

Ms. Comeau announced that the Administration was notified last week that the teacher's union, AEA, dismissed their bargaining team and has appointed a new one. Bargaining will resume at 1:30 Thursday. Ms. Comeau was encouraged by the fact that the negotiations were resuming but concerned that the team was dismissed and thought a lot of good information had been exchanged. Ms. Comeau added that she continues to be optimistic that the District and AEA will have a tentative agreement the Board can ratify before the end of August.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. ASD Memorandum #290 - ASAA Lifetime Achievement Award Nominee-Dick Mize

Each year the Anchorage School District nominates an individual from our community to receive a lifetime achievement award from the Alaska School Activities Association. This year, on ASD's recommendation, ASAA voted unanimously to offer a Lifetime Gold Pass Award to Dick Mize in appreciation of 44 years of community service he has given Anchorage.

John Steiner read the memorandum while Jeff Friedman presented Mr. Mize with the award certificate.

Mr. Mize stated that he has enjoyed the 44 years of involvement with the ASD and ASAA. When he first came to Anchorage in 1961, Bragaw Street was the track. From the beginning of East High School parking lot to DeBarr was exactly a quarter mile, so they could run the quarter, the half and the mile and have it all in one. The ski practice area was the lighted area on the east side of East High School, around the hockey rink and back again. There were not many trails for the junior high and high schools to practice or compete on. Throughout the years, during the summers and on weekends, Mr. Mize worked with ASD and the Municipality on designing and constructing the ski and running trails that are at Russian Jack, Kincaid, Hillside and others throughout the city. Mr. Mize thanked the ASD and Gary Mathews and the ASAA Board for selecting him for this honor.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory Board

Ralph Feriani reported there was no meeting this month but will notify everyone when the next meeting is scheduled. Mr. Feriana wished everyone a great summer.

2. Military Delegate

No Report

3. M.E.C.C.

William Johnson reported that the M.E.C.C. met on June 16 at 12:00. Principal Anne Salzer from Chugach Elementary School was a presenter at the meeting. Ms. Salzer wished to add more diversity to the school and the committee members gave her some advice on what could be done to increase minority enrollment. The committee members appreciated her asking their advice. Also, Vince Casey, former School Board member, gave a brief history of the M.E.C.C. since he was involved in the creation of the original committee. The committee members felt that hearing words from him of then and now was enlightening. Mr. Casey also shared minutes that from the School Board meetings during the creation of the committee. The committee members bid farewell to Ms. Hurd. The members appreciated her help, advice and counsel. The next meeting is August 18, 12:00 in Room 320 in the Administration Building. Mr. Johnson also stated that he hopes everyone has an enjoyable break.

Mary Marks announced that she wished to honor Gail Opalinski, who has worked for the Board and students of ASD for many years. Ms. Opalinski is retiring at the end of the school year and will be truly missed. Ms. Marks asked Ms. Opalinski to stand and be recognized.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Dan Loring spoke about parent and community involvement. Mr. Loring stated that the Public Education Network recently did a survey of 1200 individuals over nine states and he found the survey to be very interesting. The survey showed that about 8 percent of

survey respondents advised that as parents they were given an opportunity to participate in Title I school improvement plans and Mr. Loring has felt he was not able to participate in the Title I site committee meetings at his child's school. Mr. Loring asked if the Board policy states to have Title I site committees and who is able to be on that committee. Mr. Loring also asked if the Board has a parent or community involvement policy and if parents may be on the Title I site committees. Mr. Loring also asked if the parents are able to participate in the school improvement teams at Level 4 and Level 5 of school restructuring.

Superintendent Comeau responded to Mr. Loring that every Title I school is to have a parent advisory committee and one representative from each of those school committees is part of the central advisory committee for all of the Title I schools. They meet once a month with the Title I supervisor. There is a strong statement on parent involvement in the Board policy manual. In looking at the school improvement plan, there needs to be collaborative effort with input given from parents and the staff and students in the high schools and middle schools where appropriate. The final decision rests with the principal once all of that input and discussion has taken place. Ms. Comeau stated that this fall she reviewed, with the principal and executive director of the divisions, each school improvement plan of all the Title I schools that were in some phase of school improvement. Mr. Loring asked if there have been any discussion with the public concerning the planning of what to do at Mountain View Elementary next fall. Ms. Comeau stated that we have only received the norm reference tests back for grades 5 and 7 and will not get, according to the Commissioner's office, any test scores back until August. Over the summer we will work on various ideas and in August it is the expectation of the principal when he gets back to work to see who he can involve in the community and any staff who is available with Ms. McRae, Ms. Jessal, Ms. Christensen, the Assessment Department, Ms. Comeau and other people from the community looking at what options we have. We believe Mountain View is making significant progress and growth. We are very aware of the significant penalties for Title I schools who reach that level.

John Steiner responded that he was discussing with Dr. Hunter the plan to include parents as well as teachers and students in the circle of high expectations. A strong base of support is important and we need to look at this closely.

Mary Marks responded that she also knows that when a parent registers their children at school they will have a participation form and can talk to principal and ask where to sign up. Ms. Marks suggested that parents should share their views at that time as to how to get involved. It is a matter of looking and asking.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda is attached. **All attachments referred to in memoranda Recommendations are on file in the Superintendent's office.**

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Special Meeting - May 2, 2005 5:00 p.m.
 - b. Special Meeting - May 9, 2005 4:30 p.m.
 - c. Regular Meeting - May 9, 2005 6:30 p.m.
 - d. Special Meeting - May 23, 2005 4:30 p.m.
 - e. Regular Meeting - May 23, 2005 6:30 p.m.
 - f. Special Meeting - June 4, 2005 11:00 a.m.

