

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #278 (2000-2001)

May 21, 2001

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: GOALS 2000: QUALITY SCHOOLS DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT
PLAN

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept the Quality Schools District Improvement Plan.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The Anchorage School District was awarded a Goals 2000 grant for the 2000-2001 school year. The grant had two areas of emphasis: reading intervention and a five year plan for improved student learning. The reading intervention plan was implemented in a project involving Wendler, Clark, East and Bartlett. The five year plan for improved student learning is the subject of this memo.

The Department of Education and Early Development provided a training in the fall of 2000 for all of the districts which receive grant funds. During that training, the title of the plan was renamed Quality Schools District Improvement Plan. Participating districts were asked to engage in a process to develop a mission statement, a vision statement, and goals. Districts were also asked to develop action plans and identify needs, resources, timelines and policies pertinent to several categories. For those districts like the Anchorage School District that had already established many of the plan requirements, the task became one of integrating all of the existing plans into one document. The major areas of review required were:

Quality Schools Improvement Planning

- Mission
- Vision
- Needs

Student Academic Standards and Assessments

- Goals and strategies for improving student learning
- Standards based education
- Adopted curriculum
- Assessment

Quality Professional Standards

- Goals and strategies for improving teaching
- Professional development for improved instruction

School Excellence Standards

- Goal and strategies for improving governance and management
- Fair opportunity to learn
- Culturally responsive
- School environment

Family, School, Business and Community Network

- Family Involvement
- Cooperation and collaboration with agencies
- Business and post secondary institutions

Use of technology

- Integrated use of technology

The planning panel and planning process

- Planning panel composition
- Planning panel management and organization
- Plan review
- Plan revision
- Reporting

In order to gather information from the many departments, a committee composed of administrative interns was formed. The task for these individuals was to meet with groups and/or individuals, ascertain the information necessary for the plan from their area, and synthesize it into a report format. The group used the template provided by DEED to structure the work. The template provided categories of basic, superior and exemplary plans with a rubric to provide guidance in the development of the final document. The plan was then reviewed administratively and forwarded to the Board for approval. The complete plan is available for review in the School Board office. The plan will be reviewed by DEED and rated in each of the areas above. Feedback will be

available to the District and can be included as the plan is annually reviewed and updated.

Recently, DEED conducted an overview of the IASA grant requirements and the ESEA Act for school districts statewide. During that meeting, it was announced that the Goals 2000 funding had been discontinued. However, it was also announced that every district would be required to have a five year school improvement plan. Participating in the Goals 2000 grant planning process will serve the ASD well in that regard.

The complete plan is available for review in the School Board Office on the third floor of the District Administration Building at 4600 DeBarr Road.

CC/PM/LW/TJ

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