

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #84 (2001-2002)

October 22, 2001

TO: SCHOOL BOARD
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
SUBJECT: END-OF-MONTH MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY FOR
SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

PERTINENT FACTS:

The end-of-month membership report for September 30, 2001 is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of September was 49,676, a gain of 156 students from the September 30, 2000 total of 49,520.

Table 1 compares the membership on September 30, 2001 with the totals from September 30, 2000.

TABLE 1
Comparison of
9/30/2000 Membership vs. 9/30/2001 Membership

Category	09/30/2000	9/30/2001	Difference
Elementary Schools Kindergarten	3,529	3,499	-30
Elementary Schools Grades 1-8	23,453	23,437	-16
Middle Schools	7,391	7,579	188
Senior High Schools	12,257	12,557	300
Other Secondary Schools and Programs	1,719	1,539	-180

Pre-Elementary, Level 3 Spec. Ed., and Special Services	1,171	1,065	-106
Total	49,520	49,676	156

The decline at Kindergarten was unexpected. While Kindergarten enrollment has declined each year for the past three years, the implementation of full-day Kindergarten in nearly all elementary schools would normally have resulted in an increase in Kindergarten enrollment.

The increase at the middle school level was much larger than anticipated, while the significant increase at the senior high schools had been projected.

The largest grade level observed this year is grade four with 4,164 students, followed by grade six with 4,129 students. These grade totals include Level 3 special education students.

The total Kindergarten population declined by 30 students from last September 30. The size of the Kindergarten class continues to be a cause for concern. Succeeding years of declining Kindergarten classes have a significant impact on the District membership. Most of the growth that the District has observed for the past seven years has been due to the difference between larger entering Kindergarten classes and significantly smaller twelfth grade classes exiting the District. In 1995 the difference between the Kindergarten and twelfth grade classes was 1,073 students. This year the difference has shrunk to 384 students. It is estimated that in four years the size of the 12th grade will be larger than Kindergarten. This will have a significant impact on future District enrollment.

The 49,676 students observed this year is the largest total in the history of the Anchorage School District. The previous record was 49,551 observed on September 30, 1998.

Table 2 compares the September 30, 2001 enrollment by category to the fall budget projections for September 30, 2001 and to the revised spring projections for September 30, 2001. The total membership observed this September 30 was 13 larger than the fall budget projection and 580 less than the revised spring projection.

TABLE 2

**September 30, 2001 Enrollment and
Fall Budget Projections for September 30, 2001 and
Revised Spring Projections for September 30, 2001**

Programs	Actual 9/30/2001	Fall Budget Projections 9/30/2001	Revised Spring Projections 9/30/2001
Elementary Schools Kindergarten	3,499	3,484	3,673
Elementary Schools Grades 1-8	23,437	23,253	23,644
Middle Schools	7,579	7,442	7,458
Senior High Schools	12,557	12,481	12,599
Other Secondary Schools and Programs	1,539	1,823	1,669
Pre-Elementary, Level 3 Spec. Ed., and Special Services	1,065	1,180	1,213
Total	49,676	49,663	50,256

The listing of elementary and secondary schools at or above 120 percent of program capacity is attached. There is one elementary school, Sand Lake, at or above 120 percent of program capacity. There is one secondary program, SAVE I, at or above 120 percent of program capacity.

Attachment

CC/GV/RA/RB/sl

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