

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #374 (98-99) June 28, 1999

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVALS COMPETITION

PERTINENT FACTS:

The International Music Festivals are worldwide competitions designed to encourage and support high performance standards by nonprofessional music groups.

This spring 160 Chugiak High School students, representing six diverse choirs, attended the International Music Festival in Boston, Massachusetts. There they performed with other students in the Class AA division - a classification for schools with over 1,000 enrolled.

The judging criteria for the International Music Festivals are the same in every competition, worldwide. The students don't compete against other schools, but instead are evaluated against an established set of standards.

Since 1972, International Music Festivals have judged approximately 6,000 musical groups. They have bestowed their highest award, the "Gold Medal," to a scant seven percent of the participants, while only twenty percent have received the "Silver Medal." This past year, International Music Festivals heard approximately 80 choirs and awarded only three gold awards. Chugiak claimed two of the three.

Congratulations to these talented musicians who returned to Anchorage with the following awards: The Concert and Swing choirs received the coveted "Gold Medal," the Men's and Women's Choirs each brought home a "Silver Medal," and

the Treble and Mixed choirs each earned a "Bronze Medal" for their performances.

It is requested that the School Board recognize the Chugiak High School choirs, under the talented leadership of Ron Lange, for their noteworthy performances at the International Music Festivals competition.

BC/LW/CW

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