

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #292 (2000-2001)

June 11, 2001

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: SCHOOL NURSE AND PSYCHOLOGIST HONORED

PERTINENT FACTS:

A dedicated team of teachers is an essential component for a successful school district. But they're only one part of the equation. There are other professionals whose work has a substantial impact on the lives of the students. School psychologists and nurses fall into this category.

This year two of these professionals were honored as Alaska School Nurse of the Year and Alaska School Psychologist of the Year.

In January Ruth Nighswander was selected as Alaska School Nurse of the Year by the Alaska School Nurses' Association. Ruth, who is currently working at Tyson Elementary, has many accomplishments under her belt. She has served as a mentor for new school nurses in the district and has been instrumental in helping develop and train all school nurses in the new vax system for health records. In 1990 Ruth created the position of Medical Alliance Liaison for the Anchorage School District to provide personal hygiene kits, glasses, medical care and other items to needy children and their families.

The 2001 Alaska School Psychologist of the Year is Deb Ward. Deb has been with the district since 1987 and currently works at both Bowman Elementary and Steller Secondary School. She is credited with many accomplishments including helping to establish the assessment model used for Mount Iliamna Preschool and special education preschool classrooms within the District. She has also provided parent education and staff development on many topics and has mentored school psychology interns.

It is requested the School Board recognize these award-winning professionals.

CC/LW/CW

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