

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #199 (1999-2000)

February 23, 2000

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: REVISION TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICY SECTION 731.5 — PEST
MANAGEMENT (SECOND READING)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on Second Reading the Revision/Addition To School Board Policy Section 731.5 - Pest Management, Attachment A. It is further recommended that the School Board approve the proposed Anchorage School District Pest Control Plan, Attachment B.

PERTINENT FACTS:

On February 14, 2000 the School Board approved on First Reading the Revision/Addition to School Board Policy Section 731.5 — Pest Management, as well as the proposed Anchorage School District Pest Control Plan.

The Anchorage School District's overall method of pest control was called into question last summer by the Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) group through their Pesticide Right-to-Know Campaign. ACAT had several major objectives: help the District design a notification plan when pesticides would be used; ban the use of certain chemicals; and develop a least toxic pest management policy. Of particular interest was ACAT's request that the District discontinue the annual preventive application of Sevin pesticide before the start of the school year. Sevin's active ingredient is carbaryl, which ACAT targeted as a suspected endocrine disrupter.

ACAT sought to participate on a committee to develop a new pest management plan and public policy statement. Initially, however, the District selected an in-house committee to develop the draft Pest Management Plan, including the Directors of Operations, Risk Management, and Student Nutrition, and a Principal.

Following completion of the original draft in October, the District forwarded copies to ACAT and to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) for their review and comment. ACAT responded with several recommendations, and through a course of meetings and working sessions with ACAT, the attached policy and plan were collaboratively attained. ADEC reported that the draft appeared to be based on tried and true programs of other state school pest management programs and was acceptable to them.

The School Board Policy Subcommittee reviewed the proposed policy statement, 731.5 Pest Management, and also the Anchorage School District Pest Control Plan, on January 6, 2000. At that time, the Subcommittee recommended that the District make minor revisions to the policy and submit it for approval by the School Board.

The District did include and the School Board approved in the FY2000-2001 budget the addition of a new position, Pest Management Technician, to be able to appropriately manage and monitor the Pest Control Program. It is anticipated that the additional position will allow the Administration to implement the Pest Control Program in an effective manner across the District's 89 schools and other support facilities.

BC/EC/SS

Attachments

Prepared by: Stanley Syta, Director of Operations

Approved by: Ed Conyers, Executive Director, Physical Plant