

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #41 (2000-2001)

August 14, 2000

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD: FOREIGN LANGUAGE
ASSISTANCE GRANT: PROJECT TROIKA

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant from the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Bilingual and Minority Languages Affairs, in the amount of \$116,820.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The ASD World Languages Program applied for a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP). This competition seeks innovative model programs that establish, improve, or expand foreign language study for elementary and secondary students. The District has won two previous FLAP grants in the past five years. The three-year project will initiate the Russian language courses at Romig, Wendler, and Gruening Middle Schools. In the first year, each middle school will offer one elective section of Russian. We expect that additional sections will be offered in subsequent years, as demand for the program grows, and as the middle schools coordinate closely with the high schools that accept incoming ninth grade students into their continuing Russian language programs. The project also will offer introductory Russian classes after school through Community Schools, in three or more elementary schools that feed these middle schools.

The project's professional development program will produce age-appropriate Russian language materials and curriculum gathered into a handbook, *Best of Troika*, for national distribution. This initiative will enable the middle and high school Russian programs to better articulate with and draw from the University of Alaska Anchorage's Russian language studies and with the World Trade Center. This elementary-through-university continuum will help strengthen the District's Russian program. It will produce citizens with proficiency in a language that is important to Alaska's economic health in the coming decades.

Under competition guidelines, grant funds may support up to fifty percent of project activities each year. Funds support 1.5 FTE middle school Russian teachers, half time resource teacher, curriculum development, professional development, and materials. The grant does not require a cash match from the Anchorage School District. The grant match consists primarily of staff time and materials that are part of the regular ASD budget, and the participation of community partners. The project does not include release time.

FY 2000-2001 Budget Summary:

Personnel	\$ 69,256
Fringe Benefits	20,130
Supplies	4,000
Contractual	16,666
Training Stipends	1,937
Indirect Costs	<u>4,831</u>
Total	\$116,820

BC/CC/FS/BT/JG

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