



Monthly Update



Anchorage School District



This month at the Anchorage School District

- **Friday, March 17** is an in-service day. No school for students.
- **Spring break** is Monday, March 20 through Friday, March 24.

Announcements

Bear Valley-area attendance boundaries – third hearing to be held

A third public hearing has been scheduled regarding the southeast Anchorage-area elementary school attendance boundaries. The hearing will be held Tuesday, March 14, 6 – 8 p.m., at Bowman Elementary School. A committee of parents and principals from Bear Valley, Bowman, Huffman, O'Malley and Rabbit Creek elementary schools is looking ways to reduce overcrowding at Bear Valley and plan for future growth in the area. Parents and other community members are invited to attend the hearing and provide comments and suggestions. Comments also taken online at www.asdk12.org.

Academic achievement is rising!

More ASD high school students than ever are taking rigorous college-level classes through Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs. They're also taking more AP tests than ever before, and seven out of every ten students are scoring well enough to be eligible for college credits and placement.

Expanded vocational education opportunities

In the next year ASD students will have more opportunities to learn and hone career and vocational skills. The King Career Center will offer a third shift of classes each day next year and will also have a summer school session. In addition, ASD recently signed agreements with seven construction-industry organizations that will increase students' career skills and opportunities in a variety of construction trades.

For more information about vocational and technical education, contact the King Career Center at 742-8900, or career and technology education coordinator Rick Rios at 742-8942.

March is Music in Our Schools Month

On Friday, March 10, students from across the ASD will perform at the Fifth Avenue Mall and the Performing Arts Center in honor of Music in Our Schools Month. Drop by to hear fabulous choirs, orchestras and bands. 5th Avenue Mall - Food Court stage, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.; PAC - Harrison Lobby, 1 p.m. - 4:20 p.m. Check www.asdk12.org for more details.

Title VII Indian Education Program Public Hearing

The Native Advisory Committee invites parents, guardians and teachers of Native children in the ASD to attend a public hearing to learn about and make recommendations for the Title VII Indian Education Program for the 2006-2007 school year. Interested community members are also welcome to attend.

Romig Middle School, multipurpose room
Thursday, March 16 6:30 – 8 p.m

Points of Pride

There have been too many great accomplishments by local students recently to have just one Point of Pride this month. Here are two of the many achievements of our outstanding students:

Romig Middle School student Sophie Wiepking-Brown is one of two Alaskans to earn a national 2006 Prudential Spirit of Community award. Sophie was honored for creating an effective and well organized recycling and environmental awareness program for her synagogue. Sophie will travel to Washington, D.C. in May for several days of recognition events.



Sophie Wiepking-Brown



Goldenview Middle School eighth-graders Brian Gerd, Scott Munter and Chance Wilcox won the Alaska Battle of the Books championship, taking top place out of 31 teams from across the state. Battle of the Books encourages a knowledge of literature and love of reading through fun competition. Students are given a list of ten to 15 books they must read and study. During the Battle, the students answer questions about the books' plots, characters, settings, authors and more. Pictured from left to right are Goldenview librarian Carrie Shelley, Chance, Scott, Brian, and principal Julie Maker.

A Word from Carol Comeau



After having no bonds on the ballot last year and retiring \$39 million in existing bond debt, we are asking the community to consider three school bonds on the ballot this April that address our most critical school-improvement needs.

Sand Lake and Chester Valley elementary schools, both more than 40 years old, would be fully renovated, brought up to code, and expanded to ease their overcrowding.

Four high schools—Bartlett, Chugiak, East and Service—would have the next major sections, or “phases,” of their facilities renovated. If you haven't been in one of those schools lately, I invite you to call the principal and arrange a tour. The difference between the new and old sections is astounding, and teachers and students can tell you what a positive effect it's had on their school environment.

The old auxiliary gym at Dimond High would be brought up to code, allowing us to use the space for instructional programs. Dimond is overcrowded and could greatly use the added space, but until the gym is upgraded the fire marshal will not allow us full access to the old building.

Clark Middle School, 47 years old, would take a step closer to its much needed renewal with funds for design of its complete renovation. Future projects at West, Romig, Inlet View and Girdwood would also be planned or designed. Money to buy future school sites would be available and major repairs and renewals at dozens of schools would be made.

That's quite a few projects. All three bonds combined total \$99.8 million. Thankfully the State of Alaska is set to pay \$42 million of the cost through an already approved reimbursement plan, subject to annual legislative appropriation. The reimbursement window is only open for a limited time — projects must be approved by voters before October 31 in order to qualify.

With state debt reimbursement, the cost for all three bonds combined would be \$20.53 a year for every \$100,000 of assessed property value to retire the debt and to pay for annual operation and maintenance for the added facility space. For someone who has a \$300,000 home, it would mean a monthly increase of \$5.13, about the cost of a cup of coffee and a doughnut.

Cost and benefit — that's the bottom line that every voter must consider before marking his or her ballot. Is it worth a few dollars a month to accomplish all of the following?

- Renovate major sections of Bartlett, Chugiak, East and Service high schools
- Completely renovate and expand Chester Valley and Sand Lake elementary schools
- Renovate the old gym at Dimond High so that it can be used for overflow classes
- Purchase vacant land in rapidly developing parts of town for future schools
- Make districtwide major repairs and upgrades to roofs, mechanical and electrical systems, fire sprinkler systems, security systems, and other building components
- Plan or design upcoming renovations at Clark, Romig, West, Girdwood, and Inlet View

It's a worthy consideration, and one I hope you'll take a few minutes to think about before April 4.

