

CORRECTION

Re: SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 28

April 11, 1979

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CORRECTION

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Please discard SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 28 and replace with
this corrected version.

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Introduced: 4/11/79
Referred: Health, Educa-
tion & Social Services

1 IN THE SENATE

BY RODEY

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 28

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Urging the Anchorage School Board to

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reconsider its decision to close the

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Woodland Park School.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

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WHEREAS, on March 12, 1979, the School Board of the Municipality of

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Anchorage voted unanimously to close the Woodland Park School, an elementary

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school in the Spenard area of the municipality; and

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WHEREAS the decision of the school board came with only five days notice

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to the public that the school district administration would recommend closure

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of the facility; and

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WHEREAS opportunity for parents of children attending the Woodland Park

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School to review and comment upon the closure recommendation of the Anchorage

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School District Administration before the decision was extremely limited; and

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WHEREAS the closing of the Woodland Park School would require reassign-

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ment of more than 300 elementary students -- including three classrooms of

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more than 30 special education students -- to schools on the periphery of the

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Spenard Service Area and elsewhere, necessitating changes in pupil transporta-

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tion patterns and increases in classroom size; and

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WHEREAS evidence suggests that the decision of the board to close the

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Woodland Park School was based, in part, on the erroneous assumption that no

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state aid would be available to complete major repairs to the roof of the

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school and to complete painting of the facility; and

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WHEREAS, at the time of ordering closure of the Woodland Park School,

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the board announced its intention to take action with respect to other

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schools in Anchorage for the academic year beginning 1980, allowing ample

1 time for school administration personnel and interested citizens to work
2 through plans for alternate educational arrangements for affected children,
3 and to plan the future direction and utilization of other schools; and

4 WHEREAS the abruptness with which the decision to close the Woodland
5 Park School was made contrasts sharply with the willingness of the board to
6 announce one year in advance its intention to close other schools or desig-
7 nate them for other use; and

8 WHEREAS the future of Spenard as a stable area within the Municipality
9 of Anchorage requires that the area's neighborhood schools remain open to
10 receive and to teach the children who live in the vicinity;

11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it respectfully
12 requests the School Board of the Municipality of Anchorage to reconsider its
13 decision to close the Woodland Park School during the 1979-1980 academic
14 year.

15 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to Caroline Wohlforth, President
16 of the Anchorage School Board, and to Ken Calderwood, Darlene Chapman,
17 Heather Flynn, Millett Keller, Carolyn Lewis, and Walter Furnace, members of
18 the Anchorage School Board.

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