

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #209 (1999-2000)

February 23, 2000

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: SECOND QUARTER SUSPENSION/WEAPONS/EXPULSION  
REPORT — 1999-2000

PERTINENT FACTS:

Information regarding suspensions and expulsions for various offenses, including weapons, is collected from the elementary, middle, and high schools each quarter. This information is shown in the narrative information below and as Attachments A-F.

Overall suspensions decreased at the elementary level when comparing incidents from the second quarter of the 1998-99 school year. Elementary schools also showed a decrease in fighting but an increase in disobedience, other weapons, and harassment. Suspensions in middle schools have also decreased from last year in the areas of fighting, harassment, drugs/alcohol/tobacco, and disobedience, but had a slight increase in other weapons. Suspensions at the high school level have also decreased in fighting, weapons, smoking, and disobedience, but showed an increase in harassment and drugs/alcohol.

**Second Quarter Expulsion**

A total of ten middle school and 28 high school students were expelled by the School Board during the second quarter for a total of 38; no elementary students were expelled. Of these middle school expulsions, three were fighting/assault, two for other weapons, two for drugs/alcohol/tobacco, and three for threats to staff or students.

High school students were expelled for the following reasons: second drug/alcohol (17); third drug/alcohol (1); drug/alcohol sales (2); firearm (1); assault on staff (1); theft of auto (3); drive-by shooting (3). During the second quarter of 1998-99, there were 22 students expelled from the Anchorage School District.

## Discipline Reports

The elementary, middle school, and high school discipline summaries follow: these show elementary second quarter by school and category (Attachment A & B); middle school second quarter by school and category (Attachment C & D); and high school second quarter by school and category (Attachment E & F).

### Elementary Schools

Suspensions during the second quarter of the 1999-2000 school year decreased by seven percent from the second quarter of the 1998-1999 school year; 151 for 1999-2000 and 163 for 1998-1999. There were six weapons violations: a razor blade, live bullets, an arrow tip, a slingshot with BB's (two students suspended), and a BB gun which resulted in suspension during the second quarter; there were five reported weapons incidents during the second quarter of 1998-1999. (Note: the BB gun was inadvertently listed as a firearm in the attached reports. This error has been corrected in the student's record to show as a weapon suspension.)

There was one drug and alcohol suspension for the second quarter compared to one during the second quarter last year. There were no gang related incidents to report during the second quarter of 1999-2000 as was the case in 1998-99. There were no racially motivated offenses reported for the second quarter, this was the same last year.

### Elementary Second Quarter Suspension Report

#### Suspensions by Category Comparison

Offense	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Fighting/Assault	124	106	91
Harassment	7	3	8
Firearms	0	0	0
Other Weapons	7	5	6
Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco	3	2	2
Disobedience	10	12	19
Other	65	34	25
<b>Totals</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>151</b>

**Elementary Second Quarter Suspension Report**

**Elementary Expulsions Comparison**

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>1997-1998</b>	<b>1998-1999</b>	<b>1999-2000</b>
Second Quarter	0	0	0

**Elementary Second Quarter Suspension Report**

**Elementary Findings of Causality Comparison**

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>1997-1998</b>	<b>1998-1999</b>	<b>1999-2000</b>
Second Quarter	0	0	0

**Elementary Second Quarter Suspension Report**

**Elementary Repeaters Comparison**

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>1997-1998</b>	<b>1998-1999</b>	<b>1999-2000</b>
Second Quarter	15	15	15

**Middle School**

The suspension rate for the second quarter of the 1999-2000 school year for grade 6, (Mirror lake only), 7 and 8 is 482 suspensions. There were 653 suspensions during the same period in 1998-1999 and 656 in 1997-98. This represents a decrease of 171 or 26 percent from last year. The decrease in fighting/assault suspensions is a direct result of the success of the Saturday school and other violence intervention programs instituted at the middle schools. Major decreases are noted in the fighting/assault area from 209 in 1998-1999 to 143 in 1999-2000, a decrease of 66, and disobedience from 67 in 1998-1999 to 41 in 1999-2000, a decrease of 26. Of the 482 suspensions, 76 or 15 percent were assigned to repeaters.

The middle schools are involved in a variety of initiatives designed to improve school climate and provide students alternative methods to resolve conflicts. Every one of the middle schools has one or more programs in place to emphasize awareness and understanding of the differences between students. The success of these efforts, on the part of the staff of the middle schools, is reflected in the marked decrease in the total number of suspensions for this quarter.

