

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #192 (1999-2000)

February 14, 2000

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD: TECHNOLOGY LITERACY
CHALLENGE FUND GRANT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) in the amount of \$1,000,011.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The Anchorage School District this fall applied for Technology Literacy Challenge funds from the DEED. The project extends and expands the professional development initiative that has been carried out over the past three years by the Instructional Technology Department, and that has been supported in part by Technology Literacy Challenge Fund grants. The Technology Literacy Challenge Fund is a Federal grant program first created under the 1994 Improving America's Schools Act. The purpose of the program is to support professional development for teachers and other staff who work directly with students, in order to improve student learning through the integration of technology into the curriculum. The competition's focus this year is on professional development that enables all students--particularly those in high-needs schools--to meet state Reading standards through the application of technology.

The grant period is from January 15 through June 30, 2000, extendable to the July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001 fiscal year. The project continues and builds upon a professional development partnership with the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA). It also includes the Lower Kuskokwim, Yupiit, and Kashunamuit School Districts in a collaboration to receive and share training opportunities, and to develop online literacy projects among classrooms across all four districts. Primary venues for professional development are: school-based training and coaching for application of Reading

strategies and assessment; statewide summer institutes; credit courses; and inter-district on-line professional networks. A number of the training activities coordinate with institutes offered through UAA's Alaska Partnership in Teacher Enhancement grant. Family literacy activities will support students' growth in reading and writing. The grant will provide funds for the following:

- Three full-time technology teacher expert positions in Anchorage and one full-time trainer in the Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD);
- One full-time trainer in the LKSD, through a contract with LKSD;
- A part-time family literacy specialist based in Anchorage;
- Incentive addenda for teachers to attend institutes;
- Contracts to UAA for working with project schools on Reading assessment strategies, and for project evaluation;
- Presenters and local instructors for summer institutes;
- Clerical support for project tasks and to track expenditures;
- Travel and related expenses for rural sites, for trainers, and for Alaskan authors for inter-district classroom literacy projects;
- Books, CDs, and supplies for classrooms and for training activities; and
- Professional development mini-grants for Anchorage schools, and contracts to rural schools for related school-based professional development.

We anticipate that some schools may request release time for professional development as part of their mini-grants. This would be incorporated in the Non-Certificated Salaries account. District in-kind contributions include Instructional Technology staff time and project management by Instructional Technology Coordinator Sharon Bandle. In-kind contributions by project collaborators include staff time of the LKSD technology coordinator and of UAA staff, Internet services by GCI, and contributions by Alaska Northwest Books.

Budget Summary

Certificated Salaries	\$159,904
Certificated Added Duty/Days	230,560
Non-Certificated Salaries	94,012
Employee Benefits	81,794
Contracted Services	334,832
Travel	19,949
Other	36,906
Indirect Costs	<u>42,054</u>
TOTAL	\$1,000,011

BC/CC/NH/SB/BT

Prepared by: Norm Holthouse, Executive Director, Technology/MIS

Sharon Bandle, Coordinator, Instructional Technology

Beverly Thornburg, Coordinator, Discretionary Grants

Approved by: Carol Comeau, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction