

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MENORANDUM #141 (2001-2002)

December 10, 2001

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: FIRST QUARTER SUSPENSION/WEAPONS/EXPULSION
REPORT - 2000-2001

PERTINENT FACTS:

Information regarding suspensions and expulsions for various offenses, including weapons, is collected from the elementary, middle, and high schools each quarter. The information is shown in the narrative information below and as Attachments A-F.

Overall suspensions increased at the elementary level when comparing incidents from the first quarter of the 2000-2001 school year. Elementary schools showed increases in fighting/assault, willful disobedience and drug/alcohol/tobacco use. Suspensions in harassment/sexual harassment remained the same (three for the first quarter this year and last year). Suspensions in middle schools have decreased slightly from last year in the areas of fighting/assault and drug/alcohol/tobacco, but increased in the areas of harassment and willful disobedience. In total, middle school suspensions were down. Suspensions at the high school level increased in the areas of harassment, weapons, drug/alcohol, and willful disobedience, but decreased in firearms, fighting/threats, assault, and smoking.

First Quarter Expulsion

Fourteen students, including three middle school students and 11 high school students were expelled by the School Board during the first quarter of the 2001-2002 school year; no elementary students were expelled. This compares to 15 students expelled during the first quarter of 2000-2001. Of the middle school expulsions, one was for second offense drug/alcohol, one for a firearm incident off campus, and one for weapons/threats. All 11 high school expulsions were second offense drug/alcohol.

Discipline Reports

The elementary, middle, and high school discipline summaries follow: elementary first quarter by school and category (Attachment A & B); middle school first quarter by school and category (Attachment C & D); and high school first quarter by school and category (Attachment E & F).

Elementary Schools

Suspensions during the first quarter of the 2001-2002 school year increased from 114 last year to 135 this year. There were seven weapons violations (a pocket knife, two toy guns, a knife blade, and three laser pointers) which resulted in suspension during the first quarter, compared to three reported weapons incidents during the first quarter of 2000-2001.

There were four drug and alcohol suspensions for the first quarter compared to one during the first quarter last year. There were no gang-related incidents to report during the first quarter of 2001-2002 as was the case in 2000-2001. There was one racially motivated offense reported for the first quarter, a decrease from three incidents last year. Sexual harassment suspensions included three for this year as well as last.

There were no expulsions or findings of causality for the first quarter of the 2001-2002 school year.

**Elementary First Quarter Suspension Report
Quarterly Suspensions by Category Comparison**

First Quarter Offense	<u>1999-2000</u>	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>
Fighting/Assault	60	57	67
Sexual Harassment	2	3	3
Harassment	0	3	3
Firearms	0	0	0
Other Weapons	2	3	7
Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco	4	1	4
Willful Disobedience	11	4	10
Other	24	43	41
Totals	103	114	135

**Elementary First Quarter Suspension Report
Quarterly Elementary Expulsions Comparison**

Quarter	<u>1999-2000</u>	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>
First Quarter	0	0	0

**Elementary First Quarter Suspension Report
Findings of Causality Comparison**

Quarter	<u>1999-2000</u>	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>
First Quarter	0	0	0

**Elementary First Quarter Suspension Report
Repeaters Comparison**

Quarter	<u>1999-2000</u>	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>
First Quarter	13	12	14

Middle School

The number of students suspended for the first quarter of the 2001-2002 school year for grade 6, (Mirror Lake only), 7 and 8 was 413. There were 425 suspensions during the same period in 2000-2001. Although the total middle school enrollment increased by approximately 200 students, the suspension rate decreased by 12 suspensions.

The category of fighting/assault shows a slight decrease of six suspensions from 136 to 130. We maintained the previous year's decrease in the Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco category and decreased by another two from 18 to 16. There was an increase of 15 suspensions for harassment from 33 to 45 and an increase of eight in the disobedience category. Of the 413 students suspended, 50 were repeaters.

