

Indian Education Program

Anchorage School District
May/June 2004 Bulletin Updates and Information
For Parents and Students K through 12



Indian Education Honors Alaska Native Graduates

The Indian Education Staff would like to honor the following 2004 Honor Graduates. They maintained at least a 3.5 GPA throughout high school: **Dimond High School**: Tamara Hardy, Arnie Nelson, and Kate Wolgemuth; **Bartlett High School**: Shelly Marie Tuttle; **Chugiak High School**: Jesse Irwin, Amanda Sacks, and Sagrado Sparks; **East High School**: Tamra Kornfield, Autumn Sundberg; **West High School**: Sarah Aarons, Mischa

Carlson, Andrea Sanders, and Thomas Cahill; **Steller**: Jeanne Estabrook. Best wishes to you, and all graduates, in your future endeavors!



Dawn Dinwoodie, CIRI Community Relations Specialist, presented Tamra Kornfield and Jeanne Estabrook with honor blankets.

Special Interest Articles:

- Graduation and Honor Grads
- VERB: Action Program
- Two Special Programs with IEP
- Summer Opportunities for Students
- NCLB Article 4
- IEP Staff Notes
- Alaska Studies Class Update

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VERB: Getting Kids into Action Program

VERB: *It's what you do. Native Style.* That is the slogan of a new campaign effort to get more young people involved in physical activity. The Center for Disease Control is advocating its new program to get the word out to Native American communities.

On a local level, the VERB Campaign is working with SPIRIT DAYS, to be held June 26 and 27 at West High School. There will be a VERB ACTIVITY ZONE, which will host a variety of activities designed for children ages 9 - 14 years. Activities will take place from 12:00 - 4:00 each day during Spirit Days, and participants will receive T-Shirts, Soccer Balls and other

incentives to finish the activities.

The VERB Activity Zone will be coordinated by two Anchorage School District Physical Education teachers who will plan, organize and run the Zone.

Physical activity is good for all of us, but in particular, it is good for children because it strengthens muscles, bones, and joints. It also builds self-esteem, confidence, and a sense of well-being. Give your children an opportunity to discover hidden talents or skills and to join friends, family, and neighbors at the VERB Activity Zone during Spirit Days, June 26-27.

Students Travel to Hawaii for Close-Up Program

"I have learned as much as the students by participating. In 2005, I plan to take a group to the Washington, DC Close-up Program,"
~IEP Counselor, Angela Elsenbast

Five Alaska Native students from East High School recently participated in the Close-Up Foundation Pacific Basin Educational Travel Program in Waikiki Oahu, Hawaii. Indian Education Counselor Angela Elsenbast guided the students in fundraising to cover trip costs. The Indian Education Program is also a sponsor, which it has done since 1988.

"There were engaging educational activities, seminars, and trips to monuments and museums," Elsenbast said. The program empowers youth to exercise their rights and to accept the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy. There is also a cultural exchange promoted. This year Puerto Rico and Pacific Region cultures were

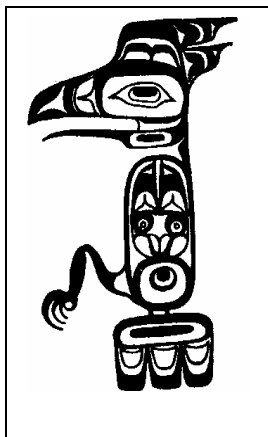
explored. Elsenbast said the youth had an experience where their hard work, perseverance and leadership skills benefited them in a highly educational experience.



Pictured: Brittany Gregorio, Janine Balluta, Jennifer Morningstar, Aneccia Pedersen, Angela Elsenbast, Esther Lloyd

Alaska Native Ways ...

Live Carefully -- What you do will come back to you.
~Tsimshian



SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

Register NOW for these programs.

Anchorage School District Summer

School: High School, June 21-July 23;
Middle School, June 21- July 22;
Elementary School, June 21-July 29.

Cook Inlet Tribal Council: Summer

Youth Employment Program; Ninilchik Camp; Summer School (call 265-5900)

Anchorage Library Summer Reading

Program - "Discover New Trails" - call 343-2975 for more information.

Lightspan Network - Parents can access from home by logging on to:

1. <http://www.lightspan.com>

2. Enter user name: IndianEd2

3. Enter Password: learning

4. Enter District ID: ANCH001

Learning activities that combine fun and knowledge as students brush up on their math and language arts.

Tech support on Lightspan Network, call Partner Line at 1-800-811-9443.

