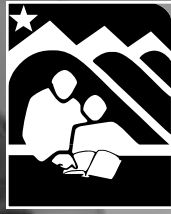


# Monthly Update



## Anchorage School District



### This month at the Anchorage School District

- **Parent-Teacher Conference Week is November 7—11**, check with your child's school for specific schedules.
- **Friday, November 11** is an in-service day. No school for students.
- **All ASD schools and offices will be closed** on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25.
- **November is national American Indian & Alaska Native Heritage Month.** See details below on local events in ASD schools.

### Announcements

#### International Baccalaureate Information Night

Thursday, November 17, 6 p.m.  
West/Romig library

The International Baccalaureate is a rigorous international college-prep program housed at West High, but open for enrollment to all ASD 11th-graders and 12th-graders. IB is a two-year set of integrated academic courses with an international perspective and a focus on the interrelationship of all knowledge. Parents and students in grades 7—10 from across the district who are interested in learning more about IB and future enrollment in the program are invited to the West/Romig library on Thursday, November 17 at 6 p.m. For more information, call 742-2610.

#### Your thoughts on ASD's budget are needed!

In order to bring a balanced budget proposal for the next school year to the School Board in January 2006, Superintendent Comeau must reduce district spending, increase revenues and ensure current resources are being used to full efficiency. Public comments and suggestions are needed. Visit [www.asdk12.org](http://www.asdk12.org) and let us know your thoughts on how the district can:

- operate more cost effectively using existing resources
- save money through specific program reductions or eliminations
- increase revenues through fee increases and state funding increases

#### American Indian & Alaska Native Heritage Month

Through generous donations from The CIRI Foundation, the Alaska Native Heritage Center, the Soroptimists International of Cook Inlet, and The Alaska State Council on the Arts, ASD students will be able to visit in their classrooms with dozens of Alaska Native and American Indian artists and tradition-bearers. Sixteen artists and 22 guest speakers will visit with students throughout the month to raise awareness and understanding of Alaska Native and American Indian cultures. Lesson plans, reading lists, and other resources are available on the ASD Web site, [www.asdk12.org](http://www.asdk12.org). Additional information on community events is available at [www.alaskanativeheritagemonth.org](http://www.alaskanativeheritagemonth.org).



Watch ASDTV cable channel 14 throughout November for programs on Alaska Native and American Indian heritage. Schedule available at [www.asdk12.org](http://www.asdk12.org). A few of the many programs are:

- Shadow Walkers, an Alaska Native cultural compilation
- Talking and Listening the Alaska Way
- Alaska - Aleut Evacuation during W.W.II
- More Than Bows and Arrows, American Indian and cultures
- Kayaks
- The People of Ukpiagvik
- Our Alutiiq Journey
- When My Spirit Raised Its Hands, the life and times of Elizabeth Peratrovich

### Point of Pride



Annie Zager

This summer Goldenview Middle School student Annie Zager, now a ninth-grader at Service High, competed with hundreds of students across the country in the 25th annual National History Day contest held in Washington D.C.

National History Day is a year-long education program that engages 700,000 students in grades 6-12 in discovering and interpreting historical topics. Students produce dramatic performances, imaginative exhibits, multimedia documentaries

and research papers based on an annual theme. These projects are then evaluated at local, state, and national competitions.

Annie's entry, a research paper titled *Bound by Society: Communicating the Ideal Female Body*, rose through the local and state competitions and into the national competition, where she earned a second place award. Congratulations, Annie! You represented Goldenview, the ASD and Alaska very well. Kudos also to Annie's teacher at Goldenview, Staci Hurff, whom Annie's mom calls "extraordinary!"

### A Word from Carol Comeau



Next Friday, November 11, is Veterans' Day, a day to formally respect, honor and remember our military veterans who have proudly served our country.

In schools we teach children the history of our military, the causes and outcomes of wars, and the struggle for liberty and democracy. On Friday our community can add to those lessons by demonstrating to our children how much we value the sacrifices made by our fellow citizens past and present who served their country. We must also support our military families in this difficult time, especially those whose family members have made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives.

I am proud of my country and grateful to our veterans past and present. They have helped preserve the freedoms that are the foundations of America, including the right to speak our minds, to voice our opinions, to debate, and to challenge ideas.

Last month a group of citizens did just that, at one of the most impassioned and compelling community meetings in my 32 years in the ASD.

Several hundred Alaska Native students, parents and grandparents met with me to voice their concerns and share personal stories of their struggles with schools and of our district's shortcomings in connecting with their families. It was a powerful reminder that we must do more to help Alaska Native students achieve success, to close the achievement gap, to reduce the dropout rate, and to raise the graduation rate.

As a result of the families' call for action, we will be piloting a program at Willow Crest Elementary and Romig Middle schools to rejuvenate the understanding and partnership between our Alaska Native families and our school staff.

November is Alaska Native and American Indian Heritage Month, and I hope all of us take time to honor the rich culture and history of our Native peoples while at the same time acknowledging and strengthening the common goals and dreams that unite us as Alaskans and Americans.

Most sincerely,

*Carol Comeau*

Carol Comeau, Superintendent

### Meetings of the Anchorage School Board

agendas current as of 11/4/05

| WORK SESSION—AGENDA   |  |  |  | November 7, 2005  | 5:00 – 7 :00 p.m.  | 4600 DeBarr Road           |
|---|--|--|--|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Call To Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute</b><br>Jeff Friedman, Presiding<br><b>Announcements</b>  | <b>Discussion</b><br>1. Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Budget<br><b>School Board Comments</b>   | <b>Adjournment</b>   |  |                   |                    |                            |
| BOARD RETREAT—AGENDA  |  |  |  | November 10, 2005 | 12:00 – 3 :30 p.m. | 4600 DeBarr Road, Room 320 |
| <b>Call To Order, Roll Call</b><br>Jeff Friedman, Presiding<br><b>Announcements</b><br><b>Discussion</b>  | a. Effective use of the committee process<br>b. Board visibility<br>c. Board meeting procedure and member interaction<br><b>Executive Session</b><br>a. Discussion of matters that may tend to prejudice the   | reputation and character of a person related to misdemeanor conviction<br><b>School Board Comments</b><br><b>Adjournment</b>   |  |                   |                    |                            |
| SPECIAL MEETING—AGENDA  |  |  |  | November 14, 2005 | 4:30 p.m.          | 4600 DeBarr Road, Room 320 |
| <b>Call To Order, Roll Call</b><br>Jeff Friedman, Presiding<br><b>School Board Comments</b>   | <b>Executive Session - (Personnel/Finance/Negotiations/Litigation)</b><br>1. Student Hearings  | 2. Exempt Compensation<br><b>Superintendent's Update</b><br><b>Adjournment</b>   |  |                   |                    |                            |
| REGULAR MEETING—AGENDA  |  |  |  | November 14, 2005 | 6:30 p.m.          | 4600 DeBarr Road           |
| <b>Call To Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute</b><br>Jeff Friedman, Presiding<br><b>Approval Of Agenda</b><br><b>Announcements</b><br><b>Awards/Recognitions/Presentations</b><br>1. Huffman Elementary School Orchestra, Director Kathryn Hoffer<br>2. Memo 85 - Recognition of Good Samaritans<br>3. Memo 50 - Recognition of Crayola Dream-Makers Recipients<br><b>Special Advisory Reports</b><br>1. Student Advisory Board<br>2. Military Delegate<br>3. M.E.C.A.C.<br><b>Persons To Be Heard On Non-Agenda Items (30-minute time limit)</b><br><b>Consent Agenda</b><br>1. Approval of Minutes<br>a. Regular Meeting - September 26, 2005 6:30 p.m.<br>2. Memo 111 - Resolution for American Education Week and All School Employees<br>3. Memo 113 - Resolution in Support of Principal Appreciation Day<br>4. Memo 64 - School Board Policy Revisions: Appendix A Student Rights and Responsibilities 14 Drugs and | Alcohol (b) (Second Reading)<br>5. Memo 107 - FY 2006-2007 Financial Planning<br>6. Memo 98 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program<br>7. Memo 97 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Fund for the Improvement of Education Earmark Grant<br>8. Memo 96 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Manning Family Foundation<br>9. Memo 95 - Acceptance of Continuation Contract Agreement: The Alaska Initiative for Community Engagement<br>10. Memo 123 - Acceptance of Continuation of Right Start Contract: North Star, Williwaw, Tyson, Mountain View, and Big Lake Elementary Schools<br>11. Memo 106 - Acceptance of Continuation Grant Award: McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act<br>12. Memo 105 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Title I Neglected and Delinquent Youth 2005-2006<br>13. Memo 101 - Acceptance of Continuation Grant Award: Reading is Fundamental, Inc.<br>14. Memo 110 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Alaska Railroad Summer Youth Employment Program 2006<br>15. Memo 114 - Sale of Surplus Property<br>16. Memo 99 - Award of Contract: Mears Middle School Generator Installation Service Upgrade<br>17. Memo 100 - Award of Contract: Goldenview Middle | School Generator Installation Service Upgrade<br>18. Memo 108 - Award of Contract: Wendler Middle School Generator Installation<br>19. Memo 109 - Award of Contract: Hanshew Middle School Generator Installation<br>20. Memo 121 - Discipline of School Board Member<br>21. Memo 102 - Personnel Report<br><b>Superintendent's Report</b><br>1. Memo 103 - Project Status Report<br>2. Memo 118 - Student Membership Projections for September 30, 2006<br>3. Memo 89 - Evaluation of 2004-2005 Six-Year Instructional Plan<br>4. Memo 83 - Class Size Report 2005-2006<br>5. Memo 120 - Status Report: Submission of Discretionary Grants, First Quarter 2005-2006 School Year<br><b>Persons To Be Heard On Non-agenda Items Communications &amp; School Board Comments</b><br><b>Executive Session - (Personnel/Finance/Negotiations/Litigation)</b><br><b>Adjournment</b><br><b>Persons wishing to be heard may call 742-4315 or sign up prior to the meeting being called to order.</b> |  |                   |                    |                            |

