

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #170 (2000-2001)

January 22, 2001

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO REVISE MINORITY EDUCATION CONCERNS
COMMITTEE GUIDELINES (SECOND READING)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board amend Policy 173.3 (Attachment A) to allow an increase in the number of Minority Education Concerns Committee (MECC) positions from the current nine (9) positions to eleven (11) as requested by the MECC members. Terms of office for these two additional positions would expire on June 20, 2002.

PERTINENT FACTS:

On November 16, 2000, the MECC met and discussed the possibility of increasing the number of committee members from nine to eleven members. The committee agreed that this would be beneficial and requested the Chairperson to submit a letter to the Superintendent requesting the addition of two more members (Attachment B).

One of the goals of the MECC this school year is to visit each school and meet with the staff, principal, and students and PTA/PTSA or other Parent Organization if possible. The MECC feels that the additional two members would help achieve this goal and insure quality performance from the Minority Education Concerns Committee.

There are currently five well-qualified community members in our MECC applicant pool, who have expressed an interest in remaining involved with the District working with minority students and families. There is no doubt that these two additional positions could be filled from the current applicant pool interviewed last summer by former Board member Bettye Davis and the Superintendent.

The Superintendent erred in not bringing this to the Policy Sub-committee first as it was not realized that the number of members was in Policy 173.3. The chair of the Policy Sub-committee waived referral to the committee when this was realized prior to the last School Board meeting. The School Board passed this motion on First Reading at the January 8, 2001, meeting.

Attachments

Prepared and Approved by: Carol Comeau, Superintendent

Attachment A

173.3 Minority Education Concerns Committee

- a. The School Board recognizes the importance of community participation in the decision-making process. The Minority Education Concerns Committee shall be composed of nine or eleven members depending on the number of applicants in the pool of candidates. All members will be appointed to the committee by the Board. The MECC shall represent the diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds of students in the School District to the extent that qualified persons apply. The MECC shall receive common community concerns and make recommendations to the Board relating to the education of minority students K through 12 Districtwide.

(Section 173.3 - Revised September 14, 1987)

- b. The School Board may allow for a representative of the Minority Education Concerns Committee (MECC) to serve as an advisory ex-officio member of the School Board. The representative shall serve at the pleasure of the Board and shall be a current member of the MECC. The MECC representative shall advise and assist the Board in matters relating to minority students and their families in the Anchorage School District and shall act as a liaison between the Board and the minority community.

(Section 173.3b - Adopted May 8, 1995)