

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #201 (2000-2001)

February 12, 2001

TO: SCHOOL BOARD  
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SCHOOL AFFILIATE UPDATE

PERTINENT FACTS:

A group of five formerly staffed Community Schools have been working this year to maintain a reduced level of service at their sites. Their current aspiration is to develop modified and viable community school programs which serve the needs of their communities. Most schools indicate that their long-term goal is to locate a way to return full-time staff to their programs.

Each of these Affiliate Community Schools began developing programs of classes and activities in the fall of 2000. Their programs are listed along with other Community Schools in the Community Cache, and now on the ASD website. Several of the Affiliates are employing part-time community school assistants at their schools. Assistants at these sites are engaged to help with evening building monitoring, and to provide assistance to key volunteers in the areas of program development, registration, customer service and office management.

Each Affiliate Community School manages their operation through the direction of their individual Association Board, which is a subsidiary of the Anchorage Community Education Advisory Board (ACEAB). Association Boards average 12 members in size and are representative of a variety of constituent groups including: community members, school personnel, PTAs, satellite community school representatives, parents and youth. Affiliate community schools follow the guidelines required of other ASD Community Schools in terms of program development, fiscal responsibility and public relations.

Support from the principals at these sites has been of critical importance to this new effort. The innovative model of affiliate community schools relies heavily on the volunteer force and contribution at each site. The number of volunteer hours is enormous in those schools that are adjusting to this new model.

Association Boards are taking stock of their limits and abilities to continue in force as they have been. Each of the community school Association Boards at these schools are to be richly acknowledged for their courage and willingness to take on such a challenge.

### **BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

Bear Valley Community School employs a half-time assistant who also volunteers additional hours with the community school. In addition, one volunteer has devoted nearly full-time hours to the projects and needs of the community school this year. The Board does not expect this level of volunteer support to continue on a long-term basis. The strong Association Board is taking a long hard look at the reality involved in operating a community school without full-time coordinator staff, and is attempting to eliminate some of their former activities and annual events in order to bring the work load into compliance with the capacity of the volunteer force.

Fall 2000 Community School Classes: 14 (Fall 1998: 36, Fall 1999: 37)

Winter 2001 Community School Classes: 27 (Winter 1999: 41, Winter 2000: 32)

One third of the activities offered are youth classes and two thirds are adult classes.

#### Additional After School Activities

(advertised via flyer at the school)

Flag Football

Cross-country Running

Kooky Spooky Pumpkin Painting

Turkey Cobbler Centerpiece

- Jump Rope Club

- Basketball

- Gymnastics

- Engineers Fair Practice Sessions

#### Special Events

- Fall Family Fun Night – Haunted House

- Bear Fair (craft bazaar)

- Photo Arts Sessions - 2, possible third coming up

- Sports Swap

- Adopt the Library Program

#### Other Information

- Bear Valley has a new Principal this year who is very supportive of the program.

- The community school has been working hard this year on developing a new relationship with the PTA that matches the new role and function of the community school.

- Much time and effort has been dedicated to fundraising, which distracts from the energy and time available for program services.

- Increases in fees for activities have been necessary

Discontinued Services:

- Classes held at Goldenview Middle School.
- Walking/jogging staff for a class held at Goldenview Middle School.
- Satellite or after school programs at Klatt and Spring Hill Elementary schools.
- Some dissemination of information to the community.
- Coordination of building use between daytime staff, Campfire, and other user groups
- Daytime curriculum enrichment

**CAMPBELL COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

Campbell Community School has maintained their community outreach program, and is successfully functioning at approximately 1/3 it's "norm". An assistant coordinator worked two evenings per week covering evening classes and activities in the fall, approximately eight hours per week. The number of after-school programs has increased significantly during the winter quarter, with interest levels in several classes demanding (and filling) second sections. The needs of staffing, office coverage, communication, continuity, the minute day-to-day details have provided some major barriers to the Association Board, even though volunteers have done an admirable job at trying to fill in the gaps.

The Association Board is composed of 14 people who represent the community at-large. They meet monthly and have worked hard at maintaining the strength of the Community School program at Campbell. Part of that work has required numerous weekend meetings to define short-term goals, monitor and evaluate those goals, establish a new, tailored budget (to fit the decreased revenue projections that accompany fewer class offerings), and engage in training. In addition, the Board monitors and evaluates how responsibility for particular tasks is accomplished, and is working to clearly determine the balance necessary between the level of commitment that volunteers can take on and the responsibilities of operating a community school without a full-time coordinator. The program committee would like to expand the classes offered to three days a week. The feasibility of doing so is currently under study due to the need to calculate affordability based on the costs of additional assistant hours and available revenue. Volunteers are at capacity in terms of what they are able to offer.

Fall 2000 Community School Classes: 46 (Fall 1998: 67, Fall 1999: 65)

Winter 2001 Community School Classes: 60 (Winter 1999: 66, Winter 2000: 57)

One-third of the activities offered are youth classes and two-thirds are adult classes.

Additional After School Activities

(advertised via flyer at the school)

- Reading Club at Kasuun Elementary
- Coed Football at Campbell

- Chimes Choir at Bayshore Elementary
- Coed Basketball at Campbell

#### Special Events

- Family Holiday Photo Night
- Turkey Shoot
- Trick or Treat Night
- Talent Show
- Skate-a-thon

#### Other Information

- Free Math/Language Arts Tutoring and Homework Club offered Winter quarter.
- Recreational Reading Program, an all-school enrichment event (February - May).
- Eight Fall classes shared with other Community Schools.
- Twenty Winter classes brokered from other Community Schools.