Best Wishes to Indian Education Staff Retirees

Edna Lamebull, Supervisor of Indian Education Program, retires after nearly 30 years of service. Additionally, Tutor/Counselors **Mable Gibbons** at Fairview Elementary, **Germaine DeWitt** at Susitna Elementary, and **Sheila Gauna** at North Star Elementary are also retiring. Together the four staff members have almost 100 years of combined service to the Anchorage School District. Their voices will be missed in student services, but we look forward to seeing them in future volunteer settings.

No Child Left Behind: Parent Information/Involvement

The focus of this article will be school choice and supplemental services. Though these options are only available to parents and students in Title I schools, they impact the whole district, so all parents should be aware of the law.

School Choice

As discussed in last month's article, Title I schools that have not demonstrated "Adequate Yearly Progress" for two years in a row must offer the option of school choice to all parents and students in the school. The district must choose at least two schools to offer as choices to Title I parents. Also, the district must pay for the transportation of these students to the choice school.

The schools from which the district must choose are those that have not been designated at Level 2 or higher (or those not in "School Improvement" status). When choosing schools to which parents can transfer their children, the district considers

distance from the home school, accessibility of the school to parents, services provided by the school, and the population of the school.

Supplemental Services:

Should a Title I school not achieve "Adequate Yearly Progress" for three years in a row, the district must contract with state-approved providers to offer supplemental educational services to eligible students. Supplemental services are instructional activities beyond the school day and can take the form of tutoring, small group instruction, or distance learning via computers. Eligible students are those from low-income families in the Level 3 Title I school. Priority will be given to the students demonstrate the greatest academic needs.

Future newsletters include NCLB information about the following:

What information and choices are available to parents? What new requirements exist for teachers and paraprofessionals under the law?

Indian Education/CITC Staff Bring Together High School and Elementary School Students in Language

Carla Hollingsworth, IEP Staff at Denali Elementary responded to a student's request to learn Yup'ik by working with West High's Yup'ik Teacher, Yvette Cross of Cook Inlet Tribal Council.

A teacher in a 4/5/6 combo class agreed to provide 45 minutes of class-time for five weeks to offer the Yup'ik language experience. Each

week, Yvette brought two or three different high school students to teach the 25 elementary students. They learned the Yup'ik alphabet, numbers 1-10, some vocabulary, thank you, and other phrases.

The students were attentive and patient with the student teachers. Most important, students from all backgrounds learned about Yup'ik culture.

Building Assets

Excerpts from

Helping Kids Succeed - Alaskan Style

Written by and for Alaskans Building Assets, Alaskan Style Parents, Teens, Communities

Checklist for Parents:

Asset statements -

"My child is good at planning ahead and making decisions."

"My child can resist negative peer pressure and risky situations."

Indian Education Staff Notes

Personal Highlights of the Indian Education Staff: **Nancy Gould** ~ Marathon runner, did the Tri-State Marathon in Utah over spring break and plans to run the Mayor's Marathon, Anchorage. **Marilyn Balluta** ~ she will be teaching Den'aina language courses through the University of Alaska Fairbanks/ Kenai Campus this summer. **Doreen Brown** ~ will be teaching Multi-cultural Studies for Alaska Teachers during the ASD Teacher Academy June 7-15; the course is designed for new teachers to create success in a multicultural classroom. **Patricia Kelley, Megan Gould Rasmussen and Michele Foulke** are working full time in addition to being full time students at UAA.

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[www.asdk12.org/
Depts/IEA/IndianEd.
html](http://www.asdk12.org/Depts/IEA/IndianEd.html)



Alaska Studies Course Update

The Alaska Studies Course is in its final stages of development. Approved by the ASD School Board in 2001, it is a graduation requirement beginning with the class of 2006. The course has been piloted at eight schools and will be in all ASD high schools this

fall. Students are expected to take Alaska Studies during their Junior or Senior year.

The course is designed to instill in students a sense of community that goes beyond their group or Region to include *all* Alaskans and *all* of

Alaska. The issue of multiple perspectives permeates the curriculum. Teachers have been pleased with the wealth of information available.

The Alaska Native Heritage Center provided a grant to help offset the cost of development.

Next Issue will come out in September 2004

The IEP Bulletin for Parents is now a bi-monthly newsletter. The next issue will arrive in your mailbox

in September. If you have any questions regarding special programs or traditional academic programs

offered by the Indian Education Program, please call our offices at 742-4445.

About The Indian Education Program . . .

The Indian Education Program of the Anchorage School District has staff in 50 schools within the district. The program concentrates its efforts in three areas: academic assistance, counseling, and cultural enrichment. Unfortunately, there is not enough funding to place staff in every school. However, if you or your child is interested in participating in activities, please call our offices at 742-4445. The Indian Education Resource Room is located at 1016 West 6th Ave., Anchorage.