

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #181 (2002-2003)

February 10, 2003

TO: SCHOOL BOARD
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
SUBJECT: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER OF
THE YEAR

PERTINENT FACTS:

A district employee has been honored with a statewide award recognizing his professional achievement.

Kent Kuelper of Spring Hill Elementary School was named Alaska's 2002 Outstanding Elementary School Physical Education Teacher of the Year. This award, presented by the Alaska Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, recognized his use of circus arts to improve students' balance, hand-eye coordination and gymnastics.

Mr. Kuelper's elementary students learn to walk on stilts and barrels, juggle hats and balls, tumble, spin plates, form human pyramids and more. After learning and practicing the skills, fifth- and sixth-graders perform a school circus for the younger students.

In order to broaden the number of students at other schools who are learning through circus arts, Mr. Kuelper has also taught circus arts classes for fellow teachers.

In addition to his physical education duties, Mr. Kuelper is an integral part of the Spring Hill staff, according to principal Barbara Nagengast. In her letter of recommendation for the award, she wrote "Kent serves on our school safety committee, floods and maintains our hockey rink, organizes an annual 'gymboree' at Thanksgiving time for our students, greets our students and makes morning announcements everyday of the school year. He is always a willing volunteer for a variety of other activities as well."

It is requested the School Board recognize Kent Kuelper for his professionalism, dedication, and enthusiasm that lead to this award.

CC/LW/LN

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