#### Discontinued Services

- Three afternoons and evenings of program services.
- Additional curriculum enrichment activities at the school

### **HANSHEW COMMUNITY SCHOOL** (Formerly Service Community School)

Throughout the fall, Service Community School's Board met regularly and agreed to change their name and join forces with the 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) program at Hanshew Middle School to create Hanshew Community School. Year two of the three-year 21st CCLC grant stipulates that grant schools develop advisory boards, and begin programming community school classes and activities. Due to the Service Board's alignment with Hanshew, Hanshew Community School is successfully operating in its first grant year with a full Board of Directors, including representatives from four satellite schools: Service High School, Abbott Loop, O'Malley, and Trailside Elementary Schools. Classes and activities at each of these satellite sites are in operation through volunteer efforts.

One fund raiser was completed during the fall and the Community School is co-sponsoring a Health Fair, scheduled for February 17th. Hanshew Community School offered adult, teen and youth classes in both the Fall and Winter. The number of classes and activities increased from ten in the fall to 20 in the winter quarter, and will increase again in the spring. Hanshew has no plans at this time to hire an assistant. They are working with volunteer building monitors to cover classes and activities in the evenings.

Fall 2000 Community School Classes: 10 (Fall 1998: 42, Fall 1999: 46)

Winter 2001 Community School Classes: 20 (Winter 1999: 66, Winter 2000: 52)

Three quarters of the activities offered are youth classes and one quarter are adult classes.

### Additional After School Classes

(advertised via flyer at the school)

- Parent/Child Scrapbook making
- Men's Basketball
- Math Tutoring (7th-12th grade)
- Drivers' Education
- Crocheting for lefties
- Skating
- Ice Hockey
- Hand Stamping
- Drama
- College Planning
- Softball Fast Pitch
- Dance
- Woodworking
- Volleyball
- Walking/Jogging

### Special Events

- Health Fair
- Volleyball Tournament concessions

### Other Information

- Hanshew Community School will also sponsor summer Volleyball, Basketball, and Wrestling camps.

### Discontinued Services

- Full range of classes
- Daytime services to High School youth

## **ROGERS PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

The Rogers Park Association Board hired a half-time assistant in the fall to schedule and cover classes, programs and manage registration. The two primary focuses of the Association Board are on-line classes for adults, and attention to youth activities after school. The Board continues to meet monthly, and is actively working to discern the challenges and rewards involved in continuing the program. The staff has engaged in training and participated in the ACEAB program retreat to develop the future of Anchorage Community Schools.

This winter term the assistant hours were reduced to minimize expenses. Only minimal administrative time remains. Courses and evening hours have been eliminated in an effort to conserve. After-school classes are offered as volunteers can be recruited. The Board believes that there is not sufficient data to tell at this point if self-sufficiency is feasible.

Fall 2000 Community School Classes: 10 (Fall 1998: 71, Fall 1999: 71)

Winter 2001 Community School Classes: 31 (Winter 1999: 68, Winter 2000: 91)

One quarter of the activities offered are youth classes and three quarters are adult classes.

### Additional After School Classes

(advertised via flyer at the school)

- Hockey
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Running Club
- Spanish

### Special Events

- There have been no special events.

### Other Information

- Offerings are limited at this time.

### Discontinued Services

- One-time events such as the turkey shoot and Christmas program.
- Enrichment contributions to the school.
- Nearly all on-site adult courses.
- Lake Otis and Airport Heights as satellite schools
- Partnership with the PTAs of the three schools

## **TURNAGAIN COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

Turnagain is having a difficult time maintaining strength due to low volunteer numbers. Time is the biggest challenge and lack of access to equipment and supplies has created difficulty with publicity and promotion. Communication has proven difficult due to the lack of a consistent point of contact on-site. Several classes have been arranged, and volunteer building monitors have been available to provide security and customer service at those times. Several class instructors have shown tremendous dedication to the program, and have extended opportunities for youth with classes and sports clinics at the school.

The office space at Turnagain will no longer be available by the fall of 2001. No assistant staff have been hired and volunteers are not available to schedule classes and activities. Very few volunteers have been recruited to provide after school classes and activities due, in the Board's opinion, to the demographics of the Turnagain area and the fact that most adults are occupied during the hours directly after school.

One of the special events was held in cooperation with the 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) at nearby Romig Middle School with some success. In addition, Romig's 21st CCLC program is beginning to program for young children in an effort determine the level of interest there.

Fall 2000 Community School Classes: 6 (Fall 1998: 55, Fall 1999: 53)

Winter 2001 Community School Classes: 13 (Winter 1999: 58, Winter 2000: 52)  
50% of the activities offered are youth classes and 50% are adult classes

Additional After School Classes

(advertised via flyer at the school)

- None

Special Events

- Fall Craft Bazaar
- Fall Health Fair

Other Information

- Turnagain has worked on several occasions with Inlet View Community School in an effort to enhance volunteer participation and program viability.

Discontinued Services

- All activities at satellite sites: Lake Hood and Northwood
- Ice Rink maintenance
- Dances
- Most curriculum enrichment activity
- Partnerships with businesses and organizations in the area.

CC/EM/gm

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