

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM # 74 (2009-2010)

October 12, 2009

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: MONTHLY UPDATE STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM -  
ZANGLE

*ASD Goal: Ensure public accountability through 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.*

PERTINENT FACTS:

- ASD staff continues to work through the challenges of implementing a new system that impacts virtually every employee. End-users continue to gain more understanding of the system on a daily basis. The Zangle implementation team is responding to user needs and requests.
- One of the most significant changes in practice/procedure has been the direct link between the Front Office and the classroom teacher's records. In Zangle, Teachers are directly impacted by data entered by the Front Office, and vice-versa. Both groups have worked in technological isolation from one another in the past, and the change to an integrated system has presented challenges that we continue to address.
- The Zangle Help Desk has streamlined operations and improved responsiveness to the end users. A "Help Desk" button will be added to the Zangle Front Office menu, which will allow tickets to be prioritized and sorted based on operational need. The Help Desk can also check for patterns of requests using this method, which will improve response time.
- ParentConnect was released on September 16, 2009. The response to ParentConnect has been overwhelmingly positive.
- All schools (K-12, with the exception of certain charter/alternative schools) will complete Marks Reporting in Zangle at the end of first quarter. This

process will allow schools to generate report cards for distribution to parents/guardians.

- Training and support for Zangle users continues. Additional content-specific trainings are offered as needs are identified. Open Lab sessions are available for teachers and Front Office staff. The Open Labs are staffed with a Zangle trainer to address end-user questions or problems.
- Front Office permission sets have been revised, based on needs identified after August go-live. Many job roles cross-train and provide coverage during absences, which required permission set changes to allow staff access to the necessary modules.
- The project manager has been in regular communication with AEA and TOTEM, in an effort to address issues raised by members.
- ASD continues to work directly with CInnovation to resolve outstanding issues, including database errors, customizations, and state reporting. ASD IT staff is preparing the OASIS report, and working with the vendor to finalize requirements for that and other state reports. Work continues with the vendor for Health reports and Immunization compliance procedures.

CC/EG/JB/MM

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