

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #106 (2008-2009)

October 13, 2008

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: PRIOR APPROVAL OF DISCRETIONARY GRANT: 21st  
CENTURY ALASKA COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

*ASD Goal: Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by providing safe, caring, barrier free schools; promoting health and wellness; challenging each student academically; maximizing opportunities for lifelong learning; offering reinforcing extracurricular activities; 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 apply for a five-year grant from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development for after-school programs, through the 21st Century Alaska Community Learning Centers program.

PERTINENT FACTS:

This state competition for federal pass-through monies carries forward the 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative under the No Child Left Behind law. The Anchorage School District has won seven grants under federal and state competitions for 21st Century Community Learning Centers at high-needs elementary and middle schools. Currently the district has eleven sites.

The District's application will propose the extension of the program at four existing sites where state funding will end in July 2009. These sites are Muldoon, Ptarmigan, Russian Jack, and Wonder Park elementary schools.

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers program supports school-based centers that create an enriching, safe, and drug-free environment for extended learning. Centers must operate with the support and involvement of the community. The competition specifies expanded learning opportunities that

assist students to meet or exceed state and local standards in core academic subjects. The competition calls for additional services for children that complement the regular curriculum and recreational and cultural activities. Programs are designed to reinforce and complement the regular academic program.

The preliminary budget estimate is \$550,000 each year for a five-year grant period. This is the maximum state-determined award level for this competition. The budget will fund site coordinators and will help support district-level management and coordination for Anchorage's eleven 21st Century after-school programs. Grant funds will provide added duty for teachers and paraprofessionals working in the programs, and, as appropriate, for contracted services for some program enrichment activities. Grant funds will support bus transportation for student field trips, external evaluation by the University of Alaska Anchorage's Institute of Social and Economic Research, and ancillary items. Substantial in-kind services include Title I contributions for bus transportation to students' homes, USDA snacks by Student Nutrition, principals' time, and use of school facilities.

CC/RG/VC/EG/SW/BT

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