

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #20 (2010-2011)

October 11, 2010

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD: CHESTER VALLEY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL "SHARING THE DREAM"

ASD Goal: The achievement gap between racial, ethnic and economic groups in the highly diverse ASD will be eliminated through education that is accessible, culturally responsive, supportive of students and safe.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) and MetLife Foundations, in the amount of \$5,000 for Chester Valley Elementary School.

PERTINENT FACTS:

Chester Valley Elementary School has won a Sharing the Dream grant which aims to engage parents and the community, and create globally oriented schools and international learning communities. The project has a global-engagement component and involves parents, teachers, civic groups and other community partners.

Chester Valley's Sharing the Dream project was initiated with the goal of providing high-interest learning opportunities for students, which incorporate the history, beliefs, and traditions of cultural groups represented in our community. The experiences incorporate technology as students document each event and present their learning. Events planned as part of the project will bring parents into the school, facilitate connections between members of the school community and enhance student learning.

This project includes student studies of four cultures represented within the Chester Valley student body. Students and their families will be exposed to the

language, music, art, history and geography of featured cultures with the goal of promoting greater understanding of the students and families who are valued members of the school community. Staff will engage in language study where appropriate, with the goal of having some conversational proficiency in languages represented in the community, which will support staff-parent interactions in the coming years. Outside presenters are incorporated into the proposal, adding authenticity to student learning experiences.

Each quarter's cultural focus begins with a student study period conducted in the regular classroom and resulting in individual and group student cultural projects and presentations. These projects will incorporate technology skills and proficiencies, ranging from global communications to podcast reports and from slide show presentations to digital storytelling. Artifacts and products from student studies will be demonstrated and on display during family cultural nights each quarter. At these events, students will participate in a living museum as they interact with community members and present their learning. Events will feature art, music, food, and other aspects of the featured culture for the enjoyment and edification of all participants.

Budget Summary

Contractual Services	\$2,200
Supplies - Food	865
Teaching Supplies	1,035
New Equipment	<u>900</u>
Total	<u>\$5,000</u>

CC/EG/LC/HM/BT

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