

City of Nenana - Nenana Boarding School Construction and Maintenance **FY2007 Request: \$1,000,000**
Reference No: 41089

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Construction
Category: Education **Recipient:** City of Nenana
Location: Nenana **Contact:** Samuel Thomas
House District: Interior Villages (HD 6) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2506
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2006 - 06/30/2011

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project will fund maintenance and expansion needed at the Nenana Boarding School.

Funding:	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	Total
Gen Fund	\$1,000,000						\$1,000,000
Total:	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

SLA05 Ch3 P18 L31 - \$125,000

Project Description/Justification:

The Nenana Student Living Center (NSLC) provides a unique opportunity for high school students from all over the state to prepare for college by taking college preparatory courses in high school and by living in a college environment. Students also get the choice of going to a school that has something different to offer than may be available in their hometown.

The NSLC is the product of a community and a school district that refused to stand by and watch their educational system destroyed by shrinking student numbers and the possible loss of their professional teaching staff. The community decided the way to preserve their educational excellence was to expand the student population by offering high school students from all over the state the opportunity to attend high school in Nenana.

To accommodate this transition, the school embarked on a \$4.5 million capital improvement program including building the boarding school facility. The program currently accommodates eighty-two students but NSLC has to turn students away. To affirm commitment by parents to the program this year, the Nenana School District asked families to pay \$1,000 per year for registration to help out with the costs associated with residential schooling.

Boarding schools excel due to the combined interests from the parents, children, and community and the demand for such facilities are increasing as the quality of the students graduating from this school is recognized. The school offers a choice in high school education and will be a role model for other areas of the state and nation in years to come.

However, increasing energy costs, carpet replacement, heating system and general maintenance, in addition to expansion needs to accommodate more students in the future, necessitate additional funding of \$1,000,000.

The expansion plans to increase NSLC's capacity to 100 students. This will meet only a portion of the anticipated statewide demand for boarding home facilities, which is estimated at 500 to 600 additional students in the next ten years.