

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #200 (2001-2002)

February 11, 2002

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: PRIOR APPROVAL OF DISCRETIONARY GRANT: READING
IMPROVEMENT IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS: TYSON,
FAIRVIEW, AND MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the Anchorage School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to apply for three Reading Improvement Implementation Grants from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED). The grants will enable Tyson, Fairview, and Mountain View elementary schools to implement local reading improvement plans.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The Anchorage School District this fall received a state Reading Excellence Act planning grant to help three high-needs elementary schools conduct needs assessments for reading improvement plans. Reading Excellence Act grants are federal funds, awarded by DEED as sub-grants to districts with high numbers of students in poverty. The implementation grant competition initiates the next phase of sub-grants to put the schools' reading improvement plans into practice. Implementation grants are for one year, with a second year of funding contingent on success in the first year. Grants will emphasize professional development, including two year-long graduate courses in reading for all primary teachers in the project schools. Implementation will be based on school-specific data on student reading performance and on the instructional tools that project teachers need to help students improve in reading. Grants also will support family literacy as part of each school's reading improvement plan.

Implementation grant budgets will range from \$40,000 to \$100,000 per school for the three project schools, for a total of \$120,000 to \$300,000.

CC/PM/PM/KC/BT

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