

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #148 (98-99) November 23, 1998

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL USE OF OLD NORTHERN LIGHTS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL YEAR 1999-2000

PERTINENT FACTS:

For the 1998-1999 school year the Old Northern Lights Elementary School has been used to house Taku Elementary School students during the renovation of Taku. This has been a very successful experience; the school is functioning well in the temporary location, and the busing of students has not been a problem. The construction at Taku was so extensive that the project could not be completed prior to the fall of 1999 without the closure of the school for one year.

For school year 1999-2000, Old Northern Lights will be available for another use. At the current time, the Administration is considering several ideas for the use of this former elementary school. The Village Charter School and the Aquarian Charter School have expressed interest in use of this school as a permanent location; in addition, this school could also be used to house one or more elementary schools for part of a school year as they undergo major renovation projects.

The District has four major school renovations scheduled for bid in the spring of 1999. Two of the projects, Baxter and Ocean View, are renovation of open concept schools similar in scope to the Taku project. There would be potential construction cost savings, and less disruption to the educational program, if students at these two schools could be relocated during construction.

Where students will be housed during construction, must be addressed in the bid documents for each project. To keep the projects on schedule, a decision needs to be made by early December. A decision to possibly relocate these Ocean View and Baxter students is under consideration by the Administration and will

require input from parents and the staff at each school and approval by the Superintendent. Phasing the projects over two summers with an extended summer break with time made up later is also being analyzed. The Facilities Department and the Instruction Division are exploring the possible options listed below.

Ocean View Elementary

Three construction options have been identified for Ocean View Elementary School's Addition & Renovation Project.

- **Option A** keeps students on site and would accomplish the new construction from May to December 1999; the renovation of the existing school would be done from June to mid September 1999. This option requires a two-week delay in school opening in 1999 with a portion of the school housed in 10 relocatables.

- **Option B** would accomplish the new construction from May to December 1999, and the renovation of the existing school from April to September 2000. This option relocates the Ocean View Elementary School to the New Southeast Anchorage Elementary School from mid-March to June 2000. This choice would not require the two-week delay in school opening in 1999, and saves about \$240,000 in construction costs.

- **Option C** starts school at Ocean View and relocates students to Old Northern Lights at the winter break. Renovation would start January 2000, new construction would be done in the spring of 2000 and the entire project would be complete for the start of the school year 2000 - 2001. This would save a minimum of \$340,000 in construction costs.

Baxter Elementary

Two construction options have been identified for Baxter Elementary School's Addition & Renovation Project.

- **Option A** does not relocate students and would accomplish the new construction from May to December of 1999, and the renovation of the existing school from mid-May to mid-September 2000. This option requires a 4-week extension to the summer break.

- **Option B** would accomplish the new construction and renovation of the existing school from May to December of 1999. This option requires the relocation of the Baxter school to the Old Northern Lights School from the

opening of school in the fall of 1999 to December of 1999. Option B would allow construction to occur without students at the school. This option is estimated to cost \$340,000 less than Option A.

The Administration from Facilities, Pupil Transportation, and Instruction will be meeting with staff and parents from both Ocean View and Baxter Elementary Schools in the next few weeks in order to make a recommendation to the Superintendent prior to the winter holiday break so that bids can be prepared. A final report will then be made to the School Board.

BC/KC/CC

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