

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #74 (98-99)

October 26, 1998

TO: SCHOOL BOARD  
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
SUBJECT: FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN REPORT

PERTINENT FACTS:

Enclosed is a "follow-up" review of the entering Anchorage School District kindergarten classes from 1987-88, 1988-89, and 1989-90. These years correspond to the last year in which there was no Full-Day Kindergarten Program in the District, the first year of such a Program, and the second year of the Program.

The report examines matriculation patterns, special education identification, middle school and high school credits and grade point averages, and norm referenced test results for students from those kindergarten classes who moved through the District's schools through the 1997-98 school year. The purpose of the review was to identify long-term effects, if any, of the Full-Day Kindergarten Program in Anchorage.

The report concludes:

Overall, the review presented in this report shows that Anchorage students had the opportunity for success regardless of the type of kindergarten program they attended, but that not all students were successful. Factors such as individual student initiative, home life, and educational opportunities after kindergarten are likely to influence students' later educational career and successes more than the type of kindergarten program attended. However, the Full-Day Kindergarten program has been successfully implemented in Anchorage, offers students an immediate pay-off in preparation for first grade, and relates to success in middle school as measured by Grade Point Average. Full-Day Kindergarten is popular, being both supported in the schools where it has been implemented and requested by other schools. In no instance has a local school community

with Full-Day Kindergarten petitioned for a return to the Half-Day Kindergarten program.

The full report is offered for information and review.

BC/CC/FS

Attachment

Prepared by: Fred Stofflet, Executive Director, Curriculum & Evaluation

Approved by: Carol Comeau, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction