

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

Anchorage - Northwood Elementary School Book and Technology Grant

State Funding Requested: \$15,000**House District: 25 / M**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

This grant will enable Northwood Elementary to purchase books and technological equipment.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$15,000***There is no other funding needed***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This is an education priority. A book and technology grant will allow Northwood Elementary to keep up with the ever-growing list of technological and computer accessories and equipment that have proven to be useful in teaching. It will also allow the school's classrooms and library to purchase books and audio books, which are used to increase literacy rates.

Project Timeline:

The grant funds will be expended during the 2010-2011 school year, in FY11.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Anchorage School District

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Greg Balcao
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 Anchorage, AK 99517
 Phone Number: (907)742-6800
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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

NORTHWOOD ABC ELEMENTARY



4807 Northwood Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99517
(907) 742-6800, FAX (907) 742-6822

February 19, 2010

Re: Capital Requests

Dear Representative Mike Doogan,

Northwood ABC Elementary recently submitted three legislative grant applications. The first grant amounts to \$20,000. The reason for this request is to help Northwood grow from its present size of 350 students to a projected size of 400 students in the next year. This grant would help meet a fundamental educational need: literature and math textbooks for our students as well as professional development for our staff. When students have adequate materials with which to learn and teachers have the proper training with which to teach, excellence is inevitably the result.

The acquisition of math and literature textbooks (approximately \$17,000 for Literature and Math textbooks for 150 students) will play a large role in improving student achievement. Along with the textbooks, it is essential to have strong professional development as well. We will also include Spalding Phonics training and Saxon Math training as part of the professional development for improving instructional practice and bringing greater uniformity of practice within the building. We have found that the greater fidelity of teacher practice in the building, the greater student success reflected in state test scores. Beyond state test scores, it is our belief that successful students are successful citizens and successful citizens are one sign of a healthy community.

This request comes as the result of a two year long public process in which Northwood ABC has moved from the concept stage to reality. During this time, Northwood has continued to go to great lengths to insure that this new program would be in the best interests of everyone involved. Staff, students, parents, and the surrounding community have taken part in steering committees, forums, discussions, and surveys. Our learning community has also unanimously embraced the ABC model; we believe that increased academic achievement will result, and that other critical school outcomes will result as well. These include: improved parental involvement, an emphasis on structured homework, and students having leadership roles within the school environment. From a fiscal perspective, this move will result in a more fully actualized use of our building facilities.

The other two grant applications were to help with communication and to assist our Bilingual students. We have submitted a proposal for the state to share in the cost of a school sign that would communicate upcoming events to our school-wide community.

Given the high degree of transiency of our population, that is an important communication piece that has been missing at Northwood ABC. The last grant application is for an enhance audio system for our library. Our Bilingual population would benefit from having a larger selection of books-on-tape. This would go a long way to helping with academic achievement for this important part of our school population.

Sincerely,

Greg Balcao, Northwood ABC Elementary Principal