

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #249 (2008-2009)

March 23, 2009

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF JO SANDERS FOR HER OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN
PROMOTING THE GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

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

PERTINENT FACTS:

Jo Sanders has been a part of the Anchorage School District since 1972, spending nearly all of her years as a German teacher and chair of the Foreign Languages Department at Bartlett High School. In 2002, she became a German teacher at several charter schools in Anchorage, culminating in the establishment of the Rilke Schule, where she presently teaches kindergarten and mentors other German teachers.

Jo Sanders has been active nationally in the American Association of Teachers of German, of which she has been president and vice-president for a number of years. She is a national consultant for the German Goethe-Institut, a worldwide institution for German culture, teaching and language. Sanders establishes and maintains exchange programs between schools in Anchorage and various locations in Germany. She is a nationally recognized innovator who leads workshops throughout the United States concerning the learning and teaching of German.

For her tireless work, she has received many recognitions and awards. Sanders has been recognized by the Anchorage School District as Teacher of the Year in 1988, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the German government. She received the Alaska Women of Achievement Award in 2005, an award for outstanding foreign language teacher in the U.S. from the American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages, and has just been awarded the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit by the President of Germany, the highest tribute Germany can pay to individuals for outstanding services to the nation.

This is a request to officially recognize and honor Jo Sanders for her outstanding dedication to promote the German language and culture in our schools.

CC/HS/DS

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