2. ASD Memorandum #338 – FY 2005-2006 Financial Plan Adjustments

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a net budget increase of \$2,790,385 to the General Fund for a total revised budget of \$572,206,186 and authorize the Superintendent to prepare the Anchorage School District's FY 2005-2006 Adopted Financial Plan as set forth in the projected revenue and expenditure schedules attached to the memorandum (Attachments A and B). The total budget recommendation is \$572,206,186. This includes individual fund budgets currently projected as follows:

	<u>FY 2005-2006 Financial Plan</u>
General Fund	\$433,003,676
Food Service Fund	14,515,771
Debt Service Fund	76,686,739
Local/State/Federal Projects Fund	<u>48,000,000</u>
Total – All Funds	<u>\$572,206,186</u>

3. ASD Memorandum #307 – Approval of Additional Six-Year Instructional Plans

It is the Administration's recommendation that the Superintendent approve and authorize the School Board to adopt four additional chapters to the Six-Year Instructional Plan. These chapters have been created which chart the intended objectives, activities, and measures of progress for:

Libraries (Attachment A)

21st Century Community Learning Centers (Attachment B)

Cultural Responsiveness (Attachment C)

Advanced Placement and Higher Level Coursework (Attachment D)

4. ASD Memorandum #339 – Acceptance of Grant Award: Following The Leaders

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept the grant of \$70,000 from Achievement Technologies, one of the partners in the Following the Leaders (FTL) organization. The Following the Leaders program provides on-line evaluation and remediation programs and support for staff and students.

5. ASD Memorandum #340 – Acceptance of Grant Award: Catholic Social Services Refugee Assistance Project

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant funds from the Catholic Social Services (CSS), Refugee Assistance Project (RAP), in the amount of \$16,000. This grant focuses on providing additional support service specifically for Hmong refugee students.

6. ASD Memorandum #341 – Acceptance of Grant Award: Bureau of Land Management to ASD for Gaining Experience in Governmental Careers

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant funds from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in the amount of \$750,000 over a five year period. This grant will fund employment training for students in the Anchorage School District.

7. ASD Memorandum #345 - Award of Contract: Southeast Regional Resource Center (SERRC) Project Appeal Grant

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract to the Southeast Regional Resource Center, Inc. (SERRC) in the amount of \$392,498, for SERRC to manage subcontracts to three partner school districts participating in the Project APPEAL (Advanced Placement For Every Able Learner) grant project. The partner school districts are: Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (FNSBSD); Yukon Koyukuk School District (YKSD); and Kuspuk School District (KSD). Since the grant is approved annually, this contract covers the first year of the grant through June 30, 2006.

8. ASD Memorandum #324 - Award of Contract: Xerographic Paper

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract to Frontier Paper, Inc. for furnishing xerographic paper on an as required basis in an estimated amount not to exceed \$435,000 per year with two additional one-year options to renew.

9. ASD Memorandum #335 - Clark Middle School Roof Repairs

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Clark Middle School Roof Repairs to Consolidated Enterprises, Inc. for the Base Bid Option B amount of \$239,900.

10. ASD Memorandum #288 - Award of Contract: East Anchorage High School Renovation Project Phase 4A Standby Generator

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the East High School Renovation, Phase 4A Standby Generator project to the lowest bidder, City Electric, Inc. for the Base Bid amount of \$622,000 and to accept Assignments A and B in the amount of \$362,379.39 for a total award of \$984,379.39.

11. ASD Memorandum #270 – Award of Contract: Food Service Expendable Supplies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award contracts to Food Services of America and Plastic Packaging, Inc. to furnish Food Service Expendable Supplies in the estimated amounts of \$340,857 and \$128,300 respectively.

12. ASD Memorandum #296 – Award of Contract: South Anchorage High School Site Drainage Improvements

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the South Anchorage High School Site Drainage Improvements project to the lowest bidder Construction Unlimited, Inc. for the Base Bid amount of \$205,000.

13. ASD Memorandum #334 – Approval of the Schematic Design For The East Anchorage High School Renovation Project, Phase 4B1

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Schematic Design for the East High School Renovation Project, Phase 4B1 and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the design pending Municipal Assembly approval of the Schematic Design.

14. ASD Memorandum #311 – Request for Student Nutrition Budget Adjustment

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to process a budget transfer to purchase equipment items from unexpended accounts at June 30, 2005 year end in the amount of \$325,000.

15. ASD Memorandum #337 – Budget Adjustments to General Fund For FY 2004-2005

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to process budget transfers from unexpended accounts at year-end, in the amount of \$905,640 into various accounts as outlined below.

16. ASD Memorandum #325 - Personnel Report

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached Personnel Report.

The following memoranda were removed from the Agenda: Memorandum #325 and #338 and the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 9, 2005.

ACTION:

Moved by: John Steiner
seconded by: Mary Marks

to approve the Minutes of Special Meeting of May 2, 2005; Special Meeting of May 9, 2005; Special Meeting of May 23, 2005; Regular Meeting of May 23, 2005; Special Meeting of June 4, 2005; and ASD Memorandum#307; Memorandum #339; Memorandum #340; Memorandum #341; Memorandum #345; Memorandum #324; Memorandum #335; Memorandum #288; Memorandum #270; Memorandum #296; Memorandum #334; Memorandum #311; and Memorandum #337;

VOTE:

Ayes: Marks, Kennedy, Steele,
Friedman, Steiner,
Metcalf, Roberts

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #338 – FY 2005-2006 Financial Plan
Adjustments

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Total – All Funds	<u>\$572,206,186</u>

ACTION:

