

HB

343

(11)

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date referred: 1/22/88

FURTHER REFERRALS:

DATE: 3-16-88

The Finance Committee has considered HB 343

"An Act creating the Asian language study grant fund."

RECOMMENDS:

- replace with CS HB 343 (FIN) the same title
- attached amendment(s) a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

- fiscal impact same as previous fiscal note published 1-22-88
- zero fiscal note same as previous zero fiscal note published _____
- zero with analysis

SIGNING DO PASS:

Al Adams
Pat Farnsworth
John A. ...
Mark Boyer
Jay Brown
Mike ...

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Ronald J. ... - Pass without ^{Fiscal} fiscal note.
Steve ... : Fiscal Note Unnecessary

Al Adams
 Chairman's signature

STATE OF ALASKA
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: CSHB 343(FIN)
PUBLISH DATE: HOUSE 1/22/88

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: 1/14/88
Title: ...Asian language study grant fund
Sponsor: Ellis, Martin, Brown, & Bover
Requestor: House HESS

Agency Affected: Education
BRU: Education Program Support
Components: Instructional Improvement and Evaluation

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES		78.9	78.9	78.9	78.9	78.9
TRAVEL		2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
CONTRACTUAL		5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7
SUPPLIES		1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	88.3	88.3	88.3	88.3	88.3

CAPITAL	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93

REVENUE	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	88.3	88.3	-88.3	88.3	88.3
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	2	2	2	2	2
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

See attached.

Prepared by: Toni Kahklen-Jones Phone: 465-2830
Division: Education Program Support Date: 1/14/88
Approved by Commissioner William G. Demmert Date: 1/14/88
Agency: Education

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)
International Trade

Position Title Education Specialist I		No. of Positions 1	Range/Step 19A	Barg. Unit CCU	
Time Status Full Time	Staff Months 12.0	Location Juneau		Election District 4	
Type of Expenditure		Justification			
		There are no personnel in the Department who can carry out this grant program. A foreign language specialist is needed full-time to:			
Amount		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop regulations for this program; b. Develop Requests for Proposals for this program based on sound program planning and most current instructional practices; c. Assure that all Alaska school districts, especially small and rural districts have equal opportunity to participate in this program by providing training and technical assistance in program regulations and program development requirements; d. Provide coordination and technical assistance services to school districts in Asian language program development. 			
1	2				3
Salary	40032				
Benefits	11376				
Premium Pay					
Other					
Total Personal Services	51408				51408
Travel					2500
Contractual					5680
Commodities					1150
Equipment					
Other					
Total Cost					60738
Funding Source for Total Cost					
Federal Receipts	1002				
G F Match	1003				
General Fund	1004	60738			
GF Program Receipts	1005				
Other					

**Request For
New Position**

Agency Education
 BRU Educational Program Support
 Component Office of Instructional
Improvement & Evaluation

Page 2 of 5
Revised Date

FY 89

No. 1
 CSHB 343 (FIN?)
 HOUSE 1/22/88

Position Title Clerk-Typist III		No. of Positions 1	Range/Step 8A	Barg. Unit GGU	
Time Status Full Time	Staff Months 12.0	Location Juneau		Election District 4	
Type of Expenditure		Justification			
		To provide clerical support to program positions involved in the Asian Language Grant Program.			
1	2				3
Salary	19572				
Benefits	7900				
Premium Pay					
Other					
Total Personal Services	27472				27472
Travel					
Contractual					
Commodities					100
Equipment					
Other					
Total Cost		27572			
Punding Source for Total Cost					
Federal Receipts	1002				
G F Match	1003				
General Fund	1004	27572			
GF Program Receipts	1005				
Other					

**Request For
New Position**

Agency Education
 BRU Educational Program Support
 Component Office of Instructional
Improvement & Evaluation

Page 3 of 5
 Revised Date _____

FY 89

No. 1
 CSHB 343(FIN)
 HOUSE 1/22/88

FY 89
Foreign Language Programs
Proposed Budget
Asian Language Grant Program
January 14, 1988

100 PERSONNEL			\$78,880
Program Specialist (1.0 FTE)		51,408	
Clerical Support (1.0 FTE)		27,472	
200 TRAVEL			2,500
Program Specialist		2,500	
300 CONTRACTUAL			5,680
Development of Regulations		2,000	
Readers for Grant Proposals			
2 people X \$400 (travel)	800		
2 people X \$80/day X 3	480	1,280	
Phone, postage, copying costs		2,400	
400 SUPPLIES			1,250
Program Guidelines (Printing)		1,250	
	TOTAL		\$88,310

JUSTIFICATION

PERSONNEL

There are no personnel in the Department who can carry out this grant program. A foreign language specialist is needed full-time to :

- a. Develop regulations for this program;
- b. Develop Requests for Proposals for this program based on sound program planning and most current instructional practices;
- c. Assure that all Alaska school districts, especially small and rural districts have equal opportunity to participate in this program by providing training and technical assistance in program regulations and program development requirements;
- d. Provide coordination and technical assistance services to school districts in Asian language program development.

A full-time clerical support position is needed to support the above activities.

Original sponsors: Ellis, Martin,
Brown, et al.

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 343 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Pacific Rim language study grant
7 fund."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. PURPOSE. It is the purpose of this Act to

10 (1) assist the public school system to provide Pacific Rim
11 language study programs;

12 (2) encourage pupils in the study of Pacific Rim languages;

13 (3) promote growth in relations between the state and Pacific
14 Rim nations.

15 * Sec. 2. AS 14.30 is amended by adding new sections to read:

16 ARTICLE 9. PACIFIC RIM LANGUAGE STUDY GRANT FUND.

17 Sec. 14.30.700. PACIFIC RIM LANGUAGE STUDY GRANT FUND. (a) The
18 Pacific Rim language study grant fund is established. The fund con-
19 sists of legislative appropriations and public or private donations
20 made for the purpose of the fund. The department may make grants from
21 the fund to eligible districts in the public school system for both
22 written and spoken Pacific Rim language study programs in grades K-12.
23 Pacific Rim language study programs must be in addition to and not in
24 replacement of existing foreign language programs.

25 (b) The department shall establish by regulation eligibility
26 criteria for receiving grants under this section. The department may
27 not award a grant to a district of the public school system under this
28 section for more than three consecutive fiscal years.

29 (c) In this section, "Pacific Rim languages" means Russian,

1 Tagalog, Chinese, Japanese, or Korean languages.
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

STATE OF ALASKA
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: CSHB 343(FIN)
PUBLISH DATE: HOUSE 1/22/88

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: 1/14/88
Title: ...Asian language study grant fund
Sponsor: Ellis, Martin, Brown, & Bover
Requestor: House HESS

Agency Affected: Education
BRU: Education Program Support

Components: Instructional Improvement and Evaluation

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES		78.9	78.9	78.9	78.9	78.9
TRAVEL		2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
CONTRACTUAL		5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7
SUPPLIES		1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	88.3	88.3	88.3	88.3	88.3

CAPITAL	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93

REVENUE	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	88.3	88.3	88.3	88.3	88.3
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	2	2	2	2	2
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

See attached.

Prepared by: Toni Kahklen-Jones Phone: 465-2830
Division: Education Program Support Date: 1/14/88
Approved by Commissioner William G. Demmert Date: 1/14/88
Agency: Education

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)
International Trade

Position Title Education Specialist I		No. of Positions 1	Range/Step 19A	Barg. Unit CCU
Time Status Full Time	Staff Months 12.0	Location Juneau		Election District 4
Type of Expenditure		Amount		
1	2	3		
Salary	40032			
Benefits	11376			
Premium Pay				
Other				
Total Personal Services	51408	51408		
Travel		2500		
Contractual		5680		
Commodities		1150		
Equipment				
Other				
Total Cost		60738		
Punding Source for Total Cost				
Federal Receipts	1002			
G. F. Match	1003			
General Fund	1004	60738		
GF Program Receipts	1005			
Other				

Justification

There are no personnel in the Department who can carry out this grant program. A foreign language specialist is needed full-time to:

- Develop regulations for this program;
- Develop Requests for Proposals for this program based on sound program planning and most current instructional practices;
- Assure that all Alaska school districts, especially small and rural districts have equal opportunity to participate in this program by providing training and technical assistance in program regulations and program development requirements;
- Provide coordination and technical assistance services to school districts in Asian language program development.

**Request For
New Position**

Agency Education
 BRU Educational Program Support
 Component Office of Instructional
Improvement & Evaluation

Page 2 of 5
 Revised Date

FY 89

Position Title Clerk-Typist III		No. of Positions 1	Range/Step 8A	Barg. Unit GCU	
Time Status Full Time	Staff Months 12.0	Location Juneau		Election District 4	
Type of Expenditure		Justification			
		To provide clerical support to program positions involved in the Asian Language Grant Program.			
1	2				3
Salary	19572				
Benefits	7900				
Premium Pay					
Other					
Total Personal Services	27472				27472
Travel					
Contractual					
Commodities					100
Equipment					
Other					
Total Cost		27572			
Funding Source for Total Cost					
Federal Receipts	1002				
G F Match	1003				
General Fund	1004	27572			
GF Program Receipts	1005				
Other					

**Request For
New Position**

Agency Education
 BRU Educational Program Support
 Component Office of Instructional
Improvement & Evaluation

Page 3 of 5
 Revised Date

FY 89

FY 89
Foreign Language Programs
Proposed Budget
Asian Language Grant Program
January 14, 1988

100 PERSONNEL			\$78,880
Program Specialist (1.0 FTE)		51,408	
Clerical Support (1.0 FTE)		27,472	
200 TRAVEL			2,500
Program Specialist		2,500	
300 CONTRACTUAL			5,680
Development of Regulations		2,000	
Readers for Grant Proposals			
2 people X \$400 (travel)	800		
2 people X \$80/day X 3	480	1,280	
Phone, postage, copying costs		2,400	
400 SUPPLIES			1,250
Program Guidelines (Printing)		1,250	
	TOTAL		\$88,310

JUSTIFICATION

PERSONNEL

There are no personnel in the Department who can carry out this grant program. A foreign language specialist is needed full-time to :

- a. Develop regulations for this program;
- b. Develop Requests for Proposals for this program based on sound program planning and most current instructional practices;
- c. Assure that all Alaska school districts, especially small and rural districts have equal opportunity to participate in this program by providing training and technical assistance in program regulations and program development requirements;
- d. Provide coordination and technical assistance services to school districts in Asian language program development.

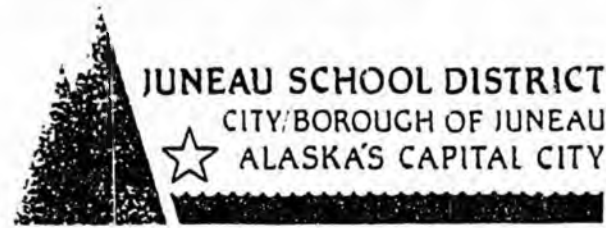
A full-time clerical support position is needed to support the above activities.

Education
adopted

AMENDMENT to HB 343

Page 1, line 18 insert after "established."

The fund consists of legislative appropriations and public and private donations made for the purpose of the fund.



10014 Crazy Horse Dr., Juneau, AK 99801 • (907) 586-2303

February 12, 1988

Chris

FEB 23 1988

The Honorable Johnny Ellis
House of Representatives
House HESS Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Ellis:

The purpose of this letter is to provide support for HB 34, "An Act Creating the Pacific Rim language study grant fund."

The Juneau School District is vitally interested in providing Pacific Rim language skills for the students of our district. Several of our schools have brought exchange teachers over from Japan for language and cultural education within the elementary schools. Most of these teachers are supported by parent groups who raise money through various fund-raising activities such as hotdog sales, garage sales, et cetera. As yet, we do not have budgetary means by which to support this important activity.

At the high school level, we have tried a number of ways to facilitate the teaching of Japanese and are currently contracting with the University of Alaska-Southeast to provide some Japanese language experience. We hope to be able to continue to provide service but it is dependent upon a variety of factors, including funding.

Please add us to your list of supporters. Alaska needs to be at the forefront in contributing to the communications between all Pacific Rim countries. Because of our location and our positive attitude, we have a wonderful opportunity to bridge the gaps between countries.

If you need a live example of the wonderful experiences provided by the representatives from Japan that the Juneau School District currently has, please let me know. Our Japanese exchange teachers at Gastineau and Harborview are outstanding.

Thank you for your interest in this critical issue.

Sincerely yours,

Elaine M. Hopson, Ph.D.
Director of Personnel

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**President**

Cayle Trieman
358 Old Steese Hwy North
Fairbanks AK 99712
M 457-3700 W 456-3717

President Elect

Louie Yannotti
P.O. Box 115
Yakutat AK 99689
M 784-3430 W 784-3317
3353

Secretary

Jan Craig
11921 Hilltop Drive
Anchorage AK 99515
M 349-3498 W 274-2502

Treasurer

Rick Ladd
P.O. Box 3364
Momer AK 99603
M 235-5178 W 235-5660

**Past President/
Newsletter Editor**

Harvey Branot
3703 Mail/Dut Point Road
Sitka AK 99835
M 747-6447 W 747-2672

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**Southwest**

Mike Burg
Box 2227
Kodiak AK 99615
M 486-5579 W 486-3131

Northern

Paul Ongcooguk
Box 711
Kotzebue AK 99752
M 442-3593 W 442-3341

Southcentral

Sammy Crawford
36615 Chinulna Drive
Kenai AK 99611
M 283-9271 W 262-7411

Southeast

Brenda Camoen
Box 1562
Sitka AK 99835
M 3441 W 966-2201

Membership Coordinator

Monica Thomas
University of Alaska—Fairbanks
Fairbanks AK 99775
M 479-6642 W 474-6520

Anchorage Area

Social Studies Council
Andy Kirk President
Box 67005
Chugiak AK 99567
M 349-7881

**Fairbanks Council
for the Social Studies**

Gail Holzmueller
4085 Marsna Drive
Fairbanks AK 99701
M 479-8421 W 452-4751

D.O.E. Liaison

Marjorie Corsuch
411 Coleman Drive
Juneau AK 99801
M 586-2854

NCSS Liaison

Doug Phillips
2310 Paxson
Anchorage AK 99504
M 333-2522

NCSS ANNUAL MEETINGS

11-13-17/1987 Dallas Texas

6/22-25/1988 Vancouver Canada

11/18-22/1988 Orlando Florida

11/10-14/1989 St. Louis Missouri



ALASKA COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES

IN AFFILIATION WITH THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES

Chris

February 23, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
Co-Chair, House HESS Committee
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Ellis:

On behalf of the Alaska Council for the Social Studies, I would like to recognize your fine effort regarding HB343. The creation of a Pacific Rim language grant fund is of paramount importance. Two years ago I was part of an educational tour that visited schools in Indonesia, Japan, Hong Kong and the People's Republic of China. Our whole group quickly realized the significance of a working knowledge of linguistics during our school visits.

Alaska's young people need this linguistic knowledge to successfully compete with other states and countries within the Pacific Rim.

The Alaska Council for the Social Studies urges you to continue to support HB343.

Sincerely,

Louie Yannotti

Louie Yannotti
President-elect, Alaska
Council for the Social Studies
P. O. Box 115
Yakutat, AK 99689



Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

125 WEST EVERGREEN — P.O. BOX 1688 — PALMER, ALASKA 99645-1688 — (907) 745-4822

Bruce P. DeMond, Superintendent

February 15, 1988

Johnny Ellis
Co-Chair
House HFSS Committee
Alaska State Legislature
House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Ellis:

Mat-Su Borough School District supports HB 343, which creates a Pacific Rim Language Grant Fund within the Department of Education. However, the Mat-Su Borough School District has concerns about adding any new programs to the curriculum of the School District when it is presently facing budget cuts and reductions to the curriculum as a whole. For example because of budget reductions the present foreign language programs in Spanish and French are offering fewer courses to interested students.

Many of our worthwhile elective programs have been reduced or eliminated in the last two years, creating parental concern with regards to students ability to compete for scholarships in the colleges and universities of their choice.

In summary, we support HB 343 as long as sufficient monies are available to support any additions to the curriculum.

Regards,

Norm Palenske
Norm Palenske
Assistant Superintendent

10



ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

4600 DeBarr Avenue
P.O. Box 196614
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6614
AREA CODE [907] 333-9561

SCHOOL BOARD

Martha Rodenck
President

William Frick
Vice President

Jim Robinson
Clerk
Past President
1981-82, 1984-85

Betty Davis
Treasurer
Past President
1985-86

Darryl Jordan
Clerk Pro Tem

Jean Buchanan
Assistant Treasurer
Past President
1983-84, 1986-87

Carol Stolpe
Parliamentarian

SUPERINTENDENT

William Coats, Ph.D.

February 12, 1988

Rep. Johnny Ellis, Co-Chair
House HESS Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

HOUSE BILL 343

The Anchorage School District supports funding for the introduction of Pacific Rim languages in Alaska's schools.

The Anchorage School District is currently offering Japanese in two of our high schools. We are also in the process of a pilot elementary foreign language program in Japanese and/or Spanish.

Other Pacific Rim activities within the District included a Statewide conference in April of 1986 which was attended by more than 400 people. We are also pilot testing a Japanese social studies unit at the Kindergarten level and in the process of developing a first grade Chinese social studies unit. This month will mark the opening of the Asian Alaskan Cultural Center which was constructed in conjunction with one of our elementary schools.

The Anchorage School District recognizes and supports the cultural and economic ties between Alaska and the Pacific Rim. The recommendations of our Pacific Rim Advisory Committee incorporated into our long range plans include the addition of social studies units on Pacific Rim countries and the introduction of Pacific Rim languages into the curriculum. House Bill 343 would enable us to introduce additional languages without deleting any other languages or program from the current curriculum.

