

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #121 (2004-2005)

December 13, 2004

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: FIRST QUARTER PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE REPORT  
2004-2005

PERTINENT FACTS:

The School Board and the Administration have long supported and encouraged opportunities for parents and teachers to meet to discuss student progress at various times during the school year. In many cases, students have been encouraged to be active participants in these conferences.

For many years, Anchorage School District schools have had release time opportunities twice per school year to allow 15 to 20 minute individual parent/teacher or parent/student/teacher conferences at the end of the first and third quarters. More recently, the middle schools and high schools began the practice of providing opportunities at the end of the same grading periods for parents to pick-up their student's report cards and confer briefly with teachers.

These efforts have generally been well supported by parents and teachers, as can be seen in the information provided by each division. Where there has been a decrease in participation at a school, the appropriate Instructional Division supervisor works with principals, their staffs and PTA or parent group to increase involvement. Through work with the Public Affairs staff, the web site, and our School/Business partners, the District will continue attempts to increase employer awareness of the importance of these opportunities in the hope that parents can be released from work to attend. At any time of the school year, parents are welcome to request a parent/teacher conference to discuss their child's progress at any time of the school year.

## Elementary

Twice each year, the elementary schools in Anchorage conduct parent/teacher conferences for the purpose of reporting student progress to parents. These conferences are held at the end of the first and third quarters of each school year.

Elementary parent/teacher conference results for the first quarter are shown in Attachment A. The following information is a comparison of the last five years' participation rate in these conferences.

|                  | <u>2000-2001</u> | <u>2001-2002</u> | <u>2002-2003</u> | <u>2003-2004</u> | <u>2004-2005</u> |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Fall Enrollment  | 26,179           | 26,326           | 26,124           | 25,505           | 25,000           |
| District Average | 95%              | 95%              | 95%              | 96%              | 95%              |

Currently, the teacher schedules individual conferences for the parents of each student in the class. The current ASD/AEA negotiated agreement has a provision to allow telephone conferences in lieu of personal conferences if the principal gives prior approval. This is the 20th year this information has been

## Middle Schools

Following are the percentages for report card pick up in the middle schools for the first quarter of the 2004-2005 school year:

| <b>SCHOOL</b> | <b>ENROLLMENT</b> | <b>CARDS PICKED UP</b> | <b>%</b> |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Central       | 738               | 459                    | 62       |
| Clark         | 877               | 503                    | 57       |
| Goldenview    | 942               | 688                    | 73       |
| Gruening      | 584               | 455                    | 78       |
| Hanshew       | 994               | 873                    | 88       |
| Mears         | 1086              | 700                    | 64       |
| Mirror Lake   | 704               | 537                    | 76       |
| Polaris       | 446               | 446                    | 100      |
| Romig         | 824               | 667                    | 81       |
| Wendler       | 896               | 584                    | 65       |

Following are the middle schools' report card pick-up percentages for first quarter this year as compared to the first quarter for the last three years.

| <u>School</u> | <u>1st Qtr 2001</u> | <u>1st Qtr 2002</u> | <u>1st Qtr 2003</u> | <u>1st Qtr 2004</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Central       | 55                  | 62                  | 63                  | 62                  |
| Clark         | 55                  | 26                  | 60                  | 57                  |
| Goldenview    | 30                  | 68                  | 74                  | 73                  |
| Gruening      | 68                  | 67                  | 69                  | 78                  |
| Hanshew       | 57                  | 86                  | 85                  | 88                  |
| Mears         | 63                  | 65                  | 66                  | 64                  |
| Mirror Lake   | 66                  | 74                  | 77                  | 76                  |
| Polaris K-12  | 100                 | 100                 | 100                 | 100                 |
| Romig         | 61                  | 66                  | 76                  | 81                  |
| Wendler       | 40                  | 54                  | 58                  | 65                  |

Pick-up percentages for middle schools ranged from 57 percent to 88 percent with numbers ranging from 455 to 873. The schools with the highest rates of report card pick-up were Hanshew and Romig.

Report card pick up at the middle schools increased for Gruening, Romig, Hanshew and Wendler. Noteworthy is the increase in percentages at Romig, Wendler and Gruening.

Hanshew Middle School is in the third year of using student-led conferences to distribute report cards. Their pick-up rate has increased to 88 percent. Wendler Middle School, in the first semester of their pilot, increased their percent from 58 to 65. Romig and some other middle schools also have several teams distributing report cards through student-led conferences. Romig's distribution rate increased to 81 percent this quarter.