Moved by: Tim Steele

to approve Memorandum #338

seconded by: Mary Marks

Ms. Comeau reported that this is the first step in our budget revision and she is very grateful to the Legislature, the Governor, and everyone who lobbied for additional funding for education this year. The budget was increased by \$70 million total statewide for education in K-12. It was not enough to restore the \$10 million in budget cuts, so the items brought forward tonight are a small amount that we are able to try and restore. We will receive additional revenue in the Public School Funding account as well as \$25,000 additional in the Pupil Transportation account, but a decrease of \$24, 945 in our McLaughlin Youth Detention Grant based on what the State is projecting for that program. We are going to be asking the Assembly to increase the local property taxes that was already discussed in March due to the new construction and property improvement component of the tax cap. The charter school activities fees are a reduction in the General Fund based on the new policy that the Board recently approved that activity fees will be excluded from the general Fund and reported as a separate district account outside of that fund. One of the biggest revenue losses we suffered is in Medicaid. We

had projected, based on our last few years of funding and we were notified that the whole State Medicaid reimbursement would be less, so we are reducing the expected revenue \$450,000. The JROTC reduction is \$30,000, reducing from three to two instructors at Chugiak High School due to the opening of the new Eagle River High School. We have a good chance of getting an additional Air Force JROTC program at the new high school next year. The Administrative Team took all of the input received earlier, reviewed all budget cuts and new increases and came to this recommendation. One recommendation is to reinstate the two elementary assistant principal positions due to the fact that with over 60 elementary schools and a number of Title I schools possibly moving to Level 3 status, we know that we need additional administrative support to assist with student learning and safety issues. The high school assistant principal position is the other position we are asking to be reinstated.

We have a last best offer to AEA. If in fact that ended up to be the negotiated agreement with regard to medical contributions, a number of our contracts have what we call "me too" clauses and we would have to increase the monthly contribution of health insurance for the other bargaining unites and that comes to about \$1.4 million. If a subsequent offer comes forward we will have to go back to the Board for another recommendation.

Ms. Comeau listed other recommendations:

The summer school program is very successful and \$300,000 is recommended to go into the continuation of the program.

The Youth Reception Center at Covenant House for \$50,000 is recommended because the Administration feels is important to support the youth who have a need for a place to stay while a legal guardian is located if they have had difficulties in school or the community.

\$29,000 is recommended for the added days needed to open the new Eagle River High School for the various positions including the librarian, clerical staff and custodians. It makes for a smooth opening to the school.

Provide \$9,000 additional revenue to the high schools and another \$1,000 to comprehensive high schools and another \$1,000 to be split up between the other alternative high schools to provide free or reduced lunches for students who do not have funds to purchase lunch. It seems to be a growing problem and the administrators and several Board members had requested this consideration.

Teacher stipends for \$32,000 is to provide the addenda pay for high school coaches who are providing coaching to special education students, preparing them for the activities through the school partners program. They are participating on many of our teams and the coaches have been doing it voluntarily up until now and we believe that we need to provide equity for the coaches.

\$8,945 increase is for the expected postage increase.

The Winterberry Charter School has been approved and is a \$1.3 million increase to this budget.

Reductions:

When we open a charter school even though the bulk of the students may be coming from private or home schools there is an expectation that some of the students will be transferring to this new school so we are recommending a reduction of 1.5 teachers in the elementary budget allocation.

Telephone expenses are being reduced by \$150,000 based on this year's experience.

There are non-departmental allocation reductions of \$744,000.

Ms. Comeau asked Assemblyman Tesche, Master Bill Hitchcock from the Children's Court, Captain Bill Miller, from APD, Deidre Faire from Covenant House, Jim Posey from ML&P, Heather Wheeler from the MOA and Barb Hengen from McLaughlin to discuss with the Board how the Youth Reception Center program was started and why she feels it is time for the District to make a contribution to this very important program. Ms. Comeau stated that it is somewhat non traditional for the District, even though we have an established past-practice periodically of contributing to non profit organizations such as the YMCA and Foster Grandparents and other programs which give support to our students. This program came about two years ago. Things started escalating when a number of violent incidents were occurring in our schools and police had to come and escort a student off the premises and in some cases arrest the student and try and take the student to McLaughlin. McLaughlin had revised its entry criteria and some of the students were not allowed to enter into it. If they couldn't find a guardian or someone who could assure that person was going to follow the law or be safe, the students had to ride around in the police officer's vehicles for several hours or spend time in

one of the offices at the police station. A place was needed where a young person can go and be safe and have a cooling down place until a parent or guardian can get there. It is also an opportunity, if the child is having drug or alcohol or other problems, to do an initial assessment to see what kind of support services are really needed for this young person to help and support them and hopefully get them back on the right track so they can either re-enter school or get the help that they need.

Ms. Comeau and Macon Roberts are both part of the Juvenile Justice Group and this group and people from different agencies have been meeting since 1995 trying to wrestle with the number of issues surrounding juveniles in our community.

Bill Hitchcock stated to the Board that he serves as the residing judicial officer for children's court or juvenile court. The discussions of this need emerged from the Juvenile Justice Working Group. Master Hitchcock saw the need for community collaboration. The need for an assessment center and the need to continue to operate this type of an approach are to address these problems before they explode into serious juvenile matters. It is really the beginning stages in something that we hope will grow larger as time goes on. It concerns the school and community. Many actions that led them there are coming from school related problems and Master Hitchcock stated that if we don't begin to focus and strike when the iron is hot on these kids we are going to wait too long. The assessment center will try to gain some control over the child who can't be detained, get them to their parent or guardian and begin a process of assessment and problem identification that will eventually extend into some educational assessment work as well as the traditional mental health and substance abuse. It's a community response that we are trying to engineer. It is important to the courts because the entire integrity of the juvenile system depends on our ability to act swiftly and immediately on problems that turn into crimes.