\*The meeting will be aired live on cable channel 14 and will be rebroadcast Nov. 16 at 5 p.m., Nov. 17 at 12:30 p.m., Nov. 19 at 12:30 p.m. and Nov. 20 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.

| WORK SESSION—AGENDA   |   |   |  | November 21, 2005 | 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. | 4600 DeBarr Road           |
|---|---|---|--|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Call To Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute</b><br>Jeff Friedman, Presiding<br><b>Announcements</b>  | <b>Discussion</b><br>1. Special Education<br><b>School Board Comments</b>   | <b>Adjournment</b>  |  |                   |                  |                            |
| SPECIAL MEETING—AGENDA  |   |   |  | November 28, 2005 | 4:30 p.m.        | 4600 DeBarr Road, Room 320 |
| <b>Call To Order, Roll Call</b><br>Jeff Friedman, Presiding<br><b>School Board Comments</b>   | <b>Executive Session - (Personnel/Finance/Negotiations/Litigation)</b><br>1. Student Hearings   | <b>Superintendent's Update</b><br><b>Adjournment</b>  |  |                   |                  |                            |
| REGULAR MEETING—AGENDA  |   |   |  | November 28, 2005 | 6:30 p.m.        | 4600 DeBarr Road           |
| <b>Call To Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute</b><br>Jeff Friedman, Presiding<br><b>Approval Of Agenda</b><br><b>Announcements</b><br><b>Awards/Recognitions/Presentations</b><br>1. Memo 112 - Recognition of Alaska History Teacher of the Year<br>2. Memo 129 - Recognition of International Stress Management Award<br><b>Special Advisory Reports</b><br>1. Student Advisory Board<br>2. Military Delegate<br>3. M.E.C.A.C.<br><b>Persons To Be Heard On Non-Agenda Items (30-minute time limit)</b><br><b>Consent Agenda</b> | 1. Approval of Minutes<br>a. Special Meeting - October 10, 2005<br>b. Regular Meeting - October 10, 2005<br>2. Memo 126 - Testing and No Child Left Behind Costs<br>3. Memo 63 - School Board Policy Revisions: Sections 524 and 617 Nepotism (First Reading)<br>4. Memo 104 - Award of Contract: SN05-826 Frozen Potato Products<br>5. Memo 74 - Award of Contract: Basketball Officiating<br>6. Memo 124 - Re-Allocation of Funds for Warehouse Roof Structural Repairs<br>7. Memo 125 - Approval of Change Order: Eagle River High School<br>8. Memo 116 - Personnel Report<br><b>Superintendent's Report</b><br>1. Memo 117 - Project Status Report<br>2. Memo 122 - Facility Change Order Report and | Completed Projects for the Month of October, 2005<br>3. Memo 119 - First Quarter End-of-Month Membership Summary - October 31, 2005<br>4. Memo 128 - Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap: October 31, 2005<br>5. Memo 127 - Operating Budget Transfers - October Monthly Report FY 2005-2006<br><b>Persons To Be Heard On Non-agenda Items Communications &amp; School Board Comments</b><br><b>Executive Session - (Personnel/Finance/Negotiations/Litigation)</b><br><b>Adjournment</b><br><b>Persons wishing to be heard may call 742-4315 or sign up prior to the meeting being called to order.</b> |  |                   |                  |                            |

\*The meeting will be aired live on cable channel 14 and will be rebroadcast Nov. 30 at 5 p.m., Dec. 1 at 12:30 p.m., Dec. 3 at 12:30 p.m. and Dec. 4 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

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John Steiner, 696-2629, [steiner\\_john@asdk12.org](mailto:steiner_john@asdk12.org)  
Carol Comeau, Superintendent, 742-4312, [comeau\\_carol@asdk12.org](mailto:comeau_carol@asdk12.org)

MECAC: The mission of the Minority Education Concerns Advisory Committee (MECAC) is to serve as the voice for families in the Anchorage School District and to promote educational success for minority students. The MECAC 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](http://www.asdk12.org) • Tune in to cable channel 14