

Superintendent's Report

To: Unalaska City School District Board of Education

From: Darrell J. Sanborn, Superintendent

Date: April 28, 2005

I want to start off with a big "THANKS" to the students and parents of the community for their efforts in getting all students to school during the State Testing days earlier this month. As we all have heard, there are thirty-one ways not to make Adequate Yearly Progress, and not having 95% of our students tested in all of the subgroups is one of these ways!!! The results of the tests should be back sometime in May and we do notify students about their Exit Exam Scores as soon as we receive these scores, normally electronically.

As we did last year, we will be ordering consumable reading/writing & math workbooks for students who may need some additional assistance in meeting the academic standards. We may be fortunate to have a teacher here over the summer and we can provide a few hours of tutorial services a week. It is important to remember that we need to have the commitment of parents to encourage their children to stick with this over the summer to make this effective.

There has been not a great deal of movement concerning education funding down in Juneau and again, earlier funding looks to be set for the wee hours of the evening on May 10th. SB 141 continues to hold up the funding issues as the Senate has tied this to the Base Student Allocation. I do hope that both sides of the isle will decide to do the right thing in the end. We must remain vigilant in our efforts to see this through to the end.

However, on our local level, I give my sincere thanks to the City Council for their continued support for our educational program. We are truly blessed in this community with all of the support, and high expectations. I wanted to point out our LEP (Limited English Proficient) scores when compared to the rest of the State. Unalaska City School District was the only district in the State to make AYP in this subgroup. I commend this Board and the City Council for making our ESL program a reality. I am also very pleased with the work our Faculty and Staff have done in meeting the needs of this group of students. Our student population has changed so dramatically over the past five years, and I am so impressed with the speed in which all parties have reacted to these changes. We are so fortunate to have the support and vision of not only this Board, but also of the City Council in supporting education for all students in our community.

We truly do have life good on our Island!!!