2009)

October 13, 2008

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF AMERICAN STAR OF TEACHING  
AWARD WINNER, BOBBI JO ERB

ASD Goal: *Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by continuing to retain, recruit and train highly qualified staff.*

PERTINENT FACTS:

The U.S. Department of Education awarded one of its highest honors last month, the American Star of Teaching, to Bobbi Jo Erb, an eighth-grade math teacher and chair of her department at Mirror Lake Middle School.

The American Stars of Teaching program recognizes exemplary teachers who raise student achievement using innovative classroom strategies to meet the goals of the No Child Left Behind Act. Teachers are judged on how they work to improve academic performance, close achievement gaps and motivate students to learn.

According to Principal Scott Batchelder, Erb is one of those unique educators who make a permanent, positive impact on students. He says her students routinely call out, "I love math," in hallways, at school events and at the local supermarkets.

Students often mockingly argue that they each "love math more." Batchelder said Erb calmly reminds them that there is no reason to compete, "there's enough math for everyone."

Erb was chosen from a field of more than 5,000 nominees from around the country. Just 200 teachers have been presented with the award since the program's inception in 2004.

"Teachers like Bobbi Jo Erb combine a passion for teaching with high expectations that every child can learn," said U.S. Education Secretary Margaret Spellings.

And Alaska's Commission of Education Larry LeDoux said, "We don't always take time to appreciate dedicated, inspiring teachers. I congratulate Bobbi Jo Erb, who represents the best of public education."

This is a request to officially recognize Bobbi Jo Erb for honoring our district with her accomplishments and for her continued dedication to our mission, educating all students for success in life.

CC/HS/TW

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