

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #130 (2002-2003)

December 9, 2002

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD: ALASKA COMMUNITY
LEARNING CENTERS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Department Of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$499,988 for the first year of a five-year grant period. The Alaska Community Learning Centers competition carries forward the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program through the No Child Left Behind federal authorization. Funding will establish new after-school programs in five high-needs elementary schools. The additional sites are Mountain View, Government Hill, Northwood, Taku, and Willow Crest.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The purpose of the grant program is to provide learning opportunities for children and youth beyond the regular school hours in communities with high needs. School-based centers create an enriching, safe, and drug-free environment for extended learning, operating with the support and involvement of the community. The five new sites will join current sites in five middle schools and 12 elementary schools. Current sites are: Central, Clark, Hanshew, Romig, and Wendler middle schools; and Chester Valley, Creekside, Fairview, Muldoon, North Star, Ptarmigan, Russian Jack, Tudor, Tyson, Ursa Major/Ursa Minor, Williwaw, and Wonder Park elementary schools.

The project will assist students to meet or exceed state and local standards in core academic subjects. Supportive services include youth development activities, drug and violence prevention, counseling, art, music, recreation, service learning, and technology education. Centers will offer families of students opportunities for literacy and related education or career development.

The grant funds staff, including full-time coordinators at each school; staff development for teachers, paraprofessionals, and community members who deliver programs; added duty for teachers; contractual services; program materials; transportation for students; food; external evaluation; and ancillary items. The budget does not include release time. Staff development takes place out of school. The budget coordinates federal funds through project management funded by current 21st Century grants, and through the work of other federal programs in the schools. Local in-kind contributions include training, principals' time, and use of school facilities.

Measurement of success:

Evaluation of current sites has shown increased academic, attendance, behavioral, and attitudinal improvements as the programs grew and children have more longevity in them.

Goals of the project address these areas:

- Raising student achievement in reading, writing, and math;
- Enabling students to develop positive attitudes, skills, and behaviors;
- Extending student learning through collaboration with community partners; and
- Strengthening parent literacy.

Under these goals, objectives identify expected outcomes within specific time frames. Sources of data and methods include benchmark and normed achievement scores, student grades, surveys and focus groups, and school and project records.

Budget Summary, Year One:

Coordinators	\$156,106
Added Duty Certificated	132,921
Added Duty Non-Certificated	17,100
Employee Benefits	86,960
Contracted Services	32,223
Staff Travel	6,135
Contracted Transportation	33,500
Teaching Supplies	8,000
Registration	2,600
Indirect Costs	<u>24,443</u>
TOTAL	\$499,988



CC/JC/PM/DB/BH/BT

Prepared by: Patricia McRae, Executive Director, Elementary Education
Debbie Bogart, Director, Community Education
Bonnie Hardy, Manager, 21st Century Community Learning Centers
Beverly Thornburg, Coordinator, Discretionary Grants

Approved by: Jan Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction