

Monthly Update



Anchorage School District

This month at the Anchorage School District

- **HSGQE testing** for 11th-graders and 12th-graders takes place next week on Tuesday (reading), Wednesday (writing) and Thursday (math).
- **Chugach Optional Elementary School** is having a dedication for the newly remodeled school on Tuesday, October 11, from 6:30 – 8 p.m.
- **Parents**, watch your mailboxes this month for an annual report card on your child's school's performance. The report card will include data on the school's overall demographics, test results, improvement goals and more.
- **Friday, October 28 is an in-service day** (end of the first quarter of school). There is no school for students.

Announcements

AYP districtwide results

Despite solid success on Adequate Yearly Progress by most of our individual schools, ASD as a whole did not make AYP and is in Level 3 status, meaning we must develop an improvement plan. Our district, like individual schools, must meet every standard in order to make AYP. Missing even one standard means the district as a whole cannot make AYP. In addition to the results below, ASD met AYP standards for attendance and graduation rates.

	Test Participation Rate Standard Met?	Language Arts Proficiency Standard Met?	Math Proficiency Standard Met?
All Students:	Yes	Yes	Yes
African American:	Yes	No	No
Alaska Native:	Yes	Yes	Yes
American Indian:	Yes	Yes	Yes
Asian:	Yes	Yes	Yes
Caucasian:	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hispanic:	Yes	Yes	Yes
Econ. Disadvantaged:	Yes	Yes	No
Disabled:	Yes	No	No
Limited English:	Yes	No	No

West High and Romig Middle schools facility meeting

West High School auditorium
7 – 9 p.m. **Wednesday, October 5**

ASD is studying whether the current structural facilities at Romig Middle School and West High School conform with districtwide educational specifications and, if the current facilities do not meet standards, how best to bring them into alignment. Students, parents, staff and the community are invited to participate in this process. A meeting will be held next week to present current study findings and to take public comment. This is the first stage of ASD's typical planning process and will lead to a comprehensive plan for improvement of the facilities.

Native Advisory Committee seeks members

Public meeting and election
6:30 – 8 p.m. **Monday, October 24**
Wendler Middle School

The ASD Title VII Indian Education Program is recruiting candidates to serve on the district's Native Advisory Committee. Candidates are needed for the following seats:

- Three parents/guardians of Alaska Native/Native American ASD students (2-year term)
- One Alaska Native/Native American ASD grade 7-12 student (1-year term)
- One ASD teacher (2-year term)

The Native Advisory Committee is made of volunteer citizens who are interested in improving education for Alaska Native and Native American students, committed to the purpose of the ASD Title VII Indian Education Program, willing and able to attend meetings regularly, and committed to increased NAC communication with the community.

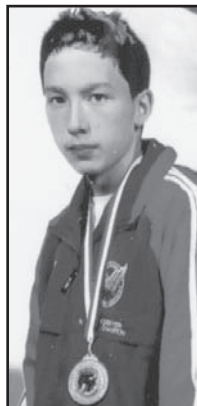
The committee meets at least once each month, with additional subcommittee meetings. Monthly time requirement of members is approximately 8-12 hours. Candidate applications are available from the Title VII Indian Education Program, 742-4445. Applications are due by 5 p.m. October 19, 2005.

Candidates will be elected during a public meeting held on October 24 at Wendler Middle School. All parents, guardians and teachers of Alaska Native and American Indian students in the ASD may attend this meeting and vote on the candidates. Candidate biographies will be available at the election.

Point of Pride

Justin Sawyer is a senior at East High School and a national champion black-belt in tae kwon do. This weekend Justin is heading off with the U.S. team to compete in the Pan American Games. At East High, Justin has a 4.2 grade-point average and is very involved with the school-within-a-school program, helping organize school and community service projects. This mild-mannered and friendly student says the keys to his academic and athletic success are an ability to organize well, a drive to never give up, and strong support from his family.

Congratulations, Justin. We are proud of you!



Justin Sawyer

A Word from Carol Comeau



It has been a pleasant surprise to see that enrollment is actually coming in higher than we expected and is likely to top last year's enrollment. As we do each year, we'll study the enrollment results and demographic trends. It might be that fewer people are moving to the Mat-Su Valley than in prior years, or that more people from Outside are settling in Anchorage. We've also welcomed about 20 students to our schools from the Gulf Coast following the two hurricanes.

I hope that one reason for the higher enrollment might be that more families are finding out what a great job our ASD schools are doing. Significantly more of our schools are now meeting or exceeding the state and federal Adequate Yearly Progress standards, with 66 percent making this hard-to-reach achievement. Our SAT and ACT college entrance exam scores are climbing, outpacing both the state and national averages. More of our high school students are taking challenging upper-level courses through Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate.

While we have a good school system, we can be better. We have to take a look at areas where achievement is not up to our standards and find ways to improve. Part of that process is our annual review of all districtwide achievement data, which is published in our Profile of Performance. The School Board and I will review that document during our October 10 meeting. We'll praise the success stories we find, but we'll also be asking hard questions of our staff about areas that need to improve.

Skills in reading, writing and math are crucial, but they're not the only measures of success. A strong understanding of science, history, government and social studies is important. So is an appreciation and exploration of art and music, and learning good life-long practices in health and physical education.

Another piece of a well-rounded education is learning to be involved with your community. Thousands of our students every year undertake community service projects here in town, and in the last few weeks they have collected thousands of dollars for Red Cross and other relief efforts to assist the Gulf Coast.

I'm proud of our students and our staff for their accomplishments in the classroom and in our community. You can be too. Please join us as partners in our mission to educate all students for success in life.

Most sincerely,

Carol Comeau

Carol Comeau, Superintendent

Meetings of the Anchorage School Board

agendas currents as of 9/30/05

SPECIAL MEETING—AGENDA October 10, 2005 4:30 p.m. 4600 DeBarr Road, Room 320

Call To Order, Roll Call
Jeff Friedman, Presiding
School Board Comments

Executive Session - (Personnel/Finance/Negotiations/Litigation)
1. Student Hearings
2. Negotiations Briefing – ACE

Superintendent's Update
Adjournment

REGULAR MEETING—AGENDA October 10, 2005 6:30 p.m. 4600 DeBarr Road

Call To Order, Roll Call
Jeff Friedman, Presiding
Approval Of Agenda

Announcements
Awards/Recognitions/Presentations
1. Chugiak High School Swing Choir, Director Ron Lange
2. Memo 91 - Recognition of Extraordinary Assistance to Hurricane Katrina Refugees

Special Advisory Reports
1. Student Advisory Board
2. Military Delegate
3. M.E.C.C.

Public Testimony

1. Public Testimony regarding upcoming negotiations—ACE
Persons To Be Heard On Non-Agenda Items (30-minute time limit)

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes
a. Special Meeting - September 12, 2005 4:30 p.m.
b. Regular Meeting - September 12, 2005 6:30 p.m.
2. Memo 48 - Approval of Recommended New MECC Board Members
3. Memo 68 - Resolution in Support of Keeping the Lights on After School – October 20, 2005
4. Memo 69 - Resolution for School Bus Safety Week
5. Memo 72 - Resolution for Red Ribbon Week
6. Memo 74 - Award of Contract: Basketball Officiating
7. Memo 61 - School Board Policy Revisions: Section 165.2 Regular Meetings (First Reading)
8. Memo 62 - School Board Policy Revisions: Section 343.34 (h) Directory Information (First Reading)
9. Memo 66 - Service High School - One Percent for Art
10. Memo 49 - Award of Contract: Arctic Grade Diesel Fuel
11. Memo 57 - Personnel Report

Superintendent's Report

1. Memo 58 - Project Status Report
2. Memo 59 - Enrollment Status Update: September 30, 2005
3. Memo 60 - Profile of Performance 2004-2005
4. Memo 36 - Summer School Report
5. Memo 71 - FY 2006-2007 Budget Development Process

Persons To Be Heard On Non-agenda Items
Communications & School Board Comments
Executive Session - (Personnel/Finance/Negotiations/Litigation)
Adjournment

Persons wishing to be heard may call 742-4315 or sign up prior to the meeting being called to order.

