

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #38 (1999-2000)(REVISED) September 13, 1999

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION HONORING CHUGIAK HIGH SCHOOL'S 35TH
ANNIVERSARY

PERTINENT FACTS:

On May 29, 1961, a group of citizens met in Eagle River to discuss the urgent need for a high school to serve students in the Chugiak-Eagle River area. Three years and three months later classes commenced at 9:05 a.m., right on schedule.

This accomplishment was achieved by a galvanized community whose members worked together to accomplish a common goal. Parents, church groups and civic organizations dedicated countless hours of volunteer time to assist in this enormous undertaking. Unfazed by setbacks and governmental red tape, the community resolved that the students of Chugiak would one day enjoy the benefits of a neighborhood school.

Eventually their hard work and perseverance paid off. In September 1964, the 16-classroom school, complete with multi-purpose room and gymnasium, welcomed 182 eighth through twelfth-grade students.

Today, over three decades later, the impact of this community vision remains strong as Chugiak and Eagle River students continue to enjoy the benefits of their neighborhood school.

As Chugiak High School prepares to celebrate its 35th anniversary, it is requested that the School Board recognize the dedicated members of the community who helped this dream become a reality.

Grateful acknowledgement is made to those on the following list of names compiled from existing records and memory. Special thanks are due to Dale Pierson and Ed Willis for their tireless leadership throughout the project that became known as "Operation Chugiak High School."

Equal appreciation is expressed to those who may not be on the list but also contributed.

Birchwood Community Club
Lorene Tofson

Chugiak Benefit Association
Bruce Robinson
Phyllis Smith

Chugiak Chapel (Assembly of God)
Bernard Tewell
Minor Martin

Chugiak Garden Club
Elizabeth Bockstahler

Chugiak Health Council
Lydia Pierson

Chugiak Homemakers
Cleda Stephens

Chugiak Ladies Club
Rusty Bellringer

Chugiak Library
Betsy Mickey

Chugiak Methodist Church
William and Cleda Stephens
Bettye Pyles (WCS)

Chugiak Parent-Teachers Association
Darlene Robinson
Robert and Eloise Thomas

Chugiak Players
Jo Frankfourth
Billie Moore

Chugiak Republican Club
Carol Jones

Chugiak Volunteer Fire Company
Jack Carnahan
Eilieen Carnahan
Ted Brink
Gardner White

Church of Jesus Christ, L.D.S.
Elmer Richardson
Frank Milliman

Community Baptist Church
Louis Schweitzer

Democratic Club of Chugiak
George Mason Allen
Louise Long
Joyce and Ed Willis
Olga Johnson
Frances and Les Todd

Eagle River Improvement Association
James Rankin
Ed and Joyce Willis
James Ekstedt

First Baptist Church of Birchwood
T.F. Moore
James Henderson
Frank Miller

Last Frontier Motorcycle Club
Dave Burns

Our Redeemer Lutheran Club
Robert Harmann
Rolland Fritz
Milton Roppe

Peters Creek Community Church
O.W. Bill Lowe
Cynthia Lowe

St. Andres Catholic Ladies Alter Society
Marie Zib

St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
Mike Alex

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9785
Jess Straight

V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliary #9875
Tawana Carter
Mary McCrary

Non-Affiliated Community Workers for Operation Chugiak High School
Dale and Lydia Pierson
Herman Jones

Non-Affiliated Community Workers for Operation Chugiak High School
Dale and Lydia Pierson
Herman Jones
Dora Jones
Ray Beam
Ursula Beam
Eileen Reid
Dorothy Jonrowe
Carl Steeby

Statewide Support
Bruce Kendall, (State Rep.)
William Sanders, (State Rep.)
Bill Egan, Governor
John Hellenthal, (State Rep.)
Nick Begich, (State Sen.)

*From Operation Chugiak High School, 1961-1964
By O.W. Bill Lowe*

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