

Title VII Indian Education Program

Anchorage School District

November 2005 Bulletin Updates and Information
For Parents and Students K through 12



Alaska Native Students Make Annual Yearly Progress in 84 out of 90 ASD Schools

Special Interest Articles:

- Alaska Native students meet Annual Yearly Progress
- Native Advisory Committee
- Summer Program Highlights

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When the national No Child Left Behind Act was instituted a few years ago that meant schools were measured on how well all student groups did in an Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) report. The Anchorage School District (ASD) schools are measured according to these statistics, and this year the Alaska Native group has met its mark in 93% of schools.

This year, the Alaska Native group made AYP in both language arts and math in the district-wide analysis. According to the data, 84 of 90 schools made AYP for the Alaska Native group in both language arts and math. This is an improvement from 80 schools the year before.

Alaska Native middle school students showed a 4% increase in the percentage of students proficient (or on grade level) in

language arts and a 2% increase in the percentage of students proficient (or on grade level) in math.

The best thing a parent can do is to go to school parent meetings where AYP and school improvements are being discussed. ASD really needs parents to be involved in the school improvement planning process, and every school, whether or not they made AYP, is required to submit a school action plan for the year. Parent involvement is required in that process. Contact the Title VII Indian Education Office at 742-4445 for info.

AYP information for ASD schools is posted on the NCLB Web site (www.asdk12.org/NCLB). Statewide data (and district data) is on the state's website

Native Advisory Committee 2005-06

The Native Advisory Committee meets at least once a month on Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 PM. The first meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2005 at the School Board Room, Administration Bldg., 4600 DeBarr Road.

Future meeting dates for the school year are as follows: January 5, February 2, March 2, April 16, May 4, and June 1st. Locations will be at various schools where we have Title VII staff. For more info call 742-4445.

Native Language Immersion Big Hit at Indian Education's Summer Enrichment Program

"The students took pride in what they all accomplished, pride in each represented culture/tribe ...the teachers/assistants were proud (and they should be) of the accomplishments their students achieved."
**JR Singleton,
Parent**



Students and staff of the Title VII Indian Education Program's Summer Enrichment Program spent five weeks immersed in culture and classes. 120 students participated in Dena'ina Athabascan, Yupik, and Tlingit language classes, as well as language arts, math, writing and a healthy living class.

Students were assessed in language arts and math using Lightspan/Plato the first week and then again at the end. Students gained significant progress. Parents JR and Kimberly Singleton wrote a letter of thanks to the Cook Inlet Regional Corporation, Inc., for supporting the Title VII Indian Education program. "The teachers who committed five (5) weeks of their time to children both culturally and educationally disadvantaged here in the Anchorage area are heroes and have become cultural stewards," they wrote.

The summer program had a cultural focus; the language instructors incorporated the Native languages into its core program, creating a sort of Native Language immersion program. Mr. Singleton stated, "Our children came home with the skills to count, introduce

themselves, sing, and even practice colors in Yupik. Their craft projects taught more than the craft, the simple act of counting beads had a two-fold effect - it also taught practical math."

The program also held training sessions every morning for tutors/counselors that work during the regular school year under the Title VII Indian Education program. These trainings included: motivating students, parent, and contact/home/school connections, documenting progress and assessment strategies. Overall, the Title VII staff, parents and students felt the program was successful.



"Indian Education Summer Enrichment Program Celebration" A five week program offering three Native languages, cultural art, language arts, math and healthy living. Behind the students are their hand-made drums. Each student spoke or sang in Yupik, Athabascan or Tlingit.

**Alaska
Native
Ways ...**

*See
Connections
- All things
Are Related
...Yup'ik*

New Location - ASD Boniface Center

The Title VII Indian Education Program along with several ASD Programs has moved to a new location at the Boniface Center, 5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd. Our Resource Library is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM by appointment.

Evening Program

The Title VII Indian Education Program will offer an Evening Program once again!! The Evening Program is designed for Native families to gather at one location to participate in a variety of activities.

We plan to offer the following classes: academic tutoring in math and reading for K-12 grades; cultural arts and crafts; Alaska Native languages; and open gym.

Plan to join in on the fun at Muldoon Elementary, 525 Cherry Street on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from

6:15-8:15 PM. The Evening Program is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, Nov. 29th.

In addition, we will offer space for Native drum and/or dance groups to practice.

Watch for registration forms in the mail or pre-register by calling our Office at 742-4445.

Chin'an

Quyana

Gunal Cheesh

Good for You, Dads!

Research has found that fathers who are active in their kids' lives

- get sick less and live longer
- are less likely to feel stressed out or depressed
- have higher self-esteem
- enjoy more satisfying and successful careers
- are more likely to be happily married. (*Parents*, Oct. 2005)

Kids benefit from spending time with their fathers:

Kids whose dads take an interest in their schoolwork get higher grades than kids whose fathers don't.

(*Parents*, Oct. 2005)

For information on Alaska Native/American Indian Heritage Month events in Anchorage, visit the Alaska Native Heritage Month Committee website at www.alaskanativeheritagemonth.org

No Child Left Behind: News You Can Use

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) amends the Indian education programs as Title VII, part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The purpose of the Title VII Indian Education Program is to support the Anchorage School District in their efforts to ensure that they assist Native students in meeting or exceeding State academic content and student academic achievement standards. In addition, the Indian Education Program also addresses the unique

educational and culturally related academic needs of Native children.

For more information about the federal U.S. Office of Indian Education, visit their website, <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oeso/oie/index.html>

For more information about the services provided by Title VII, Indian Education Program in the Anchorage School District, please visit our website, at www.asdk12.org/depts/IndEd/index.asp

Tips for Parents

Teaching your child to understand Honesty and Fairness

What you can do:

- Be a model of honest relations with others.
- Discuss with your child what honesty is and is not. Point out, for example, that kindness goes along with honesty.
- Discuss fairness (chances are your child will bring it up) in different situations. For example, how do we show fairness in our family?
- Talk about how you try to be fair in your life and work. What issues have you wrestled with?

(*Helping Your child Become a Responsible Citizen* at www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/citizen/index/html.)

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[www.asdk12.org/
depts/IndEd/
index.asp](http://www.asdk12.org/depts/IndEd/index.asp)



November Highlights

Nov. 24-25: Thanksgiving Holiday

Nov. 29: Evening Program begins.

Dec. 1: Native Advisory Committee meeting ASD School Board, 6:30-8:30 PM.

Dec. 9th: East EWE Pow Wow, 5:00-10:30 PM.

East High Gym. Contact 742-2225.

Dec. 19 -Jan. 2: Winter Vacation

Jan 5th: Native Advisory Committee meeting, 6:30-8:30 PM. Location TBA.

Next Issue will come out in November 2005

Follow the next three issues of the Indian Education Program Parent Bulletin for a break

down of the roles and responsibilities of working under Title VII. The four articles will outline responsibilities in

Academics, Social and Cultural areas. For additional information contact the Title VII office at 742-4445.

About The Title VI Indian Education Program . . .

The Title VII 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.