**The meeting will be aired live on cable channel 14 and will be rebroadcast Oct. 12 at 5 p.m., Oct. 13 at 12:30 p.m., Oct. 15 at 12:30 p.m. and Oct. 16 at 7:30 a.m. The meeting will be closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. The agenda is available in Braille by calling 742-4153. The ASD telephone number is 742-4000. A message may be left after hours.*

SPECIAL MEETING—AGENDA October 24, 2005 4:30 p.m. 4600 DeBarr Road, Room 320

Call To Order, Roll Call
Jeff Friedman, Presiding
School Board Comments

Executive Session - (Personnel/Finance/Negotiations/Litigation)
1. Student Hearings
2. Negotiations Briefing – Teamsters, bus and food service

Superintendent's Update
Adjournment

REGULAR MEETING—AGENDA October 24, 2005 6:30 p.m. 4600 DeBarr Road

Call To Order, Roll Call
Jeff Friedman, Presiding
Approval Of Agenda

Announcements
Awards/Recognitions/Presentations
1. Memo 73 - Recognition for 2005 H.U.G.S.S. and Coats for Kids
2. Memo 46 - East High School - Personalizing Education

Special Advisory Reports
1. Student Advisory Board
2. Military Delegate
3. M.E.C.C.

Public Testimony

1. Public Testimony regarding upcoming negotiations—Teamsters, bus and food service
Persons To Be Heard On Non-Agenda Items (30-minute time limit)

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes
a. Special Meeting - September 26, 2005 4:30 p.m.
b. Regular Meeting - September 26, 2005 6:30 p.m.
2. Memo 77 - Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
3. Memo 81 - School Board Goals FY 2005-2006

4. Memo 75 - Sale of Surplus Property
5. Memo 84 - 2006 Legislative Priorities
6. Memo 93 - Approval of MECC Name Change
7. Memo 11 - School Board Policy Revisions: Section 332.3 Lottery Procedures – Open Enrollment (First Reading)
8. Memo 63 - School Board Policy Revisions: Sections 524 and 617 Nepotism (First Reading)
9. Memo 64 - School Board Policy Revisions: Appendix A Student Rights and Responsibilities 14 Drugs and Alcohol (b) (First Reading)
10. Memo 61 - School Board Policy Revisions: Section 165.2 Regular Meetings (Second Reading)
11. Memo 62 - School Board Policy Revisions: Section 343.34 (h) Directory Information (Second Reading)
12. Memo 78 - Acceptance of Grant Award: PALS Literacy and Libraries Project
13. Memo 92 - Acceptance of Continuation Grant Award: Project MIR – Mission is Russian
14. Memo 67 - Award of Contract: Pupil Transportation Services
15. Memo 79 - Personnel Report

Superintendent's Report

1. Memo 80 - Project Status Report
2. Memo 82 - Facility Change Order Report and

Completed Projects for the Month of September, 2005
3. Memo 76 - Conflict of Interest Report – First Quarter Report FY 2005-2006
4. Memo 83 - Class Size Report 2005-2006
5. Memo 88 - Assessment Calendar for 2005-2006 School Year
6. Memo 70 - Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap: September 30, 2005
7. Memo 87 - Out-Of-District Travel – First Quarter Report FY 2005-2006
8. Memo 86 - Operating Budget Transfers – September Monthly Report FY 2005-2006

Persons To Be Heard On Non-agenda Items
Communications & School Board Comments
Executive Session - (Personnel/Finance/Negotiations/Litigation)
Adjournment

Persons wishing to be heard may call 742-4315 or sign up prior to the meeting being called to order.

**The meeting will be aired live on cable channel 14 and will be rebroadcast Oct. 26 at 5 p.m., Oct. 27 at 12:30 p.m., Oct. 29 at 12:30 p.m. and Oct. 30 at 7:30 a.m. The meeting will be closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. The agenda is available in Braille by calling 742-4153. The ASD telephone number is 742-4000. A message may be left after hours.*

For more information

Anchorage School Board

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MECC: The mission of the Minority Education Concerns Committee (MECC) is to serve as the voice for families in the Anchorage School District and to promote educational success for minority students. The MECC meets the third Thursday of every month at 12 noon at 4600 DeBarr Road, Room 320.

4600 DeBarr Road, Anchorage, AK 99519-6614 • 742-4000 • www.asdk12.org • Tune in to cable channel 14