Telephone calls reminding parents of report card pick-up through the ASD automated telephone program was, also, of assistance this year.

Polaris distributes report cards through individual appointments. They had 100% participation this year.

### **High Schools**

Senior High School Report Card Pick-up was held on November 17, 2004, in all area high schools. This effort is intended to facilitate parent/teacher/student communication. All of a school's teachers are available in a contiguous area, such as the library or the cafeteria, and parents and staff meet as time permits. Appointments for more extensive dialogue can be made at that time.

As reported by principals, parents were actively engaged in discussion with nearly every teacher. The vast majority of those in attendance deem the conferences valuable and informative. Appropriately, many high school students accompany their parents during these visits.

Encouraging parental attendance continues to be both a school and division goal. All sites publicize this opportunity through parent newsletter announcements which start several months in advance, invitations issued at fall open houses, items on school websites, notations on the activity calendar, and numerous reminders at monthly parent meetings.

Report card pick-up for senior high students averaged 50 percent across the District as compared to 50 percent during the same time last year and to 47 percent for the 2001-2002 year. A chart comparing percentage pick-up rates between first quarter 2002, first quarter 2003, and first quarter 2004 is included below.

Report Card Pick-up Report  
November 2002, 2003, 2004

| <u>School</u> | <u>% 1st Qtr. 2002</u> | <u>% 1st Qtr 2003</u> | <u>% 1st Qtr 2004</u> |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bartlett      | 40                     | 45                    | 39                    |
| Chugiak       | 52                     | 54                    | 60                    |
| Dimond        | 52                     | 53                    | 55                    |
| East          | 39                     | 44                    | 42                    |
| Service       | 56                     | 56                    | 50                    |
| South         | n/a                    | n/a                   | 55                    |
| West          | 44                     | 46                    | 49                    |

**Charter Schools**

| <u>School</u>        | <u>Enrollment</u> | <u># of Conferences</u> | <u>% 1st Qtr 2004</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Aquarian             | 268               | 260                     | 97                    |
| Village              | 116               | 105                     | 91                    |
| *Frontier            | 285               | N/A                     |                       |
| *Family Partnership  | 478               | N/A                     |                       |
| **Highland Tech High | 306               | N/A                     |                       |

\*Parents and teachers meet on an "as needed basis" due to the individualized nature of these programs.

\*\*Highland Tech High issues progress reports, but report cards are distributed only at semester.

CC/JC/PM/GO/MH

Attachment

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Elementary Education  
First Quarter Parent-Teacher Conferences

| <b>School Name</b> | <b>Enrollment</b> | <b>Completed Conferences</b> | <b>Telephone Conferences</b> | <b>Fall 2004 Percentage Completed</b> | <b>Fall 2003 Percentage Completed</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Abbott Loop        | 460               | 439                          | 5                            | 95%                                   | 91%                                   |
| Airport Heights    | 244               | 236                          | 2                            | 97%                                   | 97%                                   |
| Alpenglow          | 443               | 442                          | 1                            | 99%                                   | 99%                                   |
| Aurora             | 358               | 350                          | 5                            | 98%                                   | 99%                                   |
| Baxter             | 411               | 384                          | 10                           | 96%                                   | 97%                                   |
| Bayshore           | 574               | 574                          | 9                            | 100%                                  | 100%                                  |
| Bear Valley        | 554               | 549                          | 3                            | 99%                                   | 99%                                   |
| Birchwood ABC      | 341               | 336                          | 5                            | 99%                                   | 97%                                   |
| Bowman             | 465               | 373                          | 10                           | 80%                                   | 98%                                   |
| Campbell           | 443               | 430                          | 8                            | 97%                                   | 98%                                   |
| Chester Valley     | 281               | 269                          | 5                            | 95%                                   | 92%                                   |
| Chinook            | 552               | 530                          | 14                           | 96%                                   | 95%                                   |
| Chugach Optional   | 246               | 241                          | 0                            | 98%                                   | 97%                                   |
| Chugiak            | 503               | 492                          | 7                            | 97%                                   | 96%                                   |
| College Gate       | 351               | 336                          | 9                            | 96%                                   | 98%                                   |
| Creekside Park     | 428               | 406                          | 9                            | 95%                                   | 95%                                   |
| Denali             | 423               | 400                          | 24                           | 95%                                   | 95%                                   |
| Eagle River        | 333               | 314                          | 24                           | 94%                                   | 91%                                   |
| Fairview           | 401               | 342                          | 23                           | 85%                                   | 92%                                   |
| Fire Lake          | 284               | 281                          | 12                           | 99%                                   | 97%                                   |
| Girdwood           | 133               | 125                          | 0                            | 94%                                   | 96%                                   |
| Government Hill    | 481               | 456                          | 2                            | 95%                                   | 96%                                   |
| Homestead          | 395               | 386                          | 3                            | 98%                                   | 97%                                   |
| Huffman            | 431               | 403                          | 5                            | 93%                                   | 98%                                   |
| Inlet View         | 247               | 239                          | 6                            | 97%                                   | 98%                                   |
| Kasuun             | 466               | 458                          | 6                            | 98%                                   | 98%                                   |
| Kincaid            | 535               | 513                          | 3                            | 96%                                   | 98%                                   |
| Klatt              | 382               | 359                          | 15                           | 94%                                   | 96%                                   |
| Lake Hood          | 441               | 422                          | 2                            | 96%                                   | 96%                                   |
| Lake Otis          | 414               | 382                          | 12                           | 92%                                   | 90%                                   |
| Mt. Spurr          | 333               | 333                          | 0                            | 100%                                  | 99%                                   |
| Mt. View           | 344               | 298                          | 21                           | 87%                                   | 93%                                   |

