

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #317 (98-99) May 24, 1999

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: Project Approval For Electrical Upgrades at Secondary Schools to Accommodate Existing and Future Technology and Computers

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the establishment of a major maintenance project in the amount of \$2,271,000 to support increased technology and correct fire code deficiencies. It is further recommended that the School Board to approve and authorize the Superintendent to process a budget transfer from unexpended accounts at year-end in the amount of \$2,271,000 into the major maintenance account.

PERTINENT FACTS:

This proposed project shall provide electrical system upgrades at the seven high schools — Service, Dimond, Bartlett, East, KCC, Benny Benson, Save I and Steller. Chugiak High School will receive similar upgrades but these improvements are included in the scope of the project approved on the 1999 Bond. Therefore, additional funding is not required for Chugiak High School. Three factors have resulted in the need for this project:

- A) Recent Municipality of Anchorage Fire Marshal inspections document the gap that has developed between the technology that is being used in the schools and the ability of the building infrastructure to support that technology.
- B) The District has initiated an educational improvement program (Technology Plan) which calls for one computer for every five students. This ratio is in addition to one computer for the teacher in every classroom. This hardware goal is being phased in across multiple years by leasing the computers through the District's annual

operating budget. The need exists to develop a parallel implementation plan for upgrading the support infrastructure. These upgrades include both power and communication connectivity.

- C) This power and communication connectivity construction project is not intended to be phased; however, it will take into account the upcoming projects at Dimond, Chugiak, and Service High Schools.

Project determinants, which will be integrated into this project, include:

- Correction of Fire Marshal deficiencies
- Infrastructure upgrades (power and communications — Cat 5) for existing computer labs
- Infrastructure to support long-range student to computer ratio
- Infrastructure to support teachers and support staff computers
- Classroom telephone/intercom service through ATU Centrex system
- Upgrade of existing electrical distribution system

Several Electrical Engineering Consultants were used to develop the project spreadsheet, which details the cost estimates for each school, Attachment A. AMC Inc., will design the Chugiak, Service and Dimond High School projects. Coffman Engineers will design the Bartlett and East High School projects. CMH Consulting Engineers will design the Steller, KCC, Benny Benson and Save I projects.

School principals and technology coordinators were consulted to determine each schools' implementation plan for use of their allotted computers. Some schools such as Bartlett and Steller will be distributing the computers throughout the building. Other facilities such as East will be clustering computers in mini labs. These school-specific plans have been incorporated into the funding request.

Dimond High School is a unique situation. Given the impending facility replacement it is not a good investment to develop a long-term solution at this time. Dimond's scope of work will address Fire Marshal safety citations and meet the computer needs for the next two years.

For the purpose of project funding, recent Fire Marshal electrical citations have been used as a starting point for design. The Municipality of Anchorage Fire Marshal, Robert Taylor, indicated specific school design solutions and standard operation procedures that can be developed to control the potential circuit overloading caused by indiscriminate use of power strips and extension cords. Changes in operational procedures rather than upgrades to the electrical system may resolve some of the noted problems which will reduce the total project costs.

However, the extent of this reduction cannot be determined until the design process is complete.

The funding for this budget transfer will come from unexpended teacher salaries and benefits at year-end because of average teacher salaries being lower in FY 1998-1999 primarily due to the number of new-hires that were brought in at a lower salary. In addition, a number of unfilled teaching positions in the elementary schools resulted from actual enrollment being different than projected by grade level.

Based on the above recommendations, the following budget transfer will be made:

Funds will be added to:

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>GL Account Key</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Contracted Services — Building	106401-3080	\$2,271,000

Funds will be transferred from:

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>GL Account Key</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Various Salary and Benefit Accounts Various		\$2,271,000

BC/EC/KC/MF/DM/sl

Attachment

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