**Middle School First Quarter Suspension Report
Quarterly Suspensions by Category Comparison**

<u>Offense</u>	<u>1999-2000</u>	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>
Fighting/Assault	128	136	130
Harassment	41	33	45
Firearms	0	0	0
Other Weapons	8	6	5
Drugs/Alcohol/ Tobacco	38	18	16
Disobedience	30	10	18
Other	174	222	199
Totals	419	425	413

**Middle School First Quarter Expulsion Report
Quarterly Expulsions by Category Comparison**

<u>Offense</u>	<u>1999-2000</u>	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>
Fighting/Assault	0	2	0
Harassment	0	0	0
Firearms	1	0	1
Other Weapons	0	0	1
Drugs/Alcohol/ Tobacco	3	2	1
Disobedience	0	0	0
Threats to Staff	0	0	0
Other	1	1	0
Totals	5	5	3

A total of three middle school students were expelled by the School Board during the first quarter of 2001-2002, a decrease of two from the previous year. All three expulsions were for offenses that occurred late in the 2000-2001 school year. Two expulsions were for weapons and one was for a second drug/alcohol violation. One weapon expulsion involved an off-campus incident with a firearm.

Two expulsion recommendations are pending. One student was not expelled due to a finding of causality.

**Middle School First Quarter Suspensions/Expulsion Report
Quarterly Expulsions by School**

<u>School</u>	<u>Offense</u>
Mears	Drug/alcohol (second offense)
Clark	Firearm (off campus incident)
Clark	Weapon/Threats

**Middle School First Quarter Suspension Report
Findings of Causality Comparison**

First Quarter	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Assault of Staff/Wendler (Emotionally Disturbed)		0	0 1

**Middle School First Quarter Suspension Report
Repeaters Comparison**

Quarter	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
First Quarter	60	69	50

Polaris K-12 had three suspensions during the first quarter of 2001-2002; one for profanity, one for disruptive behavior, and one for harassment. Polaris K-12 had no expulsions for the first quarter of 2001-2002.

High Schools

The high school suspension rate for first quarter 2001-2002 is 696, an increase from 595 suspensions during the first quarter of 2000-2001.

Weapons incidents were up slightly from 8 to 14; fighting/threats decreased from 129 to 126; drug/alcohol suspensions were up from 93 to 105; harassment incidents were up from 27 to 37; and assaults were down from 24 to 14. Smoking was down from 13 to 8; and willful disobedience increased from 27 to 32.

**High School First Quarter Suspension Report
Suspensions by Category Comparison**

Offense	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Fighting/Threats	47	129	126
Assault	17	24	14
Harassment	18	27	37
Firearms	2	1	0
Weapons	1	8	14
Drug/Alcohol	47	93	105
Smoking	20	13	8
Willful Disobedience	34	27	32
Other	275	273	360
Totals	461	595	696

**High School First Quarter Expulsion Report
Expulsions by Category Comparison**

Offense	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Assault	1	0	0
Assault/Staff	0	0	0
Weapons	3	0	0
Firearms	1	0	0
Drug/Alcohol	10	9	11
Threats to Staff	0	1	0
Fighting/Threats	0	0	0
Harassment	4	0	0
Totals	19	10	11

There were eleven expulsions for drug/alcohol offenses during the first quarter. Additionally, fourteen incidents happened during the last weeks of the quarter; Board hearings were held in November for those students and the expulsions will be counted on the second quarter report. There are currently four students recommended for expulsion during the first quarter who are pending Board action.

**High School First Quarter Suspension/Expulsion Report
Quarterly Expulsions by High School**

School	Offense
Bartlett	2nd Drug/Alcohol (1)
Chugiak	2nd Drug/Alcohol (2)
Dimond	2nd Drug/Alcohol (3)
East/KCC	2nd Drug/Alcohol (1)
Service	2nd Drug/Alcohol (2)
West	2 nd Drug/Alcohol (2)

**High School First Quarter Suspension Report
Finding of Causality Comparison**

First Quarter	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
2nd Drug/Alcohol (Service) (Learning Disabled)	1	0	
Weapon/Knife/Threats (Dimond) (Emotionally Disturbed)	1	0	
Harassment/Sexual (Chugiak) (Emotionally Disturbed)	0	1	
2nd Drug/Alcohol/East (Emotionally Disturbed)	0	0	1
Weapon (Leatherman)/Bartlett (Emotionally Disturbed)	0	0	1

**High School First Quarter Suspension Report
Repeaters Comparison**

First Quarter	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
	47	63	69

Charter Schools

One student was suspended for weapon (knife)/threats to another student at Village Charter School.

There were no suspensions or expulsions during the first quarter at Aquarian Charter School or Family Partnership Charter School.

CC/PM/PM/GO/MH/mlh

Attachments

Prepared by: Patricia McRae, Executive Director, Elementary Education
Gail Opalinski, Executive Director, Middle School Education
Mike Henry, Executive Director, High School Education

Approved by: Pat McDowell, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction