

**Mission:** To educate all students for success in life.

### **2002-2003 Ongoing Overall Goals**

Increase student **academic achievement** using data to guide adoption of curriculum, methods, materials, and professional development specifically designed to ensure that each group as designated by No Child Left Behind and the Quality Schools Initiative makes adequate yearly progress.

Establish and maintain a **supportive and effective learning environment** by

6. providing safe, caring, barrier-free schools,
7. promoting health, wellness, and preparedness,
8. continuing to retain, recruit and train highly qualified staff,
9. offering reinforcing extracurricular activities,
10. maximizing opportunities for lifelong learning, and
11. collaborating with other community agencies where appropriate.

Ensure **public accountability** through

- continued participation in the State and Federal required testing programs,
- continued preparation and publication of the Profile of Performance
- effective consultation with community to ensure wise use of financial resources and responsible construction and maintenance of facilities, and
- effective communication with students, staff, parents, community and government at all levels.

### **Measurable Achievement Goals**

**We, the Anchorage School Board, Superintendent and District staff commit that:**

1. Students will demonstrate increased academic achievement as indicated by improved performance on State and District measures of academic performance. Each student group will make adequate yearly progress toward meeting Anchorage and State Benchmarks for reading, writing, and math. Performance will be assessed on:
  - a. Alaska Benchmark Exams (Grades 3, 6, 8)
  - b. Terra Nova Basic Skills Exams (Grades 4, 5, 7, and 9)
  - c. Alaska High School Graduation Qualifying ExamThese various assessments will provide information on the status of student group performance at grade levels three through ten.

2. A higher percentage of students in each group will master basic skills and strategies to read independently by the end of the third grade as indicated by:
  - a. Meeting the Alaska standard for performance on the grade three Alaska Benchmark Reading Exam
  - b. Teacher diagnosis of student needs through teacher pre and post assessments using a variety of measures as well as teacher observation and judgment.
  
3. A higher percentage of students in each group will demonstrate a high level of math skills and a lower percentage will demonstrate a deficient level of math skills at the end of each grade level in grades three through ten. Performance will be assessed based on:
  - a. The percentage of students in each group who meet State standards in mathematics as indicated on Alaska Benchmark Examinations, Terra Nova, and the Alaska High School Graduation Qualifying Exam will increase.
  - b. The percentage of students in each group who successfully complete Algebra I in grade eight, Geometry in grade nine, and Algebra II in grade 10 will increase. Grades earned in each class will also be reported.
  - c. Student grades and credits earned by students in Algebra classes for each middle and high school will be reported by student grade level.
  - d. The District will continue to develop and implement training in math content and teaching strategies for elementary and middle school teachers.
  - e. The District will work with students, parents, teachers, counselors, administrators, and community representatives to increase expectations for elementary, middle and high school math achievement, particularly for those groups for which assessment data identifies average performance significantly below District average performance.
  
4. All students will demonstrate a high level or substantially increased growth in the conventions of writing (spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and usage) at the end of each grade level in grades two through ten. The percentage of students achieving proficiency in the conventions of writing will increase as measured by the Alaska Student Assessment system in grades three through ten.
  
5. There will be a decrease in the dropout rate of middle and high school students as compared to the 2001-2002 school year.
  
6. There will be an increase in the number of students scheduled to take AP courses for the 2003-2004 school year. Counselors will review students' PSAT data as one criterion determining possible students for AP courses.

## Process Goals

**We, the Anchorage School Board, Superintendent and District staff will focus time and effort to accomplish the following:**

1. Develop a preliminary six-year instructional plan to address the recommendations in the curriculum audit, particularly the achievement gap that exists throughout the District.
2. Continue the alignment of the K-12 math curriculum to State and District performance standards within two years.
3. Strengthen the effective delivery of instructional services to students using all financial resources available.
4. Attempt to limit the impact of budget constraints on student achievement.
5. Develop a master schedule of programs, methods, and materials, for regular review, utilizing assessment data.
6. Increase parental and community awareness in understanding the critical role families and the community play in the academic success of students and facilitate their involvement in the active support of higher student achievement.
7. Continue to create and strengthen positive community relations and understanding of issues critical to the Anchorage School District by establishing coalitions and advisory committees with parents, business leaders and political leaders at all levels.
8. Continue to refine our emergency preparedness in order to keep our schools and facilities safe and barrier free, and our students and staff free from disruptions to the teaching and learning environment.