

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #330 (2000-2001)

May 21, 2001

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: REVISIONS TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICY SECTION 451.21:
PROGRAMS FOR EXPELLED OR LONG-TERM SUSPENDED
STUDENTS (FIRST READING)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of the Administration that the School Board adopt the recommended policy changes for School Board Policy 451.21 on First Reading.

PERTINENT FACTS:

For some years, concerns with the educational progress of students expelled or on long-term suspension from the Anchorage School District have been discussed between the Administration and various community entities such as the Anchorage Police Department and the Juvenile Justice Working Group. Expulsion numbers have grown, averaging 130 (K-12) annually from 1996-1997 to 1999-2000. While their serious breaches of behavior mean they may not remain in their home schools, students in many districts across the country are not dropped from school entirely, but rather are directed to a special program where they can continue receiving instructional services.

Funding for a continuation program for expelled or long-term suspension students may now be available through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and U.S. Department of Justice; however, current School Board Policy language does not provide an option for academic services to regular education students under the sanction of long-term suspension or expulsion. The Policy Sub-committee recommended that the changes be forwarded to the full School Board for approval.

Once the School Board adopts this policy change on First Reading, the Administration will bring forward the revision to the Student Rights and Responsibilities document. Both would return for Second Reading in time for the grant application deadline.

Attachment

Prepared by: Pat McDowell, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

Approved by: Carol Comeau, Superintendent