Most sincerely,

Carol Comeau

Learn more about school bond Propositions 9, 10 and 11 at www.asdk12.org

Meetings of the Anchorage School Board

agendas current as of 3/3/06

SPECIAL MEETING—AGENDA March 6, 2006 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. Litigation Update
Superintendent's Update
Adjournment

REGULAR MEETING—AGENDA March 6, 2006 6:30 p.m. 4600 DeBarr Road

Call To Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute
Jeff Friedman, Presiding
Approval Of Agenda
Announcements
Awards/Recognitions/Presentations

1. Sand Lake Orff Ensemble, Linda Updegraff, Directing

Special Advisory Reports

1. Student Advisory Board

2. Military Delegate

3. M.E.C.A.C.

Persons To Be Heard On Non-Agenda Items (30-minute time limit)

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes

a. Special Meeting - December 12, 2005

b. Special Meeting - January 9, 2006

c. Special Meeting - January 23, 2006

d. Special Meeting - February 6, 2006

2. **Memo 206** - School Bond Information Program
3. **Memo 200** - Six Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis and Recommendations: July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2012
4. **Memo 213** - Acceptance of Grant Award: High Growth Job Training Initiative Planning Grant
5. **Memo 186** - Award of Contract: Willow Crest and Bear Valley Elementary Schools Carpet Replacement
6. **Memo 187** - Award of Contract: Chinook Elementary School Door Installation
7. **Memo 188** - Award of Contract: ASD Facilities Building HVAC Upgrades
8. **Memo 195** - Approval of Funding for Capital Projects Using Interest Earnings and Redirected Balances
9. **Memo 201** - Renewal of Contract: Zero Balance Banking Services
10. **Memo 215** - Adoption of Tentative Agreement: TOTEM Association of Educational Support Personnel, APEA/AFT (AFL-CIO) 2006-2009

11. **Memo 210** - Personnel Report
Superintendent's Report

1. **Memo 211** - Project Status Report

2. **Memo 209** - Facility Contract Modification Report and Completed Projects for the Month of January 2006

3. **Memo 212** - Status Report: Submission of Discretionary Grants, Second Quarter 2005-2006 School Year

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 March 8 at 5 p.m., March 9 at 12:30 p.m., March 11 at 12:30 p.m. and March 12 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 March 7, 2006 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. 4600 DeBarr Road

Call To Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute
Jeff Friedman, Presiding
Announcements

Discussion
1. Work Force Development
School Board Comments

Adjournment

*The meeting will be aired live on cable channel 14 and will be rebroadcast March 9 at 3 p.m., and March 10 at 9:05 p.m. The meeting will be closed-captioned for the hearing impaired.

Joint Anchorage Municipal Assembly/School Board Meeting March 10, 2006 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. City Hall - Mayor's Conference Room

SPECIAL MEETING—AGENDA March 27, 2006 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. HSGQE Waivers

3. Contract Negotiations Update
Superintendent's Update
Adjournment

REGULAR MEETING—AGENDA* March 27, 2006 6:30 p.m. 4600 DeBarr Road

Call To Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute,
Jeff Friedman, Presiding
Approval Of Agenda
Announcements
Awards/Recognitions/Presentations

1. Scientific Learning Fast ForWord Program – Darla Jones

2. **Memo 225** - Recognition of Wells Fargo SuperSaturday Donation

3. **Memo 226** - Recognition of Winter 2006 Denali Award Recipients

Special Advisory Reports

1. Student Advisory Board

2. Military Delegate

3. M.E.C.A.C.

Persons To Be Heard On Non-Agenda Items (30-minute time limit)

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting - December 12, 2006

b. Regular Meeting - January 9, 2006

c. Regular Meeting - January 23, 2006
d. Regular Meeting - February 6, 2006
2. **Memo 244** - Amendment to Boniface Lease
3. **Memo 221** - A Resolution in Support of The Week of the Young Child
4. **Memo 232** - Appointment of Additional Minority Education Concerns Advisory Committee Member
5. **Memo 228** - School Board Policy Revisions: Section 310 – Philosophy of the Instructional Program and Section 321 – Goals of the Instructional Program (First Reading)
6. **Memo 229** - School Board Policy Revisions: Section 349 – Evaluation (First Reading)
7. **Memo 230** - School Board Policy Revisions: Section 722.2 – Budget Contents and Section 722.3 – Planning and Compilation (First Reading)
8. **Memo 184** - Prior Approval: Indian Education Continuation Grant Application for 2006-2007
9. **Memo 231** - Disposition of 92nd Avenue Property
10. **Memo 214** - Sale of Surplus Property
11. **Memo 205** - Award of Contract: Miscellaneous School

Supplies
12. **Memo 234** - Award of Contract: Muldoon Area Middle School Phase II Sitework
13. **Memo 227** - Revision to the 2006-2007 School Calendar
14. **Memo 217** - Personnel Report
Superintendent's Report

1. **Memo 216** - Project Status Report

2. **Memo 222** - Second Quarter Suspension/Weapons/Expulsion Report 2005-2006

3. **Memo 223** - Operating Budget Transfers – February Monthly Report FY 2005-2006

4. **Memo 224** - Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap: February 28, 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 March 29 at 5 p.m., March 30 at 12:30 p.m., April 1 at 12:30 p.m. and April 2 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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Carol Comeau, Superintendent, 742-4312, 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 • Tune in to cable channel 14