

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #253 (2008-2009)

March 23, 2009

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD: EMERGENCY
RESPONSE – MASS VACCINATION

ASD Goal: Ensure public accountability through: continued participation in the state and federal required testing programs, continued preparation and publication of the Profile of Performance, budget basics, and budget and bond summaries, effective consultation with the community to ensure wise use of financial resources and responsible construction and maintenance of facilities, and effective communication with students, staff, parents, community and government at all levels.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Municipality of Anchorage for \$29,975 for the purpose of developing and exercising a Mass Vaccination Plan.

PERTINENT FACTS:

Recent disaster exercises conducted by the Anchorage School District (ASD) under the Emergency Response Crisis Management grant included active participation by other “partner” agencies. One such agency is the Municipality’s Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). As a result of this training experience, DHHS and ASD have recognized the value both organizations could derive from the existence of an ASD Mass Vaccination plan that was well understood and practiced by the schools. To this end, last fall DHHS and ASD conducted a five-school flu vaccination exercise, providing real vaccine to students while testing a “point of distribution” model used by the Municipality. DHHS now proposes to grant to the ASD the funds necessary to write a formal Mass Vaccination Plan and to exercise the first draft of that plan.

Approval of this recommendation will allow the district to retain—at DHHS expense—an experienced contractor to research and write a plan that works for

the ASD and which also is compatible with the plans of the Municipality, the Alaska Department of Health and Human Services, and the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Authorization will furthermore allow ten or eleven elementary schools to practice the first draft of the plan while administering approximately 3,000 doses of Varicella vaccine to students, again at DHHS expense.

New law requires that all K-12 students receive Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccinations before resuming school next year, so the “training” conceived under this grant program will provide a tangible value to ASD families. The exercises are scheduled for five days in late April, 2009.

The ultimate source of the funds is the CDC’s Cities Readiness Initiative grant. The federal funds are passed through the state to the Municipality, which makes a sub-grant to the ASD for this project.

The budget supports a contractor to research and develop the plan, and substitute pay for school nurses clerical assistants. The vaccine itself is free from the state. DHHS will provide medical supplies (syringes, swabs, gloves, etc.) as a further contribution. The district’s in-kind contribution consists of support from Nursing and Health Services, Security & Emergency Preparedness, and other departments as necessary to oversee the exercises and the plan development.

Budget Summary:

Contractual Services (ASD Dispensing Plan)	\$19,528
Substitutes (ASD Nurses/ Assistants)	8,596
Benefits	745
Indirect costs	<u>1,106</u>
TOTAL	\$29,975

CC/GV/MM/NE/BT

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