

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #317 (2004-2005)

June 13, 2005

TO: SCHOOL BOARD

FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PARTIAL WAIVER FOR RENTALS FEES - YMCA

RECOMMENDATION:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the request for a partial waiver of the Youth Activity Rentals Fee in Policy 855.4(c) for the YMCA in the amount of \$18,180. The District would like to do this in recognition of the YMCA's provision of direct services and benefits to the Adult Community Transition Services program at their facility, and to Clark Middle School students through the Youth Community Connection Program. This partial waiver would be in effect for the remainder of the 2004-05 school year, and annually thereafter, subject to review and approval by both the Anchorage School Board and the YMCA Board of Directors.

PERTINENT FACTS:

The YMCA has a long-time relationship with the Anchorage School District. They provide many recreational and childcare services for our youth and their families. In the mid-1990s, with full Administration approval, two initiatives began that differed from the YMCA's traditional use of our facilities by way of the Rentals Permit process, but within their stated mission of assisting at risk youth and families. These two programs are the Youth Community Connection Program and the Adult Community Transition Services program.

The Youth Community Connection Program (YCCP)

In 1996, the YMCA began collaboration with Clark Middle School and the District through a Juvenile Justice grant-funded program, the Youth Community Connection Program (YCCP). The program was previously funded through the

YMCA budget and a partial rental fee waiver approved by the Anchorage School Board on February 9, 2004, ASD Memorandum #181 (2003-2004). The YCCP program was designed to provide educational services and community work service for students suspended from Clark Middle School for two or more days. The program is an alternative to unsupervised time at home. Throughout the day, students are provided with homework assistance and are assigned to a local community organization or business in which they are responsible for volunteering their time and energy. The YCC Program provides the students with the opportunity to give back to the community and to do something productive while they serve their suspension. The program is staffed with YMCA workers and provided at no cost to students. The YMCA has worked closely with the Clark Middle School administration over the years as this program has moved to different locations. It is currently housed in the Nine Star Enterprises Annex Building. It is estimated that the YCC Program currently serves an average of eight students per day. In previous years, this program has served over 500 participants. The program costs the YMCA approximately \$10.00 per student per day, 171 days per school year, for a total cost of \$13,680. The YMCA provides a direct benefit to Clark Middle School students and their families by helping these students improve their behavior so that they can return to school successfully. The ASD administration and the Clark Middle School administration strongly support this important program.

#### Adult Community Transition Services Program (ACTS)

The Adult Community Transition Services program (ACTS) has been in existence in various locations since 1995. Since the 1997-1998 school year, it has been housed at the YMCA campus in a relocatable classroom. The co-location is subject to annual review and approval by both the ASD and YMCA.

The ACTS program is an outgrowth of a mandate under IDEA and an ASD commitment to provide age-appropriate services for secondary students who experience disabilities. ACTS was developed to meet this objective for the student population between the ages of 19-22. The program allows the District to provide vocational and community service opportunities for this group of students. The program's vision is to build an inclusive community where all are included, and to extend this community beyond the walls of the school buildings into the community.

The joint agreement with the YMCA allows for this extension to provide services further into the community as a natural transition site for many of the young adults who experience disabilities for living and vocational experiences, and recreational and leisure activities. By basing the relocatable classroom at the

YMCA campus, students have a good launch site for many of the activities that they will transition to as they leave their public schooling.

The ASD has been provided reasonable access to the YMCA facilities and equipment and other benefits. Examples of benefits that ASD receives are the use of YMCA fax machine, copier and switchboard; the inclusion of ASD costs of local telephone service in the YMCA's telephone cost center (ASD paid for phone installation in the relocatable), scheduled gym and pool access, snowplowing and snow removal, the absorption of monthly relocatable utility costs averaging \$500 per month. As part of this agreement, the YMCA has been able to use the relocatable after the school day and during weekends and vacations, as another location at their campus for YMCA activities; any damages to the relocatable as a result of the YMCA's activities are reimbursed to the ASD. The ASD supervises the staff and students in the ACTS program and provides paper for the ACTS program to the YMCA for the use of the fax machine and copier.

This joint agreement benefits both entities. The District believes the ACTS program has blossomed in this location and is very appreciative of the YMCA's willingness to host them on this site for the past few years. It is estimated that a reduction in the rental fee for this program in the amount of \$500 per month for nine months, or \$4,500 per year, is a reasonable request.

### Summary

The YMCA Board of Directors is proposing a partial waiver to School Board Policy 855.4(c) in the Youth Rental Fees section. The Administration recommends that the waiver be a total reduction in the Rental Fee Revenues in the amount of \$18,180 per year, an increase of \$720, or four percent over the agreed upon waiver for the previous year. The Administration supports this request and recommends full School Board approval. If approved, the Administration will notify the YMCA of this approval, subject to annual review and approval by the Anchorage School Board and the YMCA Board of Directors.

CC/GV/DB/LP

Prepared by: Debbie Bogart, Director, Community Services  
Leslie Preston, Manager, Rentals

Approved: George Vakalis, Assistant Superintendent, Support Services