

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #59 (2009-10)

September 14, 2009

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION FOR 2009 HUGSS AND COATS FOR KIDS

ASD Goal: Maintaining a supportive and effective learning environment by collaborating with other community agencies to maximize opportunities for learning.

PERTINENT FACTS:

During the spring and summer, community members and businesses are asked to donate school supplies and gently used coats or to make cash donations to ensure children in the local community will have adequate supplies for school. Thanks to these donations, thousands of ASD students started school off on the right foot.

For the past nine years, Catholic Social Services, The Salvation Army and Lutheran Social Services have partnered with numerous agencies and businesses, including the Boys and Girls Club of Mountain View and the Anchorage School District, to help children begin the school year with proper supplies and coats through the HUGSS (Helping Us Give School Supplies) and Coats for Kids project.

This year, 5,156 students received supplies, backpacks and winter clothing through the program. Approximately 40,000 students have benefited from HUGSS since its inception in 2001.

The program would not have been successful without significant assistance from local businesses. This year, HUGSS was a recipient of a generous \$25,000 donation from WalMart. Marty Howard, manager of the Dimond WalMart also contributed his time and talent in the months leading up to HUGSS.

In addition, 621 homeless students were identified at this year's HUGSS distribution and are now able to get help and support through the Child in Transition/Homeless project.

It is requested that the School Board recognize the above mentioned organizations and businesses for their continued dedication and efforts put forth to make this a truly successful project for all involved.

CC/HG/HE

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