Assembly Member, Allan Tesche, reported that he became involved at Assembly Member and Chair, Dick Traini's request. Mr. Tesche stated that he met with APD, ASD, and the Juvenile Justice task force and came up with a recommendation as to how to deal with the problem. If a student has a problem in school and is required to leave it or is found on the street or under APD custody and can't go to McLaughlin or go home, the student ends up in an APD car driving around until the officer finds some place to drop him off. That means that the officer is off the street, and this is of no benefit to the child. Mr. Tesche learned that in some communities this has been addressed by a Youth Assessment Center or

similar facility. Mr. Tesche and others put together a working model of how one of these could work in Anchorage. Mr. Tesche learned that there is a need for some place for kids to go from the school district and it was very evident in the weeks of participation they had from Carol Comeau who attended their meetings and saw this as a very serious problem within the district. Mr. Tesche and his team tried to find a way of financing it and had the notion that these children are Anchorage's children and we all have a responsibility to them. Mr. Tesche's approach was for everyone to come to the table with the assets they have and see if they can put this together. They have the expertise from the police department, the help from the mayor's office and even ML&P has helped to fund it for the last couple of years. Mr. Tesche further stated that it was elected not to use city employees due to the work load of people involved and the need for a location. It would be too costly for the budget. Mr. Tesche stated that they went out on a short form for an RFP for a contract and now the place is in operation. Mr. Tesche stated that he was always hoping to come back to the School Board to say that as we have some degree of relief from the budget problems that we face as a community. He invites the District's participation in this and hopes that we can provide the service for our children through the school district just as we now provide the service to the children on the street. Mr. Tesche urged the Board to adopt the amendment to the fiscal plan to make this a reality.

Captain Bill Miller has been with APD for 19 years and is currently the captain with Patrol, which means that he directs all the resources of the patrol units as they respond out to the different calls. Captain Miller stated that just because a juvenile is arrested or found on the street doesn't necessarily mean that they are eligible for incarceration in the McLaughlin Youth Center. More often than not they are not eligible for McLaughlin, which means that they have to try to find working parents, maybe on the Slope, or find relatives or who could be responsible for a juvenile who is having some problems at the moment. Police officers are good at solving an immediate crisis, which is responding to a school and stopping a shooting or taking a gun away from a kid or taking drugs from a locker and putting a stop to it right then, but they are not good at getting down to the roots of problems and finding out what the long term solution is for something that is going on. That is what the real benefit of the Youth Reception Center is. It is being able to provide some kind of assessment and figure out what is going on and get these kids in an appropriate place instead of spending time in an interview room at the police station or back of a police car.

Deidre Faire from the Covenant House reported that Covenant House came to the table because they have a 24 hour seven day a week shelter in the downtown area. They didn't know who the kids were, if they were kids they had seen many times before or what their profile was. Now they have ten months of information and they realize now that they have spent 10,000 hours with these kids at \$10.00 an hour in ten months. We are asking ASD for \$5.00 of that. Ms. Faire hopes that the Board keeps that in mind as they make their decision. As a community, if we look for this to get bigger additional resources will have to be found. Ms. Faire stated that 95 percent of the kids they see they had never seen before.

Connie Moore gave the Board a brief scenario of what happens when the juveniles are brought in by APD. They have very brief form for the officer to fill out. It gives the basic information the officer has about the youths, why they are here and what they should work on. They ask the youths if they are hungry and what they need. Many times they will tell them things they would not tell the officer. The top five reasons for the youths to be brought into the Reception are: repeat runaways; OCS referrals; they can't find the parents; sometimes parents are not a safe option due to the parents being under the influence or domestic violence in the home; or that the youth committed domestic violence in the home. These kids are for the most just not having any place or anyone to talk to and this is a big service that we provide. Ms. Moore stated that they have them there from an hour to as long as three weeks. If after six hours we see that this is going to take longer to work out they are going to take them on to the Covenant House Crisis Center so they can do more in-depth family work.

William Herr, the regional manager for the juvenile probation office reported that there's a federal law regarding locking up status offenders and non-offenders that limit their ability. There's a lot of kids falling through the cracks that really do need those immediate services. These departments work together to find workable solutions for these kids.

Jim Posey commented that Master Hitchcock and he have been involved in this business for 27 years. At ages 14, 15, and 16 a lot of the kids are disconnected from their families and get in trouble deeper and deeper. Whatever we can do to stop it is worthwhile. Mr. Posey stated that he has been both personally as well as with ML&P working to make all of our services to youth work for all of us.

Tim Steele commented that there is a huge need and he is glad we are moving forward on it. Mr. Steele stated that the statistics that were given

to the Board showed that the cost for 2005 was \$110,000 and he asked who is paying the other half. Jim Posey stated that it is ML&P.

Mr. Steele recalled that the Board had a work session regarding their concern where we were expelling kids and didn't have alternatives for them. One result was the continuation school. At that work session there were several people from the social services agencies and we were looking for a way to get services the first time they mess up or some place where kids could get the assessment services and then whatever social service they may need. It is also a disciplinary issue with the district for trying to find the services they need. There is a real need out there and he applauds them for the effort.

Macon Roberts asked Ms. Faire if there is any counseling support as well. Ms. Faire replied that they talk to both the youth and parent, they do a brief psycho-social on the youth and then they talk to the parent about the home situation and make referrals. It could be for drug and alcohol, mental health, or just family counseling. They are also open for the family to come in and do family meetings as well as follow-ups with parents to see if there is anything they can do after they are out of the center. Macon Roberts echoed Tim Steele and thanked them for coming.

Macon Roberts echoed Tim Steele and thanked the speakers for coming. Mr. Roberts further stated that, as a former probation officer, a lot of the youth that they described are on the fringes and he is glad something like this is available because it will prevent some of the kids from doing something to qualify to get into McLaughlin. It is a preventative measure for those kids who would otherwise fall through the cracks.

