

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #277 (2004-2005)

May 23, 2005

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: THIRD 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	26,634	26,097	26,273	25,563	25,019
District Average	95%	96%	95%	95%	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 for reporting this information.

Middle Schools

SCHOOL	ENROLLMENT	CARDS PICKED UP	%
Central	695	424	61%
Clark	844	413	49%
Goldenview	851	679	80%
Gruening	578	426	74%
Hanshew	973	805	83%
Mears	1103	577	52%
Mirror Lake	712	505	71%
Polaris	449	449	100%
Romig	832	587	71%
Wendler	889	743	84%

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

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>
Central	57	61	56	61
Clark	46	52	49	49
Goldenview	70	71	71	80
Gruening	57	62	64	74
Hanshew	48	81	81	83
Mears	58	63	52	52
Mirror Lake	58	65	67	71
Romig	65	69	65	71
Wendler	52	52	55	84

Noteworthy is the large increase at Wendler from 55 percent to 84 percent due to the school-wide implementation of student-led conferences.

Hanshew Middle School is in the third year of using student-led conferences to distribute report cards and Wendler Middle School is in the second semester of the first year. Other middle schools also have several teams distributing report cards through student-led conferences. Next year two additional schools, Central and Gruening, will go to school-wide student-led conferences.

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 April 15, 2005, in all area high schools. This effort is intended to facilitate parent/teacher/student communication.

Report cards are made available and teachers are on duty to meet with parents in an afternoon or an evening session. Due to high school teachers being assigned 125-200 individual students, appointments cannot be made in the style of the elementary conferences. 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.

Parents were engaged in discussion with nearly every teacher. From conversations with parents and reports from administrators, counselors and teachers, the 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 concern. All sites publicize this opportunity through parent newsletter announcements which start several months in advance, invitations issued at fall open houses, items on school web sites, notations on the activity calendar, and numerous reminders at monthly parent meetings. The High School Parent Advisory group is also asked annually for ideas to increase attendance. Since the present percentages mean that 800-1400 parents are visiting most of the high schools, this event serves as a tremendous outreach for parent group membership drives, booster sales, etc.

In comparison with the 3rd Quarter of the 2003 and 2004 school year, parent conference participation remained constant or increased at all of the high schools.

Report Card Pick-up Report
April 2003, 2004, 2005

<u>School</u>	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>
Bartlett	42	42	31
Chugiak	40	48	44
Dimond	30	46	47
East	33	40	32
Service	48	50	42
West	33	60	45
South			53

Charter Schools

School	Enrollment	Conferences
*Aquarian	288	78
**Frontier	252	N/A
**Family Partnership	434	N/A
***Highland Tech High	273	N/A

*Parents who attended the conferences signed in as a family. There were 78 families represented, so the individual student numbers would be higher.

**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
Third Quarter Parent-Teacher Conferences

Attachment A

School Name	Enrollment	Completed Conferences	Telephone Conferences	Spring 2004 Percentage Completed	Fall 2003 Percentage Completed
Abbott Loop	444	411	20	93%	91%
Airport Heights	244	239	4	98%	97%
Alpenglow	449	439	3	98%	99%
Aurora	413	398	4	96%	99%
Baxter	418	405	8	97%	97%
Bayshore	571	571	11	100%	100%
Bear Valley	520	495	5	95%	99%
Birchwood ABC	329	319	3	97%	97%
Bowman	511	477	19	93%	98%
Campbell	507	489	12	96%	98%
Chester Valley	255	245	3	96%	92%
Chinook	551	529	15	96%	95%
Chugach Optional	234	228	0	97%	97%
Chugiak	492	475	7	97%	96%
College Gate	357	344	21	96%	98%
Creekside Park	427	395	15	93%	95%
Denali	427	402	2	94%	95%
Eagle River	360	316	4	88%	91%
Fairview	435	392	33	90%	92%
Fire Lake	279	271	4	97%	97%
Girdwood	142	139	1	98%	96%
Government Hill	483	459	1	95%	96%
Homestead	418	405	8	97%	97%
Huffman	458	454	6	99%	98%
Inlet View	240	237	3	99%	98%
Kasuun	480	466	2	97%	98%
Kincaid	532	521	4	98%	98%
Klatt	390	371	27	95%	96%
Lake Hood	454	435	8	96%	96%
Lake Otis	415	389	11	94%	90%
Mt. Spurr	314	311	13	99%	99%
Mt. View	422	389	52	92%	93%

Elementary Education
Third Quarter Parent-Teacher Conferences

Attachment A

School Name	Enrollment	Completed Conferences	Telephone Conferences	Spring 2004 Percentage Completed	Fall 2003 Percentage Completed
Muldoon	440	407	7	93%	87%
North Star	478	437	28	91%	92%
Northern Lights	611	579	7	95%	99%
Northwood	284	255	7	90%	93%
Nunaka Valley	261	247	8	95%	94%
Ocean View	574	530	16	92%	95%
O'Malley	338	342	2	100%	99%
Orion	372	361	11	97%	96%
Polaris	217	217	0	100%	100%
Ptarmigan	420	378	25	90%	93%
Rabbit Creek	366	356	7	97%	96%
Ravenwood	408	401	5	98%	99%
Rogers Park	527	511	4	97%	97%
Russian Jack	384	310	13	81%	92%
Sand Lake	633	623	7	98%	99%
Scenic Park	500	477	14	95%	98%
Spring Hill	431	413	8	96%	97%
Susitna	572	526	10	92%	95%
Taku	397	381	10	96%	96%
Trailside	539	508	11	98%	95%
Tudor	544	494	27	91%	95%
Turnagain	320	290	7	91%	94%
Tyson, William	459	391	19	85%	94%
Ursa Major	405	383	0	95%	94%
Ursa Minor	242	240	7	99%	99%
Williwaw	579	517	31	89%	96%
Willow Crest	462	443	24	96%	96%
Wonder Park	357	317	8	89%	88%
Wood, Gladys	472	451	8	96%	95%
TOTAL	25,563	24,201	660	95%	96%