

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM # 212 (2004-2005)

March 28, 2005

TO: SCHOOL BOARD  
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
SUBJECT: GRUENING MIDDLE SCHOOL BOUNDARIES (FIRST READING)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the School Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation to maintain the current boundaries of Gruening Middle School and Central Middle School of Science for the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 school year for students residing on Fort Richardson. It is further recommended that all middle school boundaries be reviewed during the 2005-2006 school year in order to establish boundaries that balance enrollments throughout the district and taking the new Muldoon area middle school into consideration.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The School Board asked the Administration to consider changing the boundaries for students residing on Fort Richardson. These students now attend Central Middle School of Science and the School Board was interested in having the middle school students attend Gruening Middle School since their high school siblings and neighbors would be attending the new Eagle River High School opening in the fall of 2005.

A boundary task force was appointed by the Superintendent and a full review of this issue was undertaken during the late fall and winter of 2004-2005. There are many uncertainties surrounding the number of families with middle school age children who will be living on Fort Richardson. The Executive Director of Middle Schools and the Demographer have worked closely with the military representatives to get accurate and predictable information on the increasing number of soldiers and dependents arriving at Fort Richardson.

At the same time, growth in the southern part of Eagle River continues and the Administration feels that a more responsible approach would be to conduct a full middle school boundary review in order to better balance enrollments. Mirror Lake Middle School continues to be under-enrolled and growth in the entire Chugiak-Eagle River area continues. The Administration would like to consider moving some current Gruening Middle School students to Mirror Lake, thus allowing growth at both Gruening and

Mirror Lake. Other middle boundaries will be reviewed at the same time the boundaries are established for the new Muldoon area middle school due to open in the fall of 2007.

The information from the Middle School Boundary Task Force is available in the School Board office for review.

CC

Written and approved by Carol Comeau, Superintendent