There were nine suspensions from Polaris K-12 School for second quarter of the 1999-2000 school year. Four were for smoking tobacco, two for profanity and one each for willful disobedience, harassment and other. There were no expulsions from Polaris K-12 School for the second quarter of the 1999-2000 school year.

### Middle School Second Quarter Suspension Report

#### Suspensions by Category Comparison

Offense	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Fighting/Assault	176	209	143
Harassment	70	31	20
Firearms	0	0	0
Other Weapons	3	1	4
Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco	36	25	15
Disobedience	58	67	41
Other	<u>313</u>	<u>320</u>	<u>259</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>482</b>

### Middle School Second Quarter Suspension Report

#### Middle School Expulsions Comparison

Offense	1997-99	1998-99	1999-2000
Fighting/Assault	1	1	3
Harassment	0	0	0
Firearms	0	0	0
Other Weapons	1	2	2
Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco	0	2	2
Disobedience	0	0	0
Other	1	1	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>

### Expulsions by Middle School

School	Offense
Clark	Assaults (2)
Clark	Threats (3)
Goldenview	Weapons/Knife
Hanshew	Assault
Mirror Lake	Weapons/BB Gun
Mirror Lake	Drug/Alcohol Sales
Romig	Drug/Alcohol 2nd

### Middle School Second Quarter Suspension Report

#### Findings of Causality Comparison

Quarter	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Second Quarter Weapon/Knife/Mirror Lake (Mentally Retarded)	-	-	1

One expulsion recommendation was modified to a 45-day suspension due to a finding of causality. An alternate placement is being investigated.

### Middle School Second Quarter Suspension Report

#### Repeaters Comparison

Quarter	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Second Quarter	115	123	76

### High School

The high school suspension rate for second quarter 1999-2000, is 567, three more than the 564 suspensions during second quarter last school year. There were notable reductions in fighting/threats (down 27 percent from 111 to 81) and in weapons (down 40

percent from 15 to 9). Significant increases were seen in suspensions for harassment (up 57 percent from 12 to 28) and in drug/alcohol (up 30 percent from 61 to 87).

### High School First Quarter Suspension Report

#### Suspensions by Category Comparison

Offense	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Fighting/Threats	114	111	81
Harassment	58	12	28
Assault	36	21	21
Weapons	13	15	9
Firearms	0	0	1
Drug/Alcohol	86	61	87
Smoking	40	15	12
Disobedience	95	40	32
Other	314	289	296
<b>Totals</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>567</b>

### High School Second Quarter Expulsion Report Expulsions Comparison

Offense	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Assault	0	3	1
Weapons	1	1	3*
Firearms	0	0	1
Drug/Alcohol	11	11	20
Threats to Staff	0	0	0
Theft	0	13	
Sexual Harassment	0	0	0
Dangerous Acts	1	0	0
Vandalism	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>28</b>

\*The three weapons incidents were students involved in an off campus drive-by shooting that occurred during the first quarter this school year.

### **Expulsions by High School**

<u>School</u>	<u>Offense</u>
Chugiak	2nd Drug/Alcohol (4)
Chugiak	Drug/Alcohol Sales (2)
Dimond	Weapon/Gun/9mm
Dimond	Assault/Staff
Dimond	2nd Drug/Alcohol (2)
Dimond	3rd Drug/Alcohol
East	2nd Drug/Alcohol (5)
Service	2nd Drug/Alcohol (3)
West	2nd Drug/Alcohol (2)
West	Theft/Auto (3)
B. Benson	Drive-by Shooting (3)
B. Benson	2nd Drug/Alcohol

### **High School Second Quarter Suspension Report**

#### **Findings of Causality Comparison**

<b>Second Quarter</b>	<b>1997-1998</b>	<b>1998-99</b>	<b>1999-2000</b>
Assault/Staff (Chugiak) (Emotionally Disturbed)	-	-	1
Weapons/Knife/Threats (East) (Severely Emotionally Disturbed)	-	-	1

Two high school students who were brought forward to the first level of appeal were found to have causality. Upon reaching this determination, it was decided not to bring these forward to the School Board.

## High School Second Quarter Suspension Report

### Repeaters Comparison

Second Quarter	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
	93	53	64

BC/CC/PM/GO/PM/mks

Attachments

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