

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #341 (2008-2009)

May 28, 2009

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD: AMERICAN LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION LIBRARIES, LITERACY, AND GAMING

ASD Goal: *Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by challenging each student academically; and maximizing opportunities for lifelong learning, including the development of 21st century skills.*

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant from the American Library Association in the amount of \$5,000 for a *Libraries, Literacy, and Gaming* grant for Hanshew Middle School.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The American Library Association's (ALA) *Libraries, Literacy, and Gaming* grant competition supports the development and implementation of gaming and literacy programs for libraries that provide innovative gaming experiences for middle school students. The purpose of the initiative is to develop literacy, 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, and increased use of libraries. Hanshew Middle School is one of only ten national awardees and one of just two school library winners.

The project at Hanshew expands its library's innovative gaming program and extends gaming to the District's nine other middle school libraries. Games are age-appropriate for middle school and are chosen for their high interest, student engagement, and basis in literacy and content as well as in health and wellness. Likely games for this project include Wii games, Dance Dance Revolution, Guitar Hero, Spore, and Civilization. Hanshew librarian Wendy Leseman will coordinate the project. She will submit evaluation reports to the ALA, including documentation of increased use of middle school libraries and students' positive attitudes toward their libraries.

The budget supports gaming equipment and software.

Budget Summary:

Equipment	\$4,000
Teaching supplies (software)	<u>1,000</u>
TOTAL	\$5,000

CC/RG/LV/SE/AM/BT

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