WILLIAM COATS - SUPERINTENDENT

WW

cc Gene Thompson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction
Ruth A. Keitz, Executive Director, Curriculum and
Instructional Services
Doug Phillips, Coordinator, Social Studies Program

WW16.12

Unalaska City School District



February 9, 1988

FEB 12 1988

file

Representative Johnny Ellis, Co-Chair
Alaska House of Representatives
Committee on Health, Education, and Social Services
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Ellis:

Thank you for providing me with copies of HB 341 and HB 343 relating to Asian Language instruction. I strongly support this proposal. I agree whole-heartedly with your expressed concern that the need for knowlege of a second language, particularly an Asian language, is going to be essential for the children in our schools today who intend to participate in the economic and business life of Alaska and the world of the twenty-first century.

As a school administrator in small rural high schools of Alaska, I have successfully introduced one such language (Russian) into the curriculum, and hope that, with funds available, I can continue to implement such instruction.

Thanks again for keeping me informed.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Novak". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

John S. Novak, Superintendent

STEPHEN V. YATES
Superintendent
907-832-5625

KENNETH SATRE
Principal
907-832-5464

NENANA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

P.O. BOX 00010
NENANA, ALASKA 99760
907-832-5464

BILL SPEAR
Business Manager

February 4, 1988

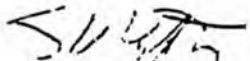
Honorable Johnny Ellis
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Ak. 99811

FEB 5

Dear Representative Ellis,

On behalf of the students, staff and parents of the Nenana City Public School District I want to thank you for sponsoring House Bill 343 and House Bill 341, promoting Pacific Rim language study. Please be aware that we enthusiastically support these bills and stand ready to do anything we can to assure their passage.

Sincerely,


Stephen V. Yates
Superintendent

SVY/ks

file



ANCHORAGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT

4600 DeBarr Avenue
P.O. Box 196614
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6614
AREA CODE [907] 333-9561

FEB 8 1988

Chris

Inlet View School
1219 "N" Street
Anchorage, Ak. 99501

February 5, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
Co-Chairman House HESS Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Ellis,

Thank you for your vision in the drafting of HB 341 and HB 343. This particular legislation and funding would certainly enable the Inlet View School and community to further explore with children the Pacific Rim relationship and languages that show us much promise for the future of our state.

Please do vigorously pursue the above legislation knowing that our staff and educational community are supportive.

Sincerely,

George Rakos, Principal
Inlet View School

GR/mta



Telegram

08003 TDA ANIAX AX 91 02-02 1000A WIT

PVC

REF JOHNNY ELLIC, CO-CHAIRMAN, HOUSE BASS COMMITTEE 465-3704

JUNEAU AK

RE: SUPPORT FOR H-343

SINCE WE ALREADY HAVE BISTER SCHOOLS IN BOTH JAPAN AND CHINA WE
ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES THAT YOUR BILL OFFERS.
RECENTLY I ACQUIRED THE U.S. ARMY'S INTRODUCTION TO BASIC
JAPANESE LANGUAGE COURSE. WE ARE VERY INTERESTED AND HAVE THE
SUPPORT OF THE KUSKOKWIM NATIVE CORPORATION IN OUR DESIRE TO
PARTICIPATE.

WE WOULD BE HONORED TO BECOME INVOLVED IN LEARNING THE LANGUAGES
AND THE CULTURES OF OUR PACIFIC RIM TRADING PARTNERS.

CONSIDER US EXCITED VOLUNTEERS.

FOR THE BOARD AND CHILDREN OF THE KUSPUK SCHOOL DISTRICT,

BOB MCHEENY, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

AFLA

ALASKA FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

415 Farewell
Fairbanks, Alaska, 99701
January 10, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
House of Representatives
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

JAN 15 1988

Dear Johnny:

This is a response to your idea to provide 100% funding for starting or enhancing public school Asian language programs in Alaska.

Further details of the plan are needed, of course, but at the business meeting of the 1987 Conference of the Alaska Foreign Language Association, the membership came out strongly in favor of this proposal. Subsequent discussion led to the following suggestions:

1. In the interest of increasing cultural and economic awareness worldwide, the Alaska Foreign Language Association (AFLA) supports the expansion of all foreign language programs in the state. Of particular importance is expansion to include articulation of middle, junior high and elementary school programs with those in high schools. As such, AFLA agrees with the phrase in the proposal which states that the Asian language programs thus funded would supplement and not replace existing foreign language programs.
2. Schools and/or school districts with state-funded programs would use the money to hire qualified, certified teachers directly under the school and/or district hiring policy, whether or not this involves a statewide or out-of-state search. AFLA's intent is to ensure that the best possible teachers are hired to give the programs their best possible chance of success.
3. Members of AFLA are willing and able to provide input, suggestions and constructive criticism of the plan as it develops. Specific recommendations will include key schools and age groups to be targeted, and goals and objectives of the program.

AFLA appreciates the interest shown by you and the HESS Committee in developing foreign language programs in the state, and the presence of Mike Travis from DOE at the AFLA state conference. We look forward to being part of this exciting proposal to expand Asian language programs in the state.

Sincerely,

Doug Bruce

Doug Bruce, President, AFLA



ALASKA FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

January 20, 1988

Representative
Johnny Ellis
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

JAN 25 1988

Respond

Dear Representative Ellis:

I commend you for proposing an Asian Language Study Grant fund of \$1,000,000 with the Department of Education. The bill acknowledges the fact that Alaska cannot hope to develop close commercial and cultural ties with North Pacific Rim countries without preparing the citizens for this new opening. Our immediate competitors -- I think of California, Oregon and Washington -- are also trying to provide special educational opportunities to their students. In fact, they seem to be, in a number of areas, ahead of us.

*Chris
Leah?
?*

I would like to stress in this context that any effort to develop foreign language programs, especially the ones focused upon in your legislation, requires CONTINUITY: continuity in funding on the part of the Legislature and the Department of Education; continuity in offering a given language over time and on several levels, on the part of the school districts involved.

Learning another language, in particular these Asian languages, takes a lot of time and commitment. Preparing Alaskans, and keeping them prepared, for closer ties with Asia must be a long-term, an on-going thing -- just as we hope to do business with these nations on a long-term, on-going basis. Alaska will reap the benefits of the proposed legislation not in two or three, but rather in ten or twenty years, if the effort can be kept up.

Can funding continuity be built into the initial bill creating the fund? Have you considered an endowment whose interest would pay for grants to schools? Tied in with a sliding scale and perhaps with matching funds (from districts, Alaskan business and federal sources), an endowment of 5 - 10 million could make possible at least learning over a ten year span. On the other hand, is an endowment of that magnitude realistically feasible?.....

Another crucial point are undoubtedly the eligibility criteria and other details. If I oppose these will be worked out by the DOE staff, once the funding has been established.

Once again, I deeply appreciate your initiative. Please do not hesitate to call if you have questions or if you think I might be of help in any way.

Sincerely,
[Signature]
W. Bill Hoffmann
President, ALASKA FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

Chris
copy if bill files

Parent Advisory Council
Gastineau School, Douglas, AK.
January 15, 1985

JAN 15

To: Representative Johnny Ellis

Dear Representative Ellis,

Gastineau School, in the Juneau School District, serves the community of Douglas and Douglas Island. Our student population is currently set at 312 elementary schoolchildren. For the past year, our parent group has sponsored a Japanese teacher who has provided our children with instruction in the Japanese language and exposure to the culture and customs of Japan. Parents, teachers and students have expressed such satisfaction with the program, we are preparing to extend the stay of our teacher for another year. The financial burden this places on our Parent Group is staggering, especially in light of our relatively small student population and the current economic slump being experienced by Juneau. As is usually the case, the benefits of such a program are shared by all of our students, while the commitment to fundraising is borne by a few of our more dedicated parents.

Your introduction of House Bills 341 and 343 which would appropriate funding and establish an Asian Language Fund for Alaskan schools, is a most timely and progressive step in preparing our children for their futures. Our Parent Advisory Council would like to extend our appreciation to you for recognizing this need and offer strong support for the passage of these bills. We would hope that the Alaska legislature would join you in your efforts to develop and maintain strong educational ties with the Pacific Rim.

Sincerely,

Marlette M. Simpson

Marlette M. Simpson
Exec. Director
Parent Advisory Council
Gastineau School, Douglas



IDITAROD

Area School District

POST OFFICE BOX 90 • McGRATH, ALASKA 99627- (907)524-3033

Alaska
Local mail
see...

