



Superintendent's Report

To: Unalaska City School District Board of Education
From: Darrell J. Sanborn, Superintendent
Date: October 28, 2004

The first quarter of school is behind us at this time, and I want to take this opportunity to remind parents that the Parent/Teacher Conferences are set for tomorrow and Saturday. I really appreciate the high percentage of parents who take time from their busy schedules to monitor their children's progress in school. We are blessed in this community with the fantastic amount of community and parental support.

We have made it through our official count period with a small increase over our projected enrollment. Our FY 05 Budget was projected by the Budget Committee to be 395 and our count actually came in at 396.40. The major fiscal concern for us remains the health insurance increases along with the fuel/utility costs. Although the increased oil costs continue to be good for the State revenues, which are good in the long run, it has an immediate impact on our budget.

Tonight we will look at our Adequate Yearly Progress percentages in comparison to other districts in the State. With these numbers we should be proud of our students and the efforts of teachers, staff, parents and community. What these numbers tell me is that our curricula and instructional resources are meeting most students' needs and we should focus on remediation. I look forward to hearing from faculty as to their thoughts as they review the data in a more detailed fashion.

Although we continue to look good with these percentages, I would hope we continue to strive to do increase the number of students who are seen as proficient when compared to the State Standards. With these students who are not meeting these minimal state standards, we probably cannot continue to do things in the same way we have in the past. If we have not been successful, we must explore other options.

I would hope the entire educational family; those with a vested interest in the child's future participate in the development of an individual learning plan for each student not found "proficient." This educational family includes the student, teachers, administrators, support staff and, most of all, parents. All teachers and parents know the results of the tests and/or have a good idea of where the child is at educationally, and part of the answer may be as something as easy as improving attendance or other behaviors. It may also be much more complicated than that. We all need to look at what we can do for each and every child.