Jake Metcalfe asked Ms. Comeau to explain about the established past practice in giving funds to non profits. Ms. Comeau explained that the District has for the last many years had a partnership with the YMCA. They have allowed the District to have a relocatable classroom on their site for our ACT program, which is for the 18 - 21 year old students with disabilities. The benefit there is that they are able to use the pool at the YMCA when it is not being used for lessons and they can get some minimal job training. Then, the YMCA is able to use the classroom after school hours for some of their activities. So the District has offset some of the rental charge that they would be paying to use our facilities.

For years we have been giving the Foster Grandparents program a stipend for meals for the foster grandparents and this year we have added in some money to provide transportation so they can get to the schools to provide

the mentoring and tutoring that they give. We are part of a collaboration, and as all of us are stretched with the budget challenges we have to partner together and try to assist. Ms. Comeau further stated that she is personally very supportive of this. There are some things we can do to expand some of the services and use youth court in some areas to assist us.

Mary Marks thanked the speakers for coming and sharing their views of how important the Covenant House is to our youth and community. It is exciting to see that we can provide these resources to our students.

Allan Tesche recommended a short memorandum of agreement to be developed that would make it clear that this is a collaborative relationship that this is a citywide municipal program.

Crystal Kennedy stated her appreciation of all they are doing in terms of putting this program together. Ms. Kennedy stated that according to statistics 64.4 percent of these youth are enrolled in ASD schools. Ms. Kennedy asked how many of them are referred off of school property by an ASD administrator? Connie Morgan responded that they often get referrals from school counselors but they are not counted in these statistics because they were not brought in by a police officer or referred by MYC. Any youth can come to the crisis center and they have an average of three calls per day from school counselors looking for resources for a kid and wanting to send them down after school.

John Steiner stated that there was a comment to the School Board a while back complaining that Covenant House was not as well connected to relatives. Mr. Steiner asked if this program allows you to make the connections with the family. Deidre Faire replied that this has enabled them with follow-up around the clients that are identified through this program. (This ends the presentation.)

John Steiner asked the Superintendent to explain how the Administration made the judgment as to how adding more administration back is better than adding more teachers. Ms. Comeau responded that she hears from staff that if the school is not safe the teachers cannot teach. We have larger schools and we are getting more challenging students. If the school is to have a safe learning environment there has to be adequate administrative support. With the added paperwork from NCLB and training impact it has changed the job of the principal. When you have discipline problems at some of those schools and a high mobility rate and students in many of those cases are coming from a poverty status because of the high level of

free and reduced lunch statistics, they bring with them challenging behaviors and more needs. When principals retire or leave and we need to fill vacancies we think it is irresponsible of us not to provide a training program that also provides administrative support in order to promote from within. At the high school principal level, the KCC assistant principal position was going to be eliminated. We cannot afford to not have an assistant principal at that school any longer. We are getting some serious issues there as were reported earlier tonight. We need to provide that assistant position there due to the issues.

Patricia McRae responded that the principal is a key figure in having student achievement. Having well trained principals is critical to our goal of increasing student achievement. In a district with 60 elementary schools, having six principals in training is too small a number. The training aspects are very important. In some of our schools the principal spends a lot of time on management, discipline and safety issues. We are expecting our principals to be instructional leaders, who are creating school improvement plans, who are attaining school goals and they simply do not have the time if they are spending all of their time with management and discipline. We specifically placed assistant principals in schools that were in Level 2 status and it made a huge difference in the amount of time that principal had to dedicate to instructional leadership. At the same time, the assistant principal is expected to engage in instructional leadership because they are in training.

Mike Henry explained that in the comprehensive high schools we have a building principal and four assistant principals. Some of their jobs flow back and forth but each area is critical. If we pull one out we have to reduce what we do. Five administrators sounds like a lot in a comprehensive high school, but they are constantly busy plus they need to do teacher evaluations and observations plus good quality conferences. The only place we could possibly look was King Career Center and our numbers are up to over 1,000 for this year. To try and run that school without a building principal and assistant principal would cause a terrible safety hazard. Mr. Henry is very pleased that the high school assistant principal is back on the budget and would sincerely appreciate that it be included.

Mary Marks commented that with all that being said - there are not only teacher observations and evaluations, but there is training that is always taking place; bilingual, migrant education and special education numbers are rising. We are going to need some sound assistant principals to help our principals make these decisions and make sure that all teachers and

administrators are in line and following through with special education IEPs, trainings that are on the Six-Year Plan; and worry about the high school drop-out rate because of the Board's concern. They need to utilize all the resources that we have within our own schools in making sure that our kids are receiving all of that. Ms. Marks stated that she is pleased to see this recommendation.

Crystal Kennedy stated that if we know we are going to have another charter school and we know that it will probably draw mostly from the students already privately schooled why would we show a reduction in elementary teachers.

Carol Comeau responded that 1.5 FTE is roughly 30-35 kids and we believe there will be that many currently enrolled from ASD schools going into Winterberry.

The Eagle Academy Charter School will be the same way - the majority of those kids will be coming from Birchwood and other Eagle River Elementary schools as well as home and private school families. Birchwood may have staff retiring. Our best projection is basically to take one student out of each elementary school, which equates to about 1.5 FTE. It's a guess at this point. We feel it is responsible to be more conservative than not. If in fact the enrollment comes in September and we end up getting more students than we are projecting we will be back to the Board because we would qualify for more funding. We are taking the movement to the Mat-Su very seriously and we are being very conservative in this. That is why we felt it was better to account for what we knew with our staffing.

