

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #8 (2002-2003)

August 12, 2002

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR CHUGACH
OPTIONAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITION AND
RENOVATION

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Conceptual Design for Chugach Optional Elementary School Addition and Renovation and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the Schematic Design, subject to Municipal Assembly approval of the Conceptual Design.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The School Board approved the selection of McCool Carlson Green Architects as the Architects of Record on June 10, 2002, ASD Memorandum #335 (2001-2002) and the Municipal Assembly approved the selection on June 11, 2002 (AR #2002-177).

Chugach Optional Elementary School is located on the south east corner of 12th Avenue and E Street near downtown Anchorage. It occupies approximately 3.5 acres of a larger site shared with Central Middle School. The existing 32,393 gross square foot open concept building delivers an alternative educational program for kindergarten through 6th grade. The school capacity is controlled through the District's lottery program.

This proposed conceptual design is as a result of collaborative process which involved the school participants, parents, 12th Avenue neighbors and South Addition Community Council members. The South Addition Community Council passed a resolution in support of this conceptual design at its June 27, 2002 meeting.

All concerns arising during Design Committee meetings have been considered in the conceptual design. One program issue is classroom size for delivering the alternative program. This was addressed by the committee reallocating the identified spaces within the District's educational specification to support their classroom needs.

In addition, there were two community concerns. One was the extent of the school addition along 12th Avenue, which was addressed by adjusting the location of various program spaces from the east to the south side of the school. The other concern was the ongoing vehicular impacts to the adjacent neighborhood. Chugach Optional is a parent transportation model and congestion is experienced, especially during the afternoon pick up time. The smaller school site presents unique challenges for accommodating on site parking, pickup, drop-off and playground activities. During the schematic design process, alternatives on parking and drop-off and pick-up at Chugach Optional will be developed and analyzed.

Chugach Optional Elementary School's addition and renovation work will add 7,364 gross square feet to the facility and provide for a second kindergarten classroom to support their full day kindergarten program, special education resource rooms, student support spaces for specialists, improved administrative and staff support areas, multipurpose room storage, art room and IMC improvements. The school's open concept plan will be reorganized to accommodate these improvements.

Other upgrades to the facility include the installation of larger boilers to support the expanded facility; the installation of a fire protection sprinkler system; and upgrades to the electrical systems to meet current program needs and District standards. Site improvements include vehicular access; 12th Avenue site access and sidewalk upgrades; maintenance and operations access from the west side of the school; playground changes to accommodate the revisions in access to the property and the additions to the east and the south sides of the school.

On April 2, 2002 voters approved \$500,000 in design funding for Chugach Optional Elementary School Addition and Renovation project. Subject to obtaining construction funding in April 2003, construction is presently scheduled to start in 2004.

CC/GV/RA/MB/MP/sl

Attachment

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Approved by: George Vakalis, Assistant Superintendent of Support Services