

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

MEMORANDUM #192 (2004-2005)

February 7, 2005

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: SUMMER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROPOSAL 2005

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to expand the current summer school programs for middle schools and high schools to include enrichment courses for an additional cost of \$283,000.

PERTINENT FACTS:

Middle School Summer School

Following is a recommendation for the expansion of the middle school summer school program for June to August 2005.

1. Provide a course for sixth grade students who are interested in attending a pre-algebra class in seventh grade. This Readiness for Pre-Algebra class would follow similar guidelines as the Algebra Readiness class we currently offer to seventh graders. Students would be recommended by teachers to attend. This would be a half-day course offered at each of the summer school sites. Funding also would include one-time costs to develop an appropriate curriculum and purchase materials.

Curriculum Development	3,000
Materials	1,000
Extra Days (addenda and benefits)	<u>14,000</u>
Total	18,000

2. Provide a band class at one site for students who took band classes during the school year and want to continue during the summer months. This would be a half-day program for sixth and seventh grade students, offered at one site only.

Materials	500
Extra Days (addenda and benefits)	<u>9,000</u>
Total	9,500

3. Provide a Fast ForWord Reading Program for students recommended by teachers who need additional assistance with auditory discrimination and phonemic awareness. This would be a half-day program at one site only. This program might be of special interest for ESL students.

Materials	500
Extra Days (addenda and benefits)	<u>9,000</u>
Total	9,500

4. Provide two-week enrichment courses for sixth and seventh grade students in CORE skills areas. Each course would be 1/2 day and offered at all three sites. Two sessions of each program would be offered, one in June and one in July.

Writing Enrichment

Curriculum Development	2,000
Materials	500
Extra Days (60 half days)	9,000

Science through the use of Technology

Curriculum Development	2,000
Materials	500
Extra Days	9,000

Social Studies through the use of Technology

Curriculum Development	2,000
Materials	500
Extra Days	9,000

Keyboarding and Computer Skills

Curriculum Development	2,000
Materials	500
Extra Days	<u>9,000</u>

Total	46,000
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High School Summer School

Following is a recommendation for the expansion of the high school summer school program for June to August 2005.

The High School Division proposes to offer Alaska Studies, art, drama, music, PE, and a variety of math, language arts, social studies, and science courses during the 2005 Summer School for expanded enrichment opportunities. It is also recommended to increase the number of summer instructional days from 24 to 27. This would equalize the number of instructional minutes during the summer session as compared to the regular school semester. It is projected that the proposed changes to the high school summer school program would increase the cost by approximately \$200,000.

During the summer of 2004, 1,861 high school students attended classes at four different sites and earned 2,521 semester credits. Registration for summer school 2004 began April 1st and was completed online by counselors at the home schools. Students from the six comprehensive high schools, as well as students from the alternative programs (Benson, SAVE, Avail, Polaris, Steller, Crossroads, Continuation, and MYC), had an opportunity to attend.

A major function of the high school division summer school program has been to provide prescriptive remediation. Of the 733 eleventh and twelfth grade students who attended summer school, 236 had not passed one or more sections of the HSGQE. Each summer school site had at least two sections of remedial math using Plato and two sections of remedial reading using Plato. These sections served 386 individual students including all 236 of the eleventh and twelfth grade students who had not passed a portion of the HSGQE. Tenth graders who had not passed one or more portions of the HSGQE filled the remaining 150 seats in the remedial classes.

To determine the enrollment reasons for students attending the 2004 summer session, a survey was conducted. Below are listed the results.

- 31.0% I failed a class and needed to make it up before school starts.
- 18.3% I am behind in credit for graduation.
- 17.5% to provide flexibility in my schedule next year(s).
- 13.4% to improve a previously earned grade.
- 6.8% so I may graduate early.
- 6.0% to regain my athletic eligibility.
- 4.3% for enrichment reasons.
- 2.6% for help in passing the HSGQE.

The proposed high school summer school program, with its expanded offerings, would give students a chance to complete required courses, provide more flexibility in scheduling for the following year to allow for rigor and more choice, and allow students to take elective courses during summer school.

CC/JC/GO/MH

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