

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #316 (1999-2000)

May 22, 2000

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: GRANT APPLICATION FOR INDIAN EDUCATION
PROGRAM FY 2000-2005

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Indian Education Formula Grant application for a five year period with the first year funding in the amount of \$966,625 for the 2000-2001 school year.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The Anchorage School District operates an Indian Education Act Program with funds appropriated annually by the Congress to support local educational agencies in their efforts to reform elementary and secondary school programs that serve Indian students in order to ensure that such programs: (1) are based on challenging content standards and student performance standards that are used for all students; and (2) are designed to assist Indian students meet those standards and assist the nation in reaching the National Education Goals. Yearly evaluations of the program indicate on-going program effectiveness, particularly with students who experience stability within the program/district.

The duly elected Native Advisory Committee has met during the year to review program progress, set priorities and discuss future directions for the program. The NAC has indicated a need to support the current activities of academic assistance and cultural enrichment opportunities for elementary age students and career planning, improved attendance, and drug and alcohol prevention activities for high school and middle level students. The committee is also interested in investigating possible activities to increase student performance on the benchmark exams and the high school qualifying exam.

The Indian Education Program Office has indicated a funding level per student similar to the current year. A program and school effort to certify more students has led to an increase of 300 students certified as eligible for the annual program count. With the anticipated increase in funding level, an effort will be made to increase the number of schools with IEA staff services.

It is proposed that the following services be provided:

1. Schools which have developed proposals to be schoolwide under Title I guidelines will continue to have the opportunity to include Indian Education funding as part of their integrated plan, as provided by statute. Before funds are released, a plan for their use will be approved by the Native Advisory Committee. This plan must insure that the needs of the Native students will be met. Currently four of the Title I schoolwide programs have integrated Indian Education resources into their plan of service.
2. A tutorial/resource/enrichment program will be offered at the elementary and middle school level for approximately 1,500 students emphasizing math, reading, language development and cultural enrichment. Methods of providing services will be determined by the needs of individual building populations working in collaboration with other federal programs. These methods can include in-class assistance, pull-out activities, whole class presentations, extended school day programs and resource assistance to classroom teachers and counselors.
3. The curriculum resource effort to provide relevant materials for classroom use will continue to be a small but important component of the program. Active involvement with Curriculum Renewal Committees by both staff and Native Committee representatives can provide an avenue for ongoing integration of Native cultural ideas, materials, and methods into the general curriculum. The parent committee and the Native community, in general, continue to voice the need for additional Native cultural information to be included in the District's curriculum. As resources are identified, information will be made available to curriculum coordinators and school personnel. Specifically, efforts will be made to provide information and suggested activities centered around Native American History Month in November, and the February 16 state holiday in honor of Elizabeth Peratrovich
4. At the secondary level, community counselors will continue to be available to work with approximately 600 middle school and senior high school students. Liaison will be provided between the students,

schools, and homes. Counselors will stress career education and planning as a priority need established by the Native community. The importance of good attendance and drug and alcohol prevention activities will also be targeted. The intent is to provide a sense of community, a safe, healthy, and stable environment, and the opportunity to develop skills necessary for a productive lifestyle. Coordination with other programs will be a key to maximizing available resources.

5. Program staff will continue to provide assistance to the two exemplary high school-within-a-school programs, Elitnaurvik-Within-East and the West High Kanakngaq Program, as requested. The majority of the costs for these two programs are from the ASD operating budget; the salaries and benefits and supplies/equipment for these classrooms at East and West are funded in addition to the basic educational program at both schools. Technical assistance will be provided to other secondary programs interested in expanding their curricula and services for Native students. Resources will be made available to high school classes.
6. The program will again provide an evening session twice a week at a centralized location. Activities will include cultural enrichment, academic tutoring, computer literacy and Native dance. There will also be opportunities for other organizations to sponsor activities. The intent is to provide positive and healthy activities for eligible students and their families.
7. Coordination of programs and resources will continue. Partnerships with the Alaska Native Heritage Center centered around high school culture club activities and Native artist visits to schools will continue. Program representatives will continue to be involved with the urban/rural exchange program sponsored by the Alaska Humanities Forum and with the YWCA 6th grade Native mother/daughter project. If additional grant applications are funded, a partnership will be developed with the Heritage Center to begin offering Native Language classes for interested students.

There are no matching fund requirements for this entitlement grant. District contributions to this program are those listed above for the Elitnaurvik-Within-East and West's Kanakngaq programs. The revised Budget is as follows:

Preliminary Budget Summary:

Personnel	\$701,348
Fringe Benefits	214,102
Travel	5,000
Supplies	6,179
Contractual	10,500
Other	4,450
Indirect costs	<u>25,046</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$966,625</u>

BC/CC/EL/mbb

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Approved by: Carol Comeau, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction