

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #295 (2002-2003)

May 19, 2003

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: REVISIONS TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 433-444.25 STUDENTS
AND STUDENT PERSONNEL SERVICES (FIRST READING)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on First Reading, the proposed attached changes to School Board Policy 433-444.25 Student Services.

PERTINENT FACTS:

Many of the recommended changes to the Student Services section of the Policy Manual were made to clarify language and/or make the existing language more grammatically precise.

In section 433.1, Transfers, some language was deleted to be inclusive of students both inside and outside of Alaska. The second section "b" was deleted entirely and section "c" became the new "b." That section was reworded to be more grammatically precise.

Section 433.2, Placement, was deleted with the exception of paragraph "c" which was moved under 433.1, Transfers.

Section 433.2, Final Placement, was added to better clarify final student placement versus an initial placement and/or student transfer.

In section 440, Attendance, 441, Ages for, and 441.1, Statutory Requirements, were both removed and a 440.1, Minimum Age, is the heading. Language was deleted to 440.1 paragraph "a" to make the sentence more grammatically precise. Alaska Statute (AS 14.03.070) was added as a reference for this section.

In section 440.1, paragraph "b", language was added to specify the School Board is delegating responsibility to the Superintendent as permitted by state law. In the last sentence "procedures" was substituted for regulations.

In section 440.1, paragraph "c", language was added to clarify if a child had been enrolled in another district or state or private school in another state.

Section 440.1, paragraph “d” was added to clarify admission to special education preschool programs.

Section 440.2, Maximum Age, paragraph “a”, clarifies maximum age for attendance and takes into consideration state law regarding the High School Graduation Qualifying Examination.

In section 440.2, Maximum Age, paragraph “b”, there is a reworded sentence on charging tuition.

Section 440.2, paragraph “c”, was added to clarify maximum age for attendance for a student with disabilities. Alaska Statutes (AS 14.03.070 and 4AAC06.076) were added for reference purposes.

In section 440.3, Evidence of Age, paragraph “a” there were deletions and the rewording of the last sentence to clarify the language and be more precise.

Section 440.3, Evidence of Age, paragraph “d” was added to indicate that the requirements listed in this section could be waived by the principal under circumstances established by the Superintendent.

In section 442, Parental Responsibility for Compulsory Education, a sentence was added to indicate that students also share in the responsibility to attend school.

The headings for sections 442.1, Compulsory Attendance and 442.2, Violation of Compulsory Attendance, were eliminated. The next section is now 442.1, Report of Violations and Procedures. There was no change to that section.

The section 442.4 Policy on Parent Involvement was moved to the 800 section of the Policy Manual.

In section 443, Irregular Attendance, Truancy, and Tardiness, the heading 443.1, Intent was eliminated. A sentence was added at the beginning of the paragraph to emphasize the importance of regular school attendance and appropriate student behavior and its impact on successful educational advancement.

Section 443.1, Absenteeism and Tardiness, was renumbered. In paragraph “a” language was changed for clarification and the reference to the Department of Education was deleted. In paragraph “b” language was changed for clarification purposes. In paragraph “c” language was added to clarify attendance for students in other than traditional schedules. In the last sentence “special” was substituted for “extenuating.” In paragraph “e” subsection 2 was reworded, a grammatical change was made in subsection 4, the correct Anchorage Municipal Code was

reference in subsection 5 along with some grammatical changes, and subsection 6 was deleted.

Section 443.2, Truancy, was renumbered. In paragraph "a" language was deleted to better define "truancy." Other clarifying language was added to the paragraph. There were no changes to paragraphs "b", "c", and "d." The word "maximum" was substituted for "limit" in paragraph "e." The Anchorage Municipal Code was corrected at the end of paragraph "e."

Section 443.4, State Law, was eliminated.

In section 444.1, Establishment of Boundaries, there are substantial changes in the criteria for the establishment of school boundaries. The new language adds proximity, recognized neighborhood and feeder-school boundaries, school demographics, school building capacity, and appropriate program placement as a part of the new criteria. The previous language defining boundary criteria was deleted.

In section 444.2, Attendance Zone Exemptions, the term "exemptions" has replaced the term "exceptions" to be more grammatically correct. "Facility limitations" was added to the definition of program capacity and "demographic considerations" was deleted. An additional sentence was added to this section to indicate that students may not be withdrawn from a school when they are on a zone exemption unless they do not meet expectations set forth in the policy.

In section 444.21, Expectations for Zone Exemption, the term "exemption" replaced "exception." A clarifying sentence was added at the beginning of the section. Paragraphs "a", "b", "c", "d", and "e" were moved from 444.23.

Section 444.22, Academic Program Need was renumbered. Due to the new federal law, No Child Left Behind, a clause was added to the first sentence. The last sentence was deleted.

Section 444.23, Change of Residence, was renumbered and the phrase "Within the District" was deleted from the title. Language was added to emphasize the need for students to remain in the same school throughout an academic year. The section heading 444.221, "Exception for Extended Periods" was deleted. The language under that heading was incorporated into section 444.23. New language was added to reinforce the concept of students remaining in the school in which they began and should not have to apply for a zone exemption for the remainder of a school year if their residence changes. Paragraphs "a", "b", "c", and "d" were deleted.

Section 444.222, Exception for Temporary Periods, was deleted as its content is incorporated in previous language.

Section 444.222, Exception for Temporary Period, was deleted as its content is incorporated in previous language.

Section 444.23, Limitations to Attendance Zone Exceptions, was moved to 444.21.

Section 444.24, Restrictions, the term "Other" was deleted. The former paragraphs "a" and "c" were also deleted. The old "b" became "a" with some grammatical changes. The old "d" became "b" with some additional clarifications on the exceptions for zone exemptions when there is a boundary change.

Section 444.25, Temporary Boundary Changes, was added. This section gives discretion to the Superintendent to grant zone exemptions when temporary boundary changes are made to attendance areas.

The School Board Policy Subcommittee reviewed the proposed changes at their meeting on March 20, 2003, and agreed to forward the proposed policy changes to the full School Board for approval.

Attachment

Prepared by: Jan Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

Approved by: Carol Comeau, Superintendent