MAR 07 1988

March 1, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
Co-Chairman, House HESS Committee
House of Representatives
Committee on Health, Education & Social Services
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

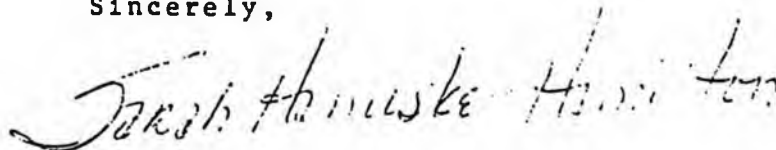
Dear Mr. Ellis:

I would like to offer my support for legislation HB 343. Representing a rural district I see this as an opportunity for the Alaska Department of Education to use the state's television capabilities to offer these language courses statewide. Along with the language, districts could purchase or copy selected videos on the history and culture of these countries.

Many districts are participating in the Sister-Schools project with some Pacific-Rim countries. The correspondence between students now is in English. This could change.

I see this legislation tying together Pacific Rim studies and the Sister-Schools programs and enhancing their relevancy for students.

Sincerely,



Sarah Hanuske-Hamilton
Superintendent

SHH:stc

Language Barrier

By Audrey Olsen

The problem many Americans face is their ignorance to foreign languages. This is a major problem in Alaska because of it. Alaska has a hard time keeping up with trading to the fishing industry. Here at Mt. Edgewood, we are trying to break this language barrier. By introducing the Japanese and Chinese languages, one of which is required to graduate. A Pacific Rim Culture class is also required here for one year. This means that the students will have a good background and a greater understanding for these cultures.

Manufactured Products
By Jaylene Peterson

Have you ever noticed that almost every little fact—fruit, stuffed animal, dish set, pencil and pen are all manufactured in either China, Korea, Hong Kong, the Philippines or Japan? Later in these countries it is much less costly than it is here in the United States, so companies have their products manufactured in one of these places, and have it shipped to the U.S. Last year, the media class held a grant conference with a group of Japanese businessmen in the girls dormitory lounge. I asked one of the men whether or not he'd picked up any souvenirs to take back from his stay in Alaska, and he replied, "I looked around, but everything I saw was made and sent here from home!" Sergei Butler took next time!

Timber Trade

A major part of Alaska's economy is in the timber industry. A lot of money in the state is made selling timber directly to Pacific Rim countries such as Japan and China. Without trade with these two countries, our timber export would most likely be cut in half. This would lead to many unemployed people here in the state!

Trade

By Alex Singh

Alaska trades its oil, gas, timber, minerals, and fish with the Pacific Rim Countries. In return they send us electronic items, food, minerals, and other energy products which we need. Alaska trade is different in the sense that we don't actually trade the items mentioned above, we sell it to them and then we purchase the items from them that they have the we need.

We trade with these countries in the Pacific Rim Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the Peoples Republic of China.

Alaskan Economy

Alaska economy is based on how much trade we do, produce and catch, and how many tourists come and visit our great state.

For the year of 1986, Alaska produced 12.2 to 27.0 billion barrels of oil and an estimated 90 trillion to 167 trillion cubic feet of gas in the lumber business an average of 20,000 to 100,000 trees were cut and used. About 80% of those trees were traded to other nations. Alaska accounts for 50% of the total amount of fish caught in the U.S.

With a wholesale seafood sales value of \$1 billion, in minerals a total of 28 million tons of coal and 1.5 billion of quartz were mined and since 1800's 30 million ounces of gold, more than a billion pounds of copper, 50 million pounds of lead, and 20 million pounds of silver has been extracted from Alaska mines. Alaska produces 22 out of the 30 minerals purchased from the Pacific Rim countries. In tourism, 800,000 people visited Alaska last year, with total expenditures of a billion dollars. It is anticipated that by the year 1990, 1 million people will have visited Alaska.



Mary Hudson & Alexander Singh are making Gung Bao GI Ding (Hot & Spicy Chicken)

Currency

By Mike Kimber

Exchange rates are very important in today's business. In Alaska we pay more attention to exchange rates in the Pacific Rim Nations because most of our trade economy is based in the Pacific Rim. It is very important for us to keep an eye on it because it helps predict whether an economy of a country will boom or bust and it also helps us decide to invest in foreign nations.

Listed below are some of the important exchange rates:

COUNTRY/CURRENCY	FOREIGN-U.S.	U.S.-FOREIGN
AUSTRALIA/DOLLAR	675	1.49
CANADA/DOLLAR	73	1.37
HONG KONG/DOLLAR	133	7.52
JAPAN/YEN	00626	159.75
CHINA/YUAN	822	
N. KOREA/YON	94	

* THESE EXCHANGE RATES CHANGE DAILY

Corporation Invasion

Japanese companies are now conquering American markets by opening factories in the United States. They prefer to open them in the mid west and south because they see some of the "sacrificing" work ethics that Japanese workers had just after the war.

Japanese companies will offer a projected

840,000 additional new jobs in the next decade. The record showings of the Yen against the U.S. dollar and the labor unions inability to organize has allowed for successful expansion into the United States.

This will be a blessing for consumers and middle class blue collar workers.

PACIFIC RIM THE FUTURE IS NOW!



Pacific Rim Languages
By Andy Iliam

Here are some of the languages of the countries. Among these you will notice languages depending on the population.

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| China | Philip | nes | Russia |
| Cantonese | Philip | | Azerbaijani |
| Hokka | Togo | | Byelorussian |
| Chinese | Illoc | | Czech |
| Mandarin | Cebu | | Georgian |
| Shanghai | Biki | | Kuzakh |
| Fukien | Pano | | Kirghiz |
| Tibetan | Hiligay | | Molduin |
| Uigus | | | |

South Korea
Korean



Mt. Edgewood sister school in Hefei, China

Japan
Japanese



Pacific Rim Sister Schools
By Andrea Porter

A sister school is a program put together by the Department of Education to exchange letters, videos, and photographs and also develop a basis for a student and staff travel exchange program.

After a school applies for a sister school and recommends an area of location, the DOE matches up and assigns a school.

At Mt. Edgewood High School we have two sister schools located in the Pacific Rim. One of which is "Hefei Middle School" in China. Hefei is the capital of Anhui Province, which is situated between the Yangtze River and the Hwai River in East China. The other school which we are exchanging with is "Hwaran High School" which is located in Hokkaido, Japan.

Chinese Pen Pals

There are a few students here at Edgewood who are corresponding with students in China. The students who are attending their second year in a Chinese class at MHS have pen pals from the Hefei #2 Middle School, which is also one of our sister schools. If you would like to have a Pacific Rim pen pal you should contact Mrs. Vergara, the Chinese instructor at Mt. Edgewood. Chinese language is not necessary, and help is offered.



Japanese Lifestyles
By Carrie Pegues

The theme: The traditional Japanese-style houses were usually two stories high made of wooden beams and walls, with a tiled roof. They also use sliding panels on windows and doors. The floor was covered with traditional straw mats called "tatami" for their comfort. These mats were always clean, because shoes were never worn in the home. But then, they usually slept on bedding that was raised up on the "tatami." This bedding was stored away in closets during the day so the space could be used for other purposes. As a result of using space wisely, very little furniture was needed.

However, the Japanese people are more taking to the Western style of living. One reason being because more high-tech apartments are being built. They now use things like chairs, tables, beds and other kinds of furniture, although the traditional sliding doors and "tatami" floors are still being used. The Westerner has widely influenced the modern Japanese lifestyle, but their ancient cultural ways will never fade away.

Cuisines

Oriental food: The Japanese diet mainly revolves around what they can catch or grow in the ocean. Fish, for instance, has been the main source of protein in the Japanese diet. Other seafoods are shrimp, salmon, and tuna. They are



Mr. Kayaishi demonstrates his technique to watchful viewers.

prepared in a number of ways, for example, they can be stir-fried, deep-fried, and in some cases, eaten raw or alive.

Now, the Japanese have started to accept the Western way of eating meat. They are adopting a taste for the Westerners' habit of cooking the meat or using processed meat in their meals. Somewhat more slowly, Americans are accepting Japanese food into their diet. Someday, maybe Japanese food will be a more common part of our daily diet.

Population Projections

By Mike Pitts

Did you realize that if Japan's over-increasing population grows 5% a year, during the year 2000, it would have almost doubled its current population of 119,996,000. By the year 2033, the Japanese would surpass China's current population of 1,031,563,000.

If China's prolific population underwent a 20% increase a year, by the year 2025, their number of people or inhabitants occupying a specific geographical facility, such as a country, institution, or world would increase from 1 billion to 1 trillion people!

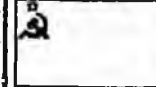
If the U.S. population accelerated to an increase of 4% a year, in the year 2005 our numbers will have doubled, and by the year 2014 our numbers will have tripled.

Primary Countries

People's Republic of China



U.S.S.R.



Philippines



Japan



South Korea



Secondary Countries

Canada

Australia

New Zealand

South Pacific Islands

Thailand

Taiwan

U.S.A.



NEA-ALASKA

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Judy Salo, President

Alan Dill
Vice-President
Box 423
Sitka, Alaska 99835

Jean Krause
Past-President
P.O. Box 3121
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Susan Sillham
NEA Director
Box 80913, College Station
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Gloria Ingie
Region I Director
Box 756
Wrangell, Alaska 99929

Phil Myarchin
Region I Director
717 Canyon Road
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Beverly Goad
Region II Director
Box 343
Copper Center, Alaska 99573

Don Oberg
Region III Director
Box 1084
Kenai, Alaska 99611

Myra Poze
Region IV Director
Box 973
Nome, Alaska 99762

Marilyn Rosane
Region IV Director
Box 1170
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Joann Walker
Region IV Director
Box 570
Kolzebue, Alaska 99752

Mary Lou Brent
Region V Director
Box 80074
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Dennis Lee
Region V Director
P.O. Box 242
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Loretta B. Christie
Region VI Director
2220 Yorkshire Lane
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Richard Kronberg
Region VI Director
2131 Minerva Way
Anchorage, Alaska 99515

Pam McCarl
Region VI Director
2115 Sorbus Way
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Pam Reynolds
Region VI Director
8031 Evans Circle
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Peg Stout
Region VI Director
6208 E. 34th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Carolyn Tolson
Region VII Director
Box 873933
Wasilla, Alaska 99687

Roxy McDonagh
Region R Director
402 E. 23rd Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

ANCHORAGE REGIONAL OFFICE

1411 W 33RD AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(407) 274-0536

JUNEAU OFFICE

105 MUNICIPAL WAY SUITE 302
JUNEAU ALASKA 99801
(907) 586-3090

FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE

2118 CUSHMAN STREET
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
(907) 456-4435

March 14, 1988

TO: Representative Al Adams, Chairman
Members, House Finance Committee

FROM: Judy Salo, NEA-Alaska

RE: CSHB 341 & CSHB 343; "An Act creating the Pacific Rim Language Study Grant Fund" and the companion appropriations bill.

NEA-Alaska supports and encourages passage of CSHB 343 and CSHB 341.

We support the concept of the addition of foreign language study opportunities for Alaska students.

The geographic location and trade relations of Alaska, particularly with regard to the fishing industry, make the study of Pacific Rim languages potentially very useful for Alaska students.

Our expectations are that foreign language teachers under this program will be fully qualified and certified.

By providing a quality program in Asian language for our students we may promote Pacific Rim trade and a cultural exchange. Perhaps more importantly, we may provide economic opportunity for our students.

Many fishing and tourism industry jobs would be immediately open to young Alaskans fluent in Japanese and other Pacific Rim languages.

LC/HB341343/dl

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

7TH FLOOR FRONTIER BUILDING
3601 C STREET, SUITE 798
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503-5934
PHONE: (907) 681-5585

March 15, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
Co-Chair, House Health, Education and Social Services
Room 106 , Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 98111

Dear Representative Ellis and HESS Committee members:

I write in support of CS HB343 , an act creating the Pacific Rim language study grant fund and CS HB 341, an act appropriating funds to the language program.

The primary mission of the Office of International Trade is to foster and promote international economic development for and by Alaskans wishing to internationalize their businesses. It is critical that future generations of Alaskans understand not only the economic language of the marketplace but the cultural and diplomatic language of the host country for business purposes.

Alaska's primary trading relationships are with the Pacific Rim nations. This includes, but is not limited to, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, China and the Soviet Union. By appropriating state resources to the study of these nations' languages, the state encourages students to learn the linguistic elements of Pacific nations' languages while also contributing to a generation of Alaskans who better understand our trading partners.

In addition to urging prompt attention to this bill, I would like to add three comments:

1. It is essential that the Department of Education seek advice on methodologies for developing language training in Alaska;

PAGE -- 2 -- REPRESENTATIVE ELLIS

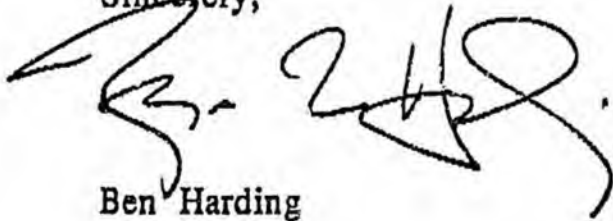
2. It is important to emphasize the distinction between written and spoken language training. Written languages are important for the following reasons:

- * research
- * appreciation of cultures; general systems of understanding and organizing thoughts, patterns of cultural interaction;
- * facilitation of rapid acculturation when travelling in a foreign nation;
- * encourages host nationals respect for the foreigners efforts to learn a bit about their nation.

3. Governor Cowper is presently promoting an Alaska-Soviet Far East Initiative which seeks to increase trade and cultural exchanges with our Siberian neighbors. It is highly likely that Alaska's relations with Siberia will continue to expand; it will be increasingly important that Alaskans understand our neighbors language, culture and trading patterns. Therefore, I encourage you to consider mentioning the Russian language as an important, but not pivotal, arena for future studies.

Please do not hesitate to call upon our office for any further information. Again, I urge you and your committee members to pass CS HB 343 and 341.

Sincerely,



Ben Harding
Acting Director

PACIFIC RIM LANGUAGE GRANT FUND

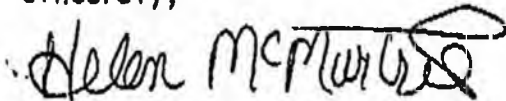
On behalf of the Pacific Rim Society of Ketchikan, I would like to extend a show of support to this grant fund. As a Pacific Rim community, we feel knowledge of second languages is an important asset to our community development. Anthropologists will testify that culture is passed through language. Having the opportunity to study the Pacific Rim languages is important to understand the cultures that are our closest neighbours.

Our community has a great deal of contact with our Pacific Rim neighbours, especially in the area of trade. Recently the Pacific Rim Society hosted visits by Japanese Professors, Taiwan businessmen, and the Australian Consul General. We have an exchange program with Katayama, Japan where a number of our students travelled to Japan and a number of Japanese students returned to visit Ketchikan. Many of our Ketchikan students realized the value of knowing the language in order to communicate with the Japanese. These are our communities' future employment pool and will probably in some way be involved with these Pacific Rim countries.

On a personal level, my daughter, (an 8th grader) who is planning to participate in the exchange this year by going to Japan, prepared for the visit by housing one of the Japanese students last year and, finding it difficult to communicate with the student, enrolled in the college and took an evening Japanese language course in addition to her full course load at the Junior High school.

We support any language grant fund for the future of our community. Any communicative skills that we can offer our future leaders is an important project to pursue.

Sincerely,



Helen McMurtrie
President, Pacific Rim Society of Ketchikan



NEA-ALASKA

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Judy Salo, President

Alan Dill
Vice-President
Box 423
Sitka, Alaska 99835

Jean Krause
Past-President
P.O. Box 3121
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Susan Stitham
NEA Director
Box 80913, College Station
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Gloria Ingle
Region I Director
Box 756
Wrangell, Alaska 99929

Phil Myerchln
Region I Director
717 Canyon Road
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Beverly Goad
Region II Director
Box 343
Copper Center, Alaska 99573

Don Oberg
Region III Director
Box 1084
Kenai, Alaska 99811

Myra Poage
Region IV Director
Box 973
Nome, Alaska 99762

Marilyn Rosene
Region IV Director
Box 1170
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Joann Walker
Region IV Director
Box 570
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

Mary Lou Brent
Region V Director
Box 80074
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Dennis Lee
Region V Director
P.O. Box 242
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Loretta B. Christie
Region VI Director
2220 Yorkshire Lane
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Richard Kronberg
Region VI Director
2131 Minerva Way
Anchorage, Alaska 99515

Pam McCarl
Region VI Director
2115 Sorbus Way
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Pam Reynolds
Region VI Director
8031 Evans Circle
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Peg Stout
Region VI Director
6208 E. 34th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Carolyn Tolson
Region VII Director
Box 873933
Wasilla, Alaska 99687

Roxy McDonagh
Region R Director
402 E. 23rd Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

ANCHORAGE REGIONAL OFFICE

1411 W. 33RD AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(907) 274-0536

JUNEAU OFFICE

105 MUNICIPAL WAY, SUITE 302
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801
(907) 586-3090

FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE

2118 CUSHMAN STREET
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
(907) 456-4435

March 14, 1988

TO: Representative Al Adams, Chairman
Members, House Finance Committee

FROM: Judy Salo, NEA-Alaska

RE: CSHB 341 & CSHB 343; "An Act creating the Pacific Rim Language Study Grant Fund" and the companion appropriations bill.

NEA-Alaska supports and encourages passage of CSHB 343 and CSHB 341.

We support the concept of the addition of foreign language study opportunities for Alaska students.

The geographic location and trade relations of Alaska, particularly with regard to the fishing industry, make the study of Pacific Rim languages potentially very useful for Alaska students.

Our expectations are that foreign language teachers under this program will be fully qualified and certified.

By providing a quality program in Asian language for our students we may promote Pacific Rim trade and a cultural exchange. Perhaps more importantly, we may provide economic opportunity for our students.

Many fishing and tourism industry jobs would be immediately open to young Alaskans fluent in Japanese and other Pacific Rim languages.

