

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #185 (98-99) January 25, 1999

TO: SCHOOL BOARD  
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
SUBJECT: ASD LIFESAVERS

PERTINENT FACTS:

In August of this school year, Kasuun Elementary School sixth-grader Angelica Adonga-Leonard was at home when she saw that her father was choking and unable to breathe. Using first-aid skills she learned in Girl Scouts, Angelica was able to call 911 and give the operator all the information needed by the rescue squad in order to respond quickly and efficiently to save her father's life. In October Angelica was presented a Life Saving Award by Mayor

Rick Mystrom.

On December 11, Judy Tucker, an administrative assistant in Human Resources, saw that her co-worker, Ruby Demaline, was having trouble breathing and appeared to be choking on a piece of hard candy. Ms. Tucker jumped up from her desk and popped the candy out using the Heimlich maneuver. Other than a sore throat, Ruby quickly recovered.

And finally, on December 14, Gladys Wood Elementary School custodian

Sam Oliveri was keeping an eye on students eating lunch when he saw that third-grader Mark Johnson was choking, unable to breathe, and clawing at his throat. Mr. Oliveri, using skills he learned through District training, applied the Heimlich maneuver and forced a piece of orange out of Mark's throat. Mark also quickly recovered.

In each of these cases, a potential tragedy was averted by the quick and appropriate response of an Anchorage School District student or employee. While we certainly hope that the second semester does not turn out to be as exciting as the first, we are proud to have students and employees like these three individuals in our District.

It is requested that the School Board recognize Angelica Adonga-Leonard, Sam Oliveri and Judy Tucker for their quick responses to emergency situations.

BC/LW/RF

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