

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #229 (1999-2000)  
2000

March 20,

TO: SCHOOL BOARD  
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
SUBJECT: ALASKA'S 1999 SPIRIT OF YOUTH AWARDS

PERTINENT FACTS:

The Spirit of Youth Campaign was created to recognize Alaska teens for their dedication to positive community service projects. Each year middle and senior high students are awarded for finding creative ways to impact the lives of others in their community.

This year students from Anchorage School District took top honors in four categories.

Chesaney Adams and Christina Vitale, from Dimond High School, received the Service to Young Children Award. This duo, also known as "Sarah's Team," spends many hours each week helping an autistic girl named Sarah. Working through UAA's Early Intervention Autism Project, they have helped Sarah learn to speak and play and do many of the same things as other children her age.

Members of the Anchorage Youth Action Group received the Science, Technology and Invention Award for their Computer Literacy Project. This program, founded two years ago by Polaris student Chris Hoffmeyer, allows teens to rebuild donated computers and create working systems which are loaned to needy families.

The Participation in Government Award was presented to Hans Bernard of Chugiak High School. Hans is the current co-chair for the state's Adolescent Health Advisory Committee, he is also one of Chugiak's representatives to the district's student advisory board, and for the last two years has served as School Board liaison.

Alaska Youth for Environmental Action Group took first place in the

Environmental Award category. This group was formed by youth who want to make a difference in the community by helping the environment. They were instrumental in securing public notification prior to pesticide application within the District, they have sponsored youth training to take action against environmental problems and have volunteered at health fairs.

It is requested the School Board recognize these 1999 Spirit of Youth Award winners whose innovation, compassion, and dedication to others led to this recognition.

BC/LW/CW

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