Elementary Education  
First Quarter Parent-Teacher Conferences

| School Name     | Enrollment    | Completed Conferences | Telephone Conferences | Fall 2004 Percentage Completed | Fall 2003 Percentage Completed |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Muldoon         | 391           | 356                   | 5                     | 91%                            | 87%                            |
| North Star      | 447           | 397                   | 19                    | 89%                            | 92%                            |
| Northern Lights | 618           | 540                   | 0                     | 87%                            | 99%                            |
| Northwood       | 351           | 330                   | 10                    | 94%                            | 93%                            |
| Nunaka Valley   | 244           | 232                   | 11                    | 95%                            | 94%                            |
| Ocean View      | 564           | 512                   | 18                    | 91%                            | 95%                            |
| O'Malley        | 322           | 322                   | 0                     | 100%                           | 99%                            |
| Orion           | 368           | 339                   | 7                     | 92%                            | 96%                            |
| Polaris         | 224           | 224                   | 0                     | 100%                           | 100%                           |
| Ptarmigan       | 395           | 363                   | 16                    | 92%                            | 93%                            |
| Rabbit Creek    | 363           | 351                   | 2                     | 96%                            | 96%                            |
| Ravenwood       | 400           | 397                   | 2                     | 99%                            | 99%                            |
| Rogers Park     | 560           | 542                   | 14                    | 96%                            | 97%                            |
| Russian Jack    | 369           | 343                   | 7                     | 93%                            | 92%                            |
| Sand Lake       | 633           | 630                   | 5                     | 100%                           | 99%                            |
| Scenic Park     | 466           | 449                   | 9                     | 96%                            | 98%                            |
| Spring Hill     | 395           | 377                   | 10                    | 95%                            | 97%                            |
| Susitna         | 541           | 518                   | 6                     | 96%                            | 95%                            |
| Taku            | 391           | 360                   | 12                    | 92%                            | 96%                            |
| Trailside       | 504           | 481                   | 7                     | 95%                            | 95%                            |
| Tudor           | 550           | 519                   | 10                    | 94%                            | 95%                            |
| Turnagain       | 320           | 306                   | 7                     | 95%                            | 94%                            |
| Tyson, William  | 385           | 349                   | 26                    | 91%                            | 94%                            |
| Ursa Major      | 401           | 374                   | 15                    | 93%                            | 94%                            |
| Ursa Minor      | 241           | 241                   | 10                    | 100%                           | 99%                            |
| Williwaw        | 566           | 522                   | 28                    | 90%                            | 96%                            |
| Willow Crest    | 417           | 399                   | 22                    | 96%                            | 96%                            |
| Wonder Park     | 385           | 344                   | 17                    | 89%                            | 88%                            |
| Wood, Gladys    | 492           | 460                   | 13                    | 96%                            | 95%                            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>25,000</b> | <b>23,675</b>         | <b>568</b>            | <b>95%</b>                     | <b>96%</b>                     |

12/6/2004