LC/HB341343/dl

Language Barrier

By Audrey Olsen

The problem many Americans face is their ignorance in foreign languages. This is a major problem in Alaska because while Alaska has a hard time dealing with trading in the fishing industry, here at Ft. Edgcombe, we are trying to break this language barrier by introducing the Japanese and Chinese languages, one of which is required to graduate. A Pacific Rim Culture class is also required here for one year. This ensures that the students will have a good background and a greater understanding for these cultures.

Manufactured Products

By Jaylene Peterson

Have you ever noticed that almost every little back-knack, trinket, stuffed animal, dish set, pencil and pen are all manufactured in either China, Korea, Hong Kong, the Philippines or Japan? Labor in these countries is much less costly than it is here in the United States, so companies have their products manufactured in one of these places, and have it shipped to the U.S. Last year, the media class held a press conference with a group of Japanese businessmen to the girls' dormitory lounge. I asked one of the men whether or not he'd picked up any souvenirs to take back from his stay in Alaska, and he replied, "I looked around, but everything I saw was made and sold here from here!" Sorry! Better luck next time!

Timber Trade

A major part of Alaska's economy is in the timber industry. A lot of money in the state is made selling timber directly to Pacific Rim countries such as Japan and China. Without trade with these two countries, our timber export would most likely be cut in half. This would lead to many unemployed people here in the state!

Trade

By Alex Singh

Alaska trades its oil, gas, timber, minerals, and fish with the Pacific Rim Countries. In return they send us electronic items, food, minerals, and other energy products which we need. Alaska trade is different in the sense that we don't actually trade the items mentioned above, we sell it to them and then we purchase the items from them that they have the we need.

We trade with these countries in the Pacific Rim Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the People's Republic of China.

Alaskan Economy

Alaska economy is based on how much trade we do, produce and catch, and how many tourists come and visit our great state.

For the year of 1986, Alaska produced 12.2 to 27.0 billion barrels of oil and an estimated 90 trillion to 167 trillion cubic feet of gas. In the lumber business an average of 20,000 to 100,000 trees were cut and used. About 80% of those trees were traded to other nations. Alaska accounts for 50% of the total amount of fish caught in the US. With a wholesome seafood sales value of \$1 billion in minerals a total of 28 million tons of coal and 1.5 tons of quartz were mined and since 1800's 30 million ounces of gold, more than a billion pounds of copper, 50 million pounds of lead, and 20 million pounds of silver has been extracted from Alaska mines. Alaska produces 22 million of the 30 minerals purchased from the Pacific Rim countries. In 1986, 800,000 people visited Alaska last year, with a total expenditure of a billion dollars. It is anticipated that by the year 1990, 1 million people will have visited Alaska.



Mary Huden & Alexander Singh are making Gong Bao Gi Ding (Hot & Spicy Chicken)

Currency

By Mike Kimber

Exchange rates are very important in today's business. In Alaska we pay more attention to exchange rates in the Pacific Rim. It is very important for us to keep an eye on it because it helps predict whether an economy of a country will boom or bust and it also helps us decide to invest in foreign nations.

Listed below are some of the important exchange rates:

COUNTRY/CURRENCY	FOREIGN-US	US-FOREIGN
AUSTRALIA/DOLLAR	675	1.48
CANADA/DOLLAR	73	1.37
HONG KONG/DOLLAR	155	7.57
JAPAN/YEN	206.26	159.75
CHINA/YUAN	3.22	
N. KOREA/WON	94	

* THESE EXCHANGE RATES CHANGE DAILY

Corporation Invasion

Japanese companies are now conquering American markets by opening factories in the United States. They prefer to open them in the mid west and south because they are some of the "sacrifice everything" work ethics that Japanese workers had just after the war.

Japanese companies will offer a projected

840,000 additional new jobs in the next decade. The record showings of the Yen against the U.S. dollar and the labor unions inability to organize has allowed for successful expansion into the United States. This will be a blessing for consumers and middle class blue collar workers.

PACIFIC RIM THE FUTURE IS NOW!



Pacific Rim Languages

by Andy I

Here are some of the languages that are spoken in our five main Pacific Rim countries. Among these you will notice languages depending on the population.

China Philip nes Russia

Contonese	Philip	Azerbaijani
Hakka	Tago	Byelorussian
Chinese	Hloc	Chuvosh
Mandarin	Cebu	Czech
Shanghai	Bik	Georgian
Fukien	Pone	Kuzakh
Tibetan	Hiliga	Kirghiz
Digui		Morduin

South Korea

Korean



Mr. Edgcombe's class

Japan

Japanese



about in Hefei, China

Pacific Rim Sister Schools

By Andrea Porter

A sister school to a program put together by the Department of Education to exchange letters, videos, and photographs and also develop a basis for a student and staff travel exchange program.

After a school applies for a sister school and recommends an area of location, the DOE matches and assigns a school.

At Ft. Edgcombe High School we have two sister schools located in the Pacific Rim. One of which is "Hefei Middle School" in China. Hefei is the capital of Anhui Province, which is situated between the Yangtsi River and the Huai River in East China. The other school which we are exchanging with is "Maroon High School" which is located in Hokkaido, Japan.

Chinese Pen Pals

There are a few students here at Edgcombe who are corresponding with students in China. The students who are attending their second year in a Chinese class at MHS have pen pals from the Hefei #2 Middle School, which is also one of our sister schools. If you would like to have a Pacific Rim pen pal you should contact Mrs. Vergin, the Chinese instructor at Ft. Edgcombe. Chinese language is not necessary, and help is offered.



Japanese Lifestyles

By Carrie Piques

The theme of the traditional Japanese-style houses were usually two stories high made of wooden beams and walls, with a tiled roof. They also use sliding panels as windows and doors. The floor was covered with cushioned straw mats called "tatami" for their comfort. These mats were always clean, because shoes were never worn in the house. Each then, they usually slept on bedding that was rolled out on the "tatami". This bedding was stored away in closets during the day so the space could be used for other purposes. As a result of using space wisely, very little furniture was needed.

Nowadays, the Japanese people are more and more taking to the Western style of living. One reason being because more high-rise apartments are being built. They now use things like chairs, tables, beds and other kinds of furniture. Although the traditional sliding doors and "tatami" floors are still being used, the Westerner has widely influenced the modern Japanese lifestyle, but their ancient cultural ways will never fade away.

Novadays, the Japanese people are more and more taking to the Western style of living. One reason being because more high-rise apartments are being built. They now use things like chairs, tables, beds and other kinds of furniture. Although the traditional sliding doors and "tatami" floors are still being used, the Westerner has widely influenced the modern Japanese lifestyle, but their ancient cultural ways will never fade away.

Cuisine

Oriental food. The Japanese diet mainly revolves around what they can catch or grow in the ocean. Fish, for instance, has been the main source of protein in the Japanese diet. Other seafoods are shrimp, salmon, and tuna. They are



Mr. Kapshel demonstrates his unique to traditional

prepared in a number of ways, for example, they can be stir-fried, deep fried, and in some cases, eaten raw or alive.

Nov, the Japanese have started to accept the Western ways of eating meat. They are acquiring a taste for the Westerner's habit of cooking the meat or using processed meat in their meals. Somewhat more slowly, Americans are accepting Japanese food into their diet. Someday, maybe Japanese food will be a more common part of our diet.

Population Projections

By Mike Phila

Did you realize that if Japan's ever-increasing population grew 5% a year, during the year 2000, it would have almost doubled its current population of 119,996,000. By the year 2035, the Japanese would surpass China's current population of 1,031,563,000.

If China's prolific population underwent a 20% increase a year, by the year 2025, their number of people or inhabitants occupying a specific geographical locality, such as a country, territory, or world would increase from 1 billion to 1 trillion people!

If the US population accelerated to an increase of 48 a year, in the year 2005 our numbers will have doubled, and by the year 2014 our numbers will have tripled.

Primary Countries

People's Republic of China



U.S.S.R



Philippines



Japan



South Korea



Secondary Countries

Canada

Australia

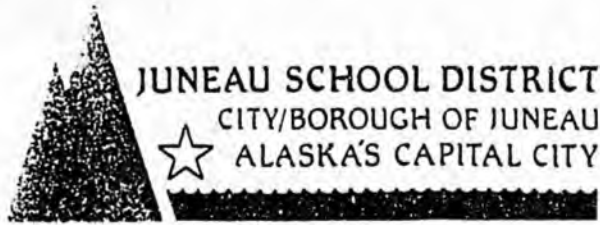
South Zealand

South Pacific Islands

Thailand

Taiwan

USA



10014 Crazy Horse Dr., Juneau, AK 99801 • (907) 586-2303

February 12, 1988

Chris

FEB 23 1988

The Honorable Johnny Ellis
House of Representatives
House HESS Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Ellis:

The purpose of this letter is to provide support for HB 34, "An Act Creating the Pacific Rim language study grant fund."

