



Monthly Update



Anchorage School District



This month at the Anchorage School District

- **September 28-November 17** – Budget Review Teams meet to scrutinize the ASD budget and recommend changes, cuts and enhancements.
- **October 3-5 HSGQE testing** – Retakes for 11th and 12th graders who still need to pass one or more sections of the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam.
- **Friday, October 20** – The end of first quarter and an in-service day, there is no school for students.

Announcements

After-school, hands on experience for high schoolers

The King Career Center is beginning its 3rd Session on Monday, October 9. The program includes many of KCC's regular classes. All high school students can enroll in 3rd Session and the program runs after school, Monday through Thursday, from 3-5:30 p.m. The 3rd Session is free and students will receive credit for the class. **The last day to register is Tuesday, October 10.** Students will need to provide their own transportation. For more information or to register, call 3rd Session principal Carrie Fleischhacker, 742-8900, or log on to <http://web.mac.com/kcc4>.

Special Education Community Forum

Special Education Community Forums are a series of workshops about all kinds of disability issues. The forums provide an opportunity to join discussion groups and earn credit for certification programs and salary advancement. The topic for the next forum is "Creating a good fit: Supporting the special needs child in school and at home." Free childcare is provided for participants. The next forum will be held:

Saturday, October 28
8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Wendler Middle School

For more information, contact the STeP Center at 742-3872 or www.asdk12.org/depts.step

The Native Advisory Committee will meet

The Native Advisory Committee is an advisory committee to the Title VII Indian Education Program and Anchorage School Board. The committee is made of volunteer citizens who are interested in improving education for Alaska Native/Native American students and committed to the purpose of the ASD Title VII Indian Education Program. For more information, please call the Title VII Indian Education office at 742-4445. The committee's next meeting will be:

Thursday, October 12
6:30 - 8 p.m.
4600 DeBarr Road

Administration Building board room

Capital Request Advisory Committee seeks members

The Anchorage School District is seeking community members and citizens-at-large to serve on the Capital Request Advisory Committee. An elementary and middle school representative for each high school attendance area is needed. The CRAC advises the district on facility major maintenance projects, school renovations, facility expansions, and prioritizes legislative and bond capital requests to fit in the Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan. The committee holds at least quarterly meetings and the total time requirement of members is approximately five to 10 hours each month. For more information or an application, please call 348-5156.

Point of Pride

Service High School's Leadership Academy serves about 200 Navy JROTC students in grades 9-12 with eight core teachers and two ROTC instructors. The freshmen in the program focus on "Followership" skills while being inducted into the academy and into the larger Service community. Students in upper grades learn, practice and hone their leadership skills while becoming ambassadors for the school and greater Anchorage community. These students log thousands of community service hours in the school year, have regular community building events, and support each other in academic excellence. The program is designed to build leaders, scholars and productive citizens.



A Word from Carol Comeau, Superintendent

Our budget development process is in full swing. I'd like to thank nearly 250 volunteers who are giving their time to help streamline the district's operations. Eighteen Budget Review Teams will spend the next month and a half looking for efficiencies, reductions and revenue enhancements. Each team is tasked with finding ways to reduce their respective budgets by at least five percent. I look forward to hearing the recommendations from all Budget Review Teams on November 30.

The district is facing a significant budget shortfall in the 2007-2008 school year. There are two figures we must consider, the basic gap and the gap including PERS/TRS. The basic gap is estimated at \$22 million based on rising costs of fuel and utilities, under-funded federal mandates, increases to employee health insurance contributions and existing bargaining group contracts. The gap including PERS/TRS dramatically jumps to more than \$90 million.

In FY2007-2008 budget projections, the district prepared for a five percentile increase in the contribution rate, based on the maximum increase allowed. That limit was recently eliminated and on September 11, the Alaska Retirement Management (ARM) Board chose to increase PERS/TRS rates by more than 69 percent and 108 percent, respectively for the next school year.

These unanticipated increases add up to \$55.5 million dollars in additional monies the district must pay into the pension system next year above the \$13 million (5%) already planned. The total PERS/TRS employer contribution for 2007-2008 is \$68.5 million.

These increases will have an unacceptable impact on the quality of education we deliver. This unfunded liability and these huge increases are a State responsibility and should not fall on school districts, communities, the university and state programs to pay for out of operating funds.

Governor Frank Murkowski has proposed that the state pick up the tab for the increased expenses. It is a top priority of my administration to urge the new governor and legislators to immediately commit to solving this issue. I hope you will take a few minutes to contact your representatives and encourage them to not only fund next year's increases, but also to come up with a solution so schools, the university, the state and communities are not faced with this problem each year.

Most Sincerely,

Carol Comeau



Meetings of the Anchorage School Board

agendas current as of 9/29/06

ALL MEETINGS ARE BROADCAST LIVE ON CABLE CHANNEL 14; SEE REBROADCAST SCHEDULE BELOW
SPECIAL MEETING—AGENDA October 2, 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. AEA Negotiations Update
Superintendent's Update
Adjournment

REGULAR MEETING—AGENDA October 2, 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. Memo 93 - Recognition of American Star of Teaching Award
2. Memo 94 - Recognition of Alaska State Teacher of the Year Award

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 - February 7, 2006

- b. Special Meeting - September 25, 2006
2. Memo 76 - Appointment of Military Liaison to the Board
3. Memo 79 - ASD Resolution for School Bus Safety Week
4. Memo 77 - ASD Resolution Designating October 21-29, 2006 as Red Ribbon Week for Anchorage School District
5. Memo 69 - ASD Resolution in Support of Alaska Federation of Natives Conference
6. Memo 78 - ASD Resolution in Support of Keeping the Lights on After School
7. Memo 74 - Acceptance of Grant Award: State of Alaska WIA In-School and Out-of-School Youth Program
8. Memo 67 - Acceptance of Continuation Grant Award: Reading is FUNDamental, Inc.
9. Memo 65 - Acceptance of Continuation Contract

10. Memo 32 - Award of Contract: Southeast Regional Resource Center, Project Appeal Grant
 11. Memo 64 - Sale of Surplus Property
 12. Memo 72 - Personnel Report
- Superintendent's Report**
1. Memo 73 - Project Status Report
 2. Memo 75 - 21st Century Community Learning Center 2005-2006 Year End Report
- 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. 4 at 5 p.m., Oct. 5 at 12:30 p.m., Oct. 7 at 12:30 p.m. and Oct. 8 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 16, 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. AEA Negotiations Update
Superintendent's Update
Adjournment

REGULAR MEETING—AGENDA October 16, 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. Russian Immersion Program Student Performance
2. Memo 90 - Recognition for 2006 H.U.G.S.S. and Coats for Kids
3. Memo 96 - Recognition of National Merit Scholar Semifinalists

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 - August 14, 2006

- b. Regular Meeting - August 28, 2006
 - c. Special Meeting - October 2, 2006
 2. Memo 89 - Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year 2005-2006
 3. Memo 87 - 2007 Legislative Priorities
 4. Memo 95 - Recommendation regarding ASD Land, (Tract B, T131N, R3W, Section 12) on Muldoon Tract B
 5. Memo 91 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Foreign Language Assistance Program - Mission is Russian (Project MIR2)
 6. Memo 92 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Youth-Directed Peer Education Initiative
 7. Memo 80 - Approval of Sole Source Award for Construction Academy at King Career Center
 8. Memo 66 - Weighted Grades for International Baccalaureate Higher Level Classes
 9. Memo 82 - Personnel Report
- Superintendent's Report**
1. Memo 83 - Project Status Report

2. Memo 85 - Facility Contract Modification Report and Completed Projects for the Month of September 2006
 3. Memo 84 - Conflict of Interest Report - First Quarter FY 2006-2007
 4. Memo 58 - Enrollment Status Update: September 30, 2006
 5. Memo 81 - Elementary Reading Initiatives Update
 6. Memo 68 - 2005-2006 Certified Recruitment Report
 7. Memo 86 - Operating Budget Transfers - September Monthly Report FY 2006-2007
 8. Memo 88 - Out-of-District Travel - First Quarter Report FY 2006-2007
- 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. 18 at 5 p.m., Oct. 19 at 12:30 p.m., Oct. 21 at 12:30 p.m. and Oct. 22 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 October 30, 2006 5:00 - 8:15 p.m. 4600 DeBarr Road, Room 320

Call To Order, Roll Call
 Jeff Friedman, Presiding

Announcements

Discussion

1. FY 2007-2008 Budget Discussion (5:00 p.m. - 6:00

- p.m.)
2. Otto Geist (German Immersion) Charter School (6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.)
3. Alaska Native Cultural Charter School (7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.)

School Board Comments
Adjournment

For more information

Anchorage School Board and Superintendent
 Jeff Friedman, President, 742-6699, friedman_jeff@asdk12.org
 Crystal Kennedy, 696-2624, kennedy_crystal@asdk12.org
 Mary Marks, 742-2343, marks_mary@asdk12.org
 Jake Metcalfe, 274-1441, metcalfe_jake@asdk12.org

Macon Roberts, 742-5350, roberts_macon@asdk12.org
 Tim Steele, 277-7663, steele_tim@asdk12.org
 John Steiner, 696-2629, steiner_john@asdk12.org
 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 first Wednesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. and 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