Crystal Kennedy asked if the \$50,000 for the Youth Reception Center was a one-time expenditure. Superintendent Comeau replied that it would be her intention, if it continues to be successful, to recommend it goes in every year. It will be evaluated annually with this group and if other entities come forward to contribute then the District may not need to contribute that much. Ms. Comeau stated that it would be her intention to recommend that it continue because she feels it is providing a safety net for our students.

Jake Metcalfe asked if there were any demographics on where the students are coming from for Winterberry. Jan Christensen responded that there are 55 students from ASD schools and that does not include 40 kindergarteners that may or may not have gone to ASD. They are at about 145 right now and are hoping to get over 150 by the end of June. Ms.

Christensen stated that she and Ms. Bensler are going to look into seeing which schools the 55 are coming from.

Crystal Kennedy asked if the District was not being conservative enough by adding in the \$2.8 million and should we hold off on spending it.

Carol Comeau responded that if the District does not spend the money that the Legislature has appropriated, after making a very compelling case of why we needed an increase, they will be as critical of us as a lot of other districts last year that did not spend the money right away when they received it. The Legislators felt that if they didn't spend the money right away they must not have really needed it.

Tim Steele commented that he appreciates the effort taken to prepare the cuts and those things that we were able to put back in the budget. It is disappointing where some of the reductions are in terms of the increased costs for the medical contribution. In reading through the additional Six-Year Plan and the District Improvement Plan, we are spending a huge amount of money on efforts to deal with the adequate yearly progress and NCLB in terms of training and that takes people out of classrooms. NCLB is driving things to a certain extent and it is extremely frustrating that we were unable to make our case to the State about what we needed in order to continue with the programs, let alone try to improve some of the things that we are doing. Mr. Steele added that he is extremely frustrated there and hates the idea of increasing class size because it's the wrong direction, but understands the need for it. Mr. Steele added that he does think the priorities in the budget are right and he understands the logic.

Jake Metcalfe commented that NCLB is an accountability guideline and he appreciates the fact the District received more funding but feels the State is not being accountable to education and they are forcing us be accountable. They changed the retirement system, which may cost us more money, and they have done nothing about the health plan. It forces us to make decisions that hurt the classroom and hurt education. Mr. Metcalfe added that he is completely frustrated by the fact that we are forced to be accountable but there is no accountability on the upper end and that hurts our students. Mr. Metcalfe stated that he will approve the budget but feels the we are put in a bind by the Governor and Legislature by forcing us to be accountable while they don't have to be accountable. Mr. Metcalfe stated that he does not see how we can meet the mandates of NCLB and force our students to be accountable when the government is not accountable to them.

Crystal Kennedy commented on the Youth Reception Center and the appropriateness of this allocation. Ms. Kennedy stated that she is struggling as to whether or not we have the right to take money that is given to us to operate ASD and give it to another entity. We are looking at what we are not able to put back into the budget and she takes issue that we are taking a portion of money that was not even on our radar screen before we had to come up with the cuts. We know it has value but there are so many other things we could benefit from. The MOA has already approved the contract and they will see that it is taken care of. Ms. Kennedy has a problem with knowing that we can't restore all that we are cutting yet we are coming up with an entirely new use of funding.

Ms. Kennedy moved to delete the Youth Reception Center at Covenant House for \$50,000 from the budget restoration memo #338. The motion died for lack of second.

John Steiner commented that two-thirds of the students that are served there are ASD students and the number one thing that affects students' success in school is their life outside of school. There is nothing more important and in that respect, while it is not our primary burden in general, for these students, Mr. Steiner thinks it is appropriate for the District to step into the gap and match what is going on externally. Mr. Steiner would prefer that we seek other sources for that funding, such as the Office of Children's Services. Mr. Steiner commented that although McLaughlin Youth Center may not be the appropriate place for the students, the same budget sources that fund them would be appropriate monies to go to this. There should be other sources found. It would be appropriate in the future to try to find more support.

Carol Comeau responded that she understands Ms. Kennedy's perspective, but at the same time we are trying to keep kids in school and lower the dropout rate. Ms. Comeau agrees with Mr. Steiner's statement that the lives children lead impacts how they perform in school. The whole coalition is committed to seeking grants and other funding but we believe that this is an investment in those young people. If we can keep kids safe in school and make sure the teaching and learning environment is safe at the schools then this is a small price to pay.

John Steiner stated that he likes Mr. Tesche's proposal to enter into a memorandum of agreement and he would hope they would keep the kids going to school and getting their diplomas and connecting with the schools to make sure that they get the educational counseling that is important.

Mr. Steiner read the list of reductions from the previous financial plan memo and noted that there is not much there that is discretionary. We have increased class sizes by .25 students for a reduction of \$1,376,000; we have reduced department supply accounts by 10 percent or \$825,000; We have reduced high school pupil activities by \$29,000; reduced funding for seminar program by \$40,000; reduced funding for schools of choice by \$25,000; graduation support services were reduced by \$59,200; reduced drug/alcohol case management addenda by \$18,800; reduced reading materials associated with reading initiatives by \$226,000; reduced training for culturally responsive schools by \$100,000. Mr. Steiner stated that he believes the superintendent looked very hard at what to restore or add to best increase achievement and reduce the achievement gap, and he supports the changes for that reason.

Macon Roberts commented on the Youth Reception Center. In following our Six-Year Plan and addendum to the plan, the goal of seeing that all students have a successful life, means that we have to meet our students where they are. We have to do a lot of creative things to reach those students. In this program 64.4 percent students that were assessed were enrolled as of May 1st, during the school year. Mr. Roberts thinks that \$50,000 is a lot of money but in the scheme of things it is well spent. We owe it to our students to keep them as safe as we can.

Jeff Friedman stated that at first he had the same reaction as Ms. Kennedy to the addition of the Youth Reception Center in the budget, but after listening to the presentation he feels that we as a country have been cutting holes in the safety net for people and if there is a silver lining to all that we have been forced to think differently about what is education, what is social services, what is policing and found that we have to work together. We have to have the police department providing officers in our schools; Beans café is helping out with food in our Crossroads program; Campfire doing something for us; us doing something for YMCA. It is about building new partnerships and new collaborations. Mr. Friedman thinks we are going to see a lot more of that in the next few years as budgets get tighter and tighter and we have to find new ways of doing things that need to be done. Mr. Friedman announced that he thinks the changes in this memo are good ones and he will support it.

VOTE :

Ayes: Steiner, Roberts, Kennedy,
Friedman, Marks,
Metcalf, Steele

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

The Board recessed at 8:38 p.m. and reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

ASD Memorandum #325 - Personnel Report

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached Personnel Report.

ACTION:

Moved by: Jake Metcalfe to approve Memorandum #325
seconded by: Mary Marks

Ms. Comeau reported an addition to the addendum of the Personnel Report. Sven Gustafson is moving from the position of middle school assistant principal to middle school principal of Gruening Middle School as of July 1, 2005.

VOTE :

Ayes: Steiner, Roberts, Kennedy,
Friedman, Marks,
Metcalf, Steele

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT1. ASD Memorandum #309 - Evaluation of the District Improvement Plan

The No Child Left Behind Act and Alaska state regulations require school districts in Adequate Yearly Progress Level II or higher to submit an improvement plan to the Department of Education and Early Development. This plan was submitted to and approved by the Anchorage School Board in December and was subsequently submitted to the State. The Department also required that the District submit an evaluation of progress to date on that

improvement plan by May 15. That evaluation is shown as Attachment A.

2. ASD Memorandum #333 - Update on Indian Education Program

The Indian Education Program provided academic support to 1,803 students in 37 elementary schools and four middle schools during the 2004-05 school year. An additional 1,113 students in three high schools and one middle school had contact with and support from four community counselors.

Doreen Brown gave a brief report on the Indian Education Program. The program currently serves 37 elementary schools in tutorial resource and enrichment. They went from 1300 students mid year to 1800 students by the end of the year in elementary schools. They are also in four middle schools and three high schools, where they served 1100 students. Totally, they served 2900 students in 04/05. In conjunction with the three ASD School Board Goals: Public Accountability, Achievement, and Increasing Supportive and Effective Learning Environments, Ms. Brown focused on two things this year for Indian Ed. In regards to enhancing communication - their goal is to become more responsive, student focused, highly motivated and accountable. This was done through newsletters, websites, PSAs, talk radio, bulletin boards, presentations to community organizations and Channel 14. Community outreach was done with staff. Many of the staff participated in public forum through the Native Advisory Committee. They went to many Native Advisory Committee meetings and School Board meetings and brought parents with them. They participated in parent/teacher conferences, IEP meetings and also open houses. A staff member went to each administrative assistant in the schools where they do not have staff. They also presented at the principal meetings. The staff has been involved in transitional meetings between school to school due to the high mobility rate. They also did a transition piece when students are going from elementary school to middle school and also middle school to high school in conjunction with ASD employees and CITC. They concentrated on communication with community organizations. They obtained 2,500 bus tokens to be made available to parents in order for them to attend school meetings. CITC, CIRI and Kids Café provided food three days a week to feed high school students that do not get free lunch. They are hiring four high school students that are interested in pursuing

a degree in education and are doing it for credit by choice. They are going to mentor them and hope that they will have a career in education. Ms. Brown stated that they also focused on accountability. It is imperative to our student's success. They implemented a beginning, mid year and end of year report with the help of NAC. Ms. Brown stated that she will return to the Board in August to report on the grades and federal objectives and growth that was made. Ms. Brown stated that she appreciated the corroboration that she has felt and been able to work with the various ASD departments, school members, community members and staff and families.

Adrian Active, a member of the Native Advisory Committee stated that ASD has seen an enormous increase in the number of Alaska native students. This influx has tremendously increased the diversity of the student population which has had obvious impacts to the classroom and the ability of the teachers to reach all students equally. Ms. Active wished to speak today to the issues surrounding native students in her capacity as an Alaska Native parent. One of the requirements of NAC is to recommend strategies to the Indian Education program director to the ASD administration to improve academic performance of native students. Ms. Active stated that there are approximately 6,000 native students in ASD, representing about 12 percent of the student population. Alaska Native students have lower test results in all grades than other students. Graduation rates were 41 percent compared to 64 percent for all others. Ms. Active stated that they need to have measurable goals that make sense to them as well as the community members involved, natives and non natives. They have a vested interest in building the positive relationships necessary to improve student achievement. They are ready and willing to do that and look forward to moving ahead with the District. They need to get away from taking things personal and can no longer afford the destructive behavior that comes along with taking that position. They need to work together as collaborative partners - non native/native, concerned individuals. The NAC works as a liaison to the native community from the Anchorage School District. The NAC requests from the ASD that they are able to meet on a monthly basis to update what is going on and have a seat on the M.E.C.C.

Macon Roberts commented that it is good to see high parent participation. Mr. Roberts asked if they knew why is the drop out

rate is high? Carol Comeau responded that the State is telling the districts to determine what the dropout rate is depending on a certain number of criteria and the Federal Government is saying another thing. There is no uniform way to measure dropouts. When a student enters in the ninth grade in Anchorage and if they don't graduate from the twelfth grade in Anchorage, unless they are transferred to another school or are home schooled, they are considered a drop out. We know that Alaska Native and American Indian young people are not completing high school with an acceptable rate. We are working at trying to determine how to accurately measure the dropout rate.

Adrian Active responded that lack of time with family is a big issue. Ms. Active asked why they couldn't create some kind of working group like the Youth Reception Center for Alaska Natives and other minority groups.