The Juneau School District is vitally interested in providing Pacific Rim language skills for the students of our district. Several of our schools have brought exchange teachers over from Japan for language and cultural education within the elementary schools. Most of these teachers are supported by parent groups who raise money through various fund-raising activities such as hotdog sales, garage sales, et cetera. As yet, we do not have budgetary means by which to support this important activity.

At the high school level, we have tried a number of ways to facilitate the teaching of Japanese and are currently contracting with the University of Alaska-Southeast to provide some Japanese language experience. We hope to be able to continue to provide service but it is dependent upon a variety of factors, including funding.

Please add us to your list of supporters. Alaska needs to be at the forefront in contributing to the communications between all Pacific Rim countries. Because of our location and our positive attitude, we have a wonderful opportunity to bridge the gaps between countries.

If you need a live example of the wonderful experiences provided by the representatives from Japan that the Juneau School District currently has, please let me know. Our Japanese exchange teachers at Gastineau and Harborview are outstanding.

Thank you for your interest in this critical issue.

Sincerely yours,

Elaine M. Hopson, Ph.D.
Director of Personnel

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Cayle Trieman
858 Old Steese Hwy North
Fairbanks, AK 99712
H 457-3700 W 456-3717

President Elect
Louie Yannotti
P O Box 115
Yakutat, AK 99689
H 784-3420 W 784-3317
3353

Secretary
Jan Craig
11921 Hilltop Drive
Anchorage, AK 99515
H 349-3498 W 274-2502

Treasurer
Rick Ladd
P O Box 3364
Homer, AK 99603
H 235-5178 W 235-5660

**Past President /
Newsletter Editor**
Harvey Brandt
5704 Halibut Point Road
Sitka, AK 99835
H 747-6447 W 747-8672

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Southwest
Mike Burg
Box 2227
Kodiak, AK 99615
H 486-5579 W 486-3131

Northern
Paul Ongtooguk
Box 711
Kotzebue, AK 99752
H 442-3593 W 442-3341

Southcentral
Sammy Crawford
36615 Chinuiua Drive
Kenai, AK 99611
H 283-9271 W 262-7411

Southeast
Brenda Camoen
Box 1562
Sitka, AK 99835
H 747-3441 W 966-2201

Membership Coordinator
Monica Thomas
University of Alaska—Fairbanks
Fairbanks, AK 99775
H 479-6642 W 474-6520

**Anchorage Area
Social Studies Council**
Andy Kirk, President
Box 67005
Chugiak, AK 99567
H 349-7881

**Fairbanks Council
for the Social Studies**
Gail Holzmueller
4085 Marsha Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99701
H 479-8421 W 452-4751

D.O.E. Liaison
Marjorie Corsuch
411 Coleman Drive
Juneau, AK 99801
H 586-2854

NCSS Liaison
Doug Phillips
2310 Paxson
Anchorage, AK 99504
H 533-2522

NCSS ANNUAL MEETINGS

- 11-13-17/1987 Dallas Texas
- 6/22-25/1988 Vancouver Canada
- 11/18-22/1988 Orlando Florida
- 11/10-14/1989 St. Louis Missouri



ALASKA COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES

IN AFFILIATION WITH THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES

Chris

February 23, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
Co-Chair, House HESS Committee
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Ellis:

On behalf of the Alaska Council for the Social Studies, I would like to recognize your fine effort regarding HB343. The creation of a Pacific Rim language grant fund is of paramount importance. Two years ago I was part of an educational tour that visited schools in Indonesia, Japan, Hong Kong and the People's Republic of China. Our whole group quickly realized the significance of a working knowledge of linguistics during our school visits.

Alaska's young people need this linguistic knowledge to successfully compete with other states and countries within the Pacific Rim.

The Alaska Council for the Social Studies urges you to continue to support HB343.

Sincerely,

Louie Yannotti
President-elect, Alaska
Council for the Social Studies
P. O. Box 115
Yakutat, AK 99689



Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

125 WEST EVERGREEN — P.O. BOX 1688 — PALMER, ALASKA 99645-1688 — (907) 745-4822

Bruce P. DeMond, Superintendent

February 16, 1988

Johnny Ellis
Co-Chair
House HFSS Committee
Alaska State Legislature
House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811


Dear Mr. Ellis:

Mat-Su Borough School District supports HB 343, which creates a Pacific Rim Language Grant Fund within the Department of Education. However, the Mat-Su Borough School District has concerns about adding any new programs to the curriculum of the School District when it is presently facing budget cuts and reductions to the curriculum as a whole. For example because of budget reductions the present foreign language programs in Spanish and French are offering fewer courses to interested students.

Many of our worthwhile elective programs have been reduced or eliminated in the last two years, creating parental concern with regards to students ability to compete for scholarships in the colleges and universities of their choice.

In summary, we support HB 343 as long as sufficient monies are available to support any additions to the curriculum.

Regards,


Norm Palenske
Assistant Superintendent



ANCHORAGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT

4600 DeBarr Avenue
P.O. Box 196614
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6614
AREA CODE [907] 333-9561

SCHOOL BOARD

Martha Roderick
President

William Frick
Vice President

Jim Robinson
Clerk
Past President
1981-82, 1984-85

Betty Davis
Treasurer
Past President
1985-86

Darryl Jordan
Clerk Pro Tem

Jean Buchanan
Assistant Treasurer
Past President
1983-84, 1986-87

Carol Stolpe
Parliamentarian

SUPERINTENDENT

William Coats, Ph.D.

February 12, 1988

Rep. Johnny Ellis, Co-Chair
House HESS Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

FEB 13 1988

HOUSE BILL 343

The Anchorage School District supports funding for the introduction of Pacific Rim languages in Alaska's schools.

The Anchorage School District is currently offering Japanese in two of our high schools. We are also in the process of a pilot elementary foreign language program in Japanese and/or Spanish.

Other Pacific Rim activities within the District included a Statewide conference in April of 1986 which was attended by more than 400 people. We are also pilot testing a Japanese social studies unit at the Kindergarten level and in the process of developing a first grade Chinese social studies unit. This month will mark the opening of the Asian Alaskan Cultural Center which was constructed in conjunction with one of our elementary schools.

The Anchorage School District recognizes and supports the cultural and economic ties between Alaska and the Pacific Rim. The recommendations of our Pacific Rim Advisory Committee incorporated into our long range plans include the addition of social studies units on Pacific Rim countries and the introduction of Pacific Rim languages into the curriculum. House Bill 343 would enable us to introduce additional languages without deleting any other languages or program from the current curriculum.

WILLIAM COATS - SUPERINTENDENT

WW

cc Gene Thompson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction
Ruth A. Keitz, Executive Director, Curriculum and
Instructional Services
Doug Phillips, Coordinator, Social Studies Program

WW16.12

Unalaska City School District



February 9, 1988

FEB 12 1988

file

Representative Johnny Ellis, Co-Chair
Alaska House of Representatives
Committee on Health, Education, and Social Services
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Ellis:

Thank you for providing me with copies of HB 341 and HB 343 relating to Asian Language instruction. I strongly support this proposal. I agree whole-heartedly with your expressed concern that the need for knowlege of a second language, particularly an Asian language, is going to be essential for the children in our schools today who intend to participate in the economic and business life of Alaska and the world of the twenty-first century.

As a school administrator in small rural high schools of Alaska, I have successfully introduced one such language (Russian) into the curriculum, and hope that, with funds available, I can continue to implement such instruction.

Thanks again for keeping me informed.

Sincerely yours,

John S. Novak, Superintendent

STEPHEN V. YATES
Superintendent
907-832-5625

KENNETH SATRE
Principal
907-832-5464

BILL SPEAR
Business Manager

NENANA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

P.O. BOX 00010
NENANA, ALASKA 99760
907-832-5464

February 4, 1988

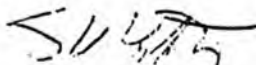
Honorable Johnny Ellis
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Ak. 99811

FEB 5

Dear Representative Ellis,

On behalf of the students, staff and parents of the Nenana City Public School District I want to thank you for sponsoring House Bill 343 and House Bill 341, promoting Pacific Rim language study. Please be aware that we enthusiastically support these bills and stand ready to do anything we can to assure their passage.

Sincerely,


Stephen V. Yates
Superintendent

SVY/ks

file



ANCHORAGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT

4600 DeBarr Avenue
P.O. Box 196614
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6614
AREA CODE [907] 333-9561

FEB 8 1988

Chris

Inlet View School
1219 "N" Street
Anchorage, Ak. 99501

February 5, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
Co-Chairman House HESS Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Ellis,

Thank you for your vision in the drafting of HB 341 and HB 343. This particular legislation and funding would certainly enable the Inlet View School and community to further explore with children the Pacific Rim relationship and languages that show us much promise for the future of our state.

Please do vigorously pursue the above legislation knowing that our staff and educational community are supportive.

