

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #132 (2000-2001)

November 20, 2000

TO: SCHOOL BOARD
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
SUBJECT: SCHOOL BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP RECOGNITION

PERTINENT FACTS:

Initiated in 1996 as a way to recognize outstanding School Business Partnerships in the Anchorage School District, the STAR Award program has become synonymous with excellence in service. Those who have been honored with this award have met a rigorous set of criteria for membership in the family of STAR Award recipients. Each of the STAR partnerships between businesses and schools have demonstrated their commitment through:

- enthusiastic support of School Business Partnerships and the school or schools to which they are partnered;
- commitment to educational enhancement of the ongoing program;
- excellence in what is offered through their partnership;
- dedication to the continuation and success of the program;
- participation on a regular, dependable, scheduled basis; and
- willingness to be flexible and creative in providing necessary support to assure success.

Partnerships who receive STAR Awards are nominated and chosen by a group of their business and education peers. This year, five partnerships were recognized:

Central Middle School of Science and Key Bank

Over the past seven years, Key Bank has worked with Central Middle School to present a number of annual and special projects including Neighbors Make A Difference Day, Key Bank's Student Achievement Award, the Good Neighbor Award, Pennies for the Penniless, Paper-Trail, Mock Job Interviews and quarterly School Business Partnership Board Meetings.

Polaris K-12 and Frigid North

Tom McGrath, owner of Frigid North, has been a part of the Polaris K-12 family for over three years. He has provided education in electronics, assisted with

networking the building and bringing it up to modern technology standards, provided assistance for students to attend journalism conferences, and promoted citizenship through asset development.

Kincaid, Ocean View and Klatt elementary schools and Anchorage Sand and Gravel

Mike Harned of Anchorage Sand and Gravel is dedicated to the success of children, as evidenced by his active partnership with three elementary schools. He works in the fall with the principals to create a template of activities for the year, which may include pulling Fur Rondy floats with his trucks, judging chili contests, or speaking to classrooms. He donates materials used in classroom experiences, encourages employees to take time in the schools to read with students, and is always available to hear and participate in a new or creative idea.

Anchorage School District and Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau

Since 1991, ACVB has partnered with schools on a Districtwide basis, assisting children in all grades. ACVB sponsors an annual Wild About Anchorage Trivia Contest for middle school youth; trains young people in tap dancing and stage performance through “Seymour University” where the students then interact with community residents and visitors as the “Wild About Anchorage” characters; sponsors an art contest for all second-grade students; and presents sessions at national conferences about the unique assets of the School Business Partnership Program in the Anchorage School District.

Kasuun Elementary and the Alaska Zoo.

Zoo animals found at Kasuun Elementary School are not missing and dangerous — the Alaska Zoo escorts them to the school on purpose so that children can learn about the animals and their varied backgrounds. Through the assistance of Katie Larsen at the zoo, the school sponsors Loki, a raccoon in the “Adopt-an-Animal” program. Katie offers classes to students at Kasuun and helps them participate in a discovery learning process that is structured, motivational, and educational.

It is requested that the School Board recognize the STAR award winners for their outstanding work with School Business Partnerships.

CC/PM/EM

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