Carol Comeau encouraged Ms. Active and others to apply for the M.E.C.C. A designated seat would need to be reviewed by the M.E.C.C. and then recommended to the Board because it is a Board appointed body, but it doesn't mean it couldn't happen. William Johnson responded that the M.E.C.C. is a representative group of all ethnic groups within the district. We invite and demand that parents from all lanes in the District participate in this process. We are not restrictive, in fact the more representation the better. The more varied representation the better. We need to grab the attention of parents in all of those subject groups that the District tracks and we need representation. Everyone's welcome. It is important to collaborate because we have issues. Mr. Johnson added that he hopes to talk to her some more. Ms. Active noted that Jack Sand, Delores Kyayuk Margaret Latok, Darlene Heckler are also here tonight.

Mary Marks stated that she has been pondering why the dropout rate is so high and she has come to the conclusion that back in the 1800s before William Paul Sr. became the first Tglingit attorney for our state and from that time on we have lost so much of our history and language because the western culture was brought in and they were forced to learn a new life style of living. In the last five years all of the Alaska Native languages as well as the American Indian languages have been resurrected. Ms. Marks reported that the elders have brought their language, history, and identity back to life. Ms. Marks stated that now, after all that they want them to

collaborate and be a part of the team and they are not really addressing the issues of healing the wounds of what has been passed on to generation to generation. Ms. Marks stated that she has been fortunate enough that she recognizes those flags that it is going to stop with her and it is her choice to decide how to educate her children and the way that they should go and that they should learn how to balance but never surrender who you are, or where their identity comes from. That is the challenge that we have to face as Alaska native or American Indian people. We will have to start helping those wounds to heal so that we can have respect for each other and start closing the gap. Ms. Marks feels that this is why we have a high dropout rate and achievement gap. Ms. Marks stated that they are meeting western culture half way to the best of ability and follow demands of the State requirements and NCLB. Ms. Marks stated that she appreciates the report and sharing of their successes. Ms. Marks added that they need to define what respect means. The anger and bitterness needs to stop if the kids are going to be successful.

Macon Roberts asked if there is any mechanism for curriculum correlation from your group. Doreen Brown replied yes on a daily basis, probably because of the Six-Year Plan. Ms. Brown added that she believes the plan has been very instrumental and cultural responsive curriculum is definitely a part of the plan as a separate component. We also have members from the community and the school district that set on the curriculum committee. Ms. Brown added that she and staff of the bilingual department will be doing a one-hour workshop for all principals on cultural teaching at the Administrative Advance. They will also do a workshop for support clerical staff to be culturally responsive.

Macon Roberts asked how the new social studies program would address the Alaska Native issues. Enid Hunter replied that it is going to be emphasized in seventh grade in terms of the native people and the geographical aspects of Alaska. It has actually turned out to be a great K-12 articulation. Mr. Ex and his social studies staff is working on this. All of the seventh and eighth grade social studies teachers worked with the language arts teachers who are partnering in a curriculum guide that is not only embedding culturally responsiveness in it but also paring readings and collaborating and making it a joint effort in presenting these two subject areas. They had a presenter, John Brown, who worked with the seventh and eighth grade teachers and also intermediate

elementary and high school teachers so we are getting away from focusing on grade levels and are looking at the whole continuum. It is now going into focusing on Alaska and these particular issues in third grade, then again in seventh grade and spiraling up in high school.

Carol Comeau responded to Mr. Roberts that the state initiative is what passed the state board for requirements for all students in the state of Alaska. Our requirement was passed in 2001-2002 by this Board to require it so our effort is more comprehensive than what the state put together, but we also have district personnel working on the state committee to develop that standards based course.

Darlene Heckler spoke on the dropout rate. Ms. Heckler taught for 25 years with 15 years in rural Alaska. Ms. Heckler has a great concern for Alaska Native and American Indian children making it through school and who is responsible and what we can do to build our bridge between our cultures to work together and collaborate as they were talking about tonight. Ms. Heckler stated that she found while teaching in rural Alaska students started dropping out in middle school and high school with alcohol related problems, deaths and teen pregnancies. There are resources available in the district and they have to take the initiative as parents and other family members to get them to come to the school and take their part in the schools. Ms. Heckler feels it is parent's responsibility and they need to start taking that initiative.

3. ASD Memorandum #326 -Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of June 1, 2005 through June 15, 2005.

4. ASD Memorandum #327 - Facility Change Order and Completed Projects Report for the Month of May 2005

The monthly Facility Contract Modification Report for the month of May 2005 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

5. ASD Memorandum #328 – End-Of-Month Membership Summary
For FY 2004-2005

The total active enrollment at the end of the 2004-05 school year was 48,193. This enrollment represents a decrease of 1,261 students when compared to September 30, 2004. Table 1 compares the beginning and ending membership totals for the year. For the same time period for the 2003-04 school year, membership declined by 1,306.

6. ASD Memorandum #329 – Operating Budget Transfers – May
Monthly Report FY 2004-2005

The attached report of budget transfers for the time period of May 2005 that were processed in the Integrated Financial Accounting System (IFAS) includes the following:

Attachment A: Report of Budget Transfers Over \$5,000

Report for individual transfers of more than \$5,000, which includes summarized justifications.

7. ASD Memorandum #330 – Treasurer’s Report/Financial Recap:
May 31, 2005

The attached report consists of two parts: the Treasurer’s Report and the Financial Recap. The Treasurer’s Report and the Financial Recap are presented on a monthly basis. The Treasurer’s Report and Financial Recap are year-to-date information as of May 31, 2005.

I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS
LITIGATION

L. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of June 27, 2005, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:25 p.m.

Jeff Friedman, President

John Steiner, Clerk

Robin Siegfried, Recording Secretary

Date Minutes Approved