Sincerely,

George Rakos, Principal
Inlet View School

GR/mta

1024 WEST SIXTH AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
(907) 274-4031

WHILE IN SESSION
P.O. BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3704

ALASKA STATE HOUSE

OFFICE OF MAJORITY WHIP



CO-CHAIR
HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

LABOR & COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN TRADE

REPRESENTATIVE JOHNNY ELLIS

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Rep. Al Adams, Chair
House Finance Committee

FROM: Rep. Johnny Ellis *JE*

DATE: January 25, 1988

SUBJECT: Request for hearing on CSHB 341 (HESS) and
CSHB 343 (HESS)

I would like to request that a hearing on CSHB 341 (HESS) and CSHB 343 (HESS) be scheduled in your committee at your earliest convenience. These two bills would create a Pacific Rim language grant fund and make an appropriation to the fund.

As you know, there is currently a great deal of interest in making Alaskans viable participants in Pacific Rim trade. One way to reach this goal is to give Alaskan students the opportunity to be knowledgeable in the language and culture of our Pacific Rim trading partners. I feel that this goal, addressed by Governor Cowper in his State of the State Address last January, is worthwhile and deserves the support of this legislature.

CSHB 341 (HESS) and CSHB 343 (HESS) would establish within the Department of Education a fund to enable school districts to offer Pacific Rim languages as an adjunct to their normal foreign language curriculum. School districts would submit to the state a proposal as to how they would use the grant money.

This Pacific Rim language fund would be open for programs K-12, and districts would be asked to describe their long-range plan for developing a Pacific Rim language curriculum.

If you have any questions regarding this legislation, please contact Chris Herberger of my staff.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request.

Department of Foreign Languages
University of Alaska
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-1020
February 27, 1988

MAR 01 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
PO Box 4
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Subject: House Bill 343, Pacific Rim Language Study Grant Fund

Dear Johnny:

I am pleased to see Legislative interest in promoting Pacific Rim languages and cultures as indicated by HB 343. I have been an Assistant Professor of Japanese at UAF for four years. I have lived in Japan for over ten years, both during my childhood and while pursuing my Bachelor's and Master's degrees. I completed my Ph.D. in Japanese literature for the Dept. of Asian Languages at Stanford University in 1985, and have held teaching appointments at Stanford, at the University of California, Berkeley and Davis campuses, and at Whitman College before coming to Fairbanks. I was attracted to Alaska both for its fine country and for the opportunities it offered for beginning and expanding programs in Pacific Rim languages and cultures. I have, therefore, given much thought to this bill, and would like to make the following observations and recommendations.

The threefold purpose of the bill as set forward in Section 1 is worthy and merits support. I believe the overall objective should be to provide students in Alaska with the opportunity to study a Pacific Rim language in a quality program long enough to gain functional use of the language. The bill as constituted, however, is not likely to meet these objectives in that it does not yet address the existing problems in continuity of programs and quality of programs. Indeed, it may exacerbate these problems.

The Continuity Problem. For such a program to function properly there must be continuity over time and from level to level. There must be smooth and rational transitions from the elementary program to the junior high program to the high school program to the college program. It is most important that the college offer a complete major program if the Alaskan students are to achieve the proficiency necessary to use the language in professional international transactions or if they are to teach the language to successive generations.

If the bill is enacted as presently written it will, I fear, generate a smattering of transitory and dead end programs around the state. With current funding problems, I expect that school districts will compete for grants as an additional source of funding but will not continue the programs when their eligibility for special funding expires. Further, if a district hires a teacher to teach Chinese for

grades 1-3, what will they do when these students move to fourth grade and beyond? Will the teacher move up with them, or will additional teachers be hired? Will there be programs at the junior high and high school levels? Usually a high school draws from several elementary schools. What if one elementary school had a program in Japanese and another opted for Tagalog? Can we cover both in the high school? When the chain is broken, the entire investment is wasted, because the students will not have learned enough of these difficult languages to be functional in them.

Fortunately, the chain is closest to being complete at the college level. At present the University of Alaska, Fairbanks offers four years of Russian providing a major in Russian Studies, three years of Japanese, providing a language minor, as well as two years of Korean and two years of Chinese. Courses are offered as well in Japanese literature, culture, and history; in Chinese history and politics; and in Korean culture. Students who take Japanese do so in order to use it in business, in resource management, in law, and in education. Students cannot learn enough of an Asian language in three years, however, to use the language adequately at a professional level. Moreover, the language department is understaffed, and some courses can only be offered on a rotating basis. Since there is not an Asian language major, students wishing such a major must transfer to a university outside of the state. (One of our best students of Japanese was recently accepted in a graduate program in Japanese at the University of Washington. We are pleased that she intends to return to Alaska to teach in a high school.)

The Quality Problem. For any ambitious educational program to work well and be worth the investment it must be conducted by qualified teachers with specific training and demonstrated skills. We require that our teachers of Math, English, Science, Spanish, French, etc., be well schooled in these disciplines and certified to teach them. But when it comes to teaching Asian Languages, the trained, qualified teachers have not been available in Alaska.

Alaskan school districts offering an Asian language have mostly relied on locally available native speakers of these languages to provide instruction. Many of these instructors are reasonably well educated but nevertheless lack any training in teaching their own language. They are no more qualified to teach Japanese to Alaskans, than I am qualified to teach English to Japanese. The educational results are at best uneven. In my experience, the resulting quality comes nowhere near that which we expect of our credentialed teachers in other subjects. Yet the cost is nearly the same and, more important, the time spent (or lost) by the students is the same.

The quality of instruction at the University level suffers in part from inadequate preparation of entering students for college work. It is sad how many of my beginning students in Japanese do not understand the structure of English sentences and have only the vaguest idea of the geographical relationships of Japan, Korea and China. Many of the

students in my Japanese Culture course find it difficult to appreciate Japanese art or literature in translation because Western art and literature are foreign to them.

Recommendations. The state can make the most efficient use of the proposed funding by developing major programs in key Asian languages at the University level, followed closely by expansion to the high school level. If we look at other states with quality language programs at the secondary and primary level, we will see that these programs exist because of close cooperation between the State Department of Education, the individual school districts, and the universities in that state with strong foreign language departments. In the San Francisco Bay Area, for example, secondary and primary school programs in Japanese and Chinese language and culture were developed through the assistance of the Bay Area China Education Project (BACEP) and Teaching Japan in Schools (TJIS), programs created by graduate students in language and history at the University of California, Berkeley and Stanford University. In Hawaii high school programs in Japanese were developed through the cooperative efforts of the Department of East Asian Languages at the University of Hawaii and the Hawaii State Dept. of Education.

With adequate staffing and strong programs in Asian Languages, the University of Alaska will be able to assist school districts by providing teacher workshops and producing graduates capable of teaching Pacific Rim languages and cultures in our schools. In order to raise the current UAF programs in Japanese, Chinese and Korean to major programs, permanent funding for 3.5 additional positions would be required. If you wish to provide major programs in any of these languages at UAA, funding for two positions per language would be necessary.

The argument for expanding from complete University programs to the high school level is twofold. First of all, these high school students would be assured of the possibility of continuing language study at the university level. Secondly, it is almost imperative for a student to begin the study of a Pacific Rim language in high school in order to be proficient in that language after graduating from college. It takes almost three times longer for a student to reach the same level of oral competency in Chinese, Japanese, or Korea than it takes a student to reach in Spanish or French. (This does not even bring in the issue of written competency.) The Department of Defense and the Foreign Service place Asian languages in Category IV in their scale of difficulty. Russian is in Category III, German in Category II, and French and Spanish are in Category I.

Given the difficulty of learning and, indeed teaching, Russian and Asian languages, the need for qualified teachers at all levels is clear. There are many Universities that have certification programs in the individual Asian Languages and from which the school districts could recruit good teachers. Whoever is recruited should receive endorsements from the Foreign Language Department at the University of Alaska.

We have a tendency in Alaska to try to do too much all at once. Our failures in such efforts are legion. Rather than spend a million dollars in a random and haphazard fashion with Tagalog here in grades 7-9, and Japanese there in grades 1-3, with no assurance of quality or continuity, I suggest that we focus on Russian, Japanese, and Korean or Chinese at the high school and university levels. Once these programs are well established at these levels, we can expand the programs at the same level to include other languages, or we can expand the programs downward to pick up grades K-9.

What can be done immediately at the elementary and junior high level is the introduction of Pacific Rim cultures by existing staff. Faculty from several disciplines at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, have expressed an interest in offering summer workshops for teachers in the history, geography, culture (visual and performing arts, literature), and languages of Pacific Rim nations. The State Department of Education in Juneau could put together a comprehensive list (with evaluations or reviews, if possible) of instructional materials developed in other states for teaching various aspects of Asian cultures at the primary and secondary levels. Students will be more excited about learning a Pacific Rim language if they have already developed an interest in the culture.

The preparation of Alaskan students through study of Pacific Rim cultures and languages will serve our State well in the long run. Despite the fact that my suggestions will center more of the funding initially at the University, students and communities across the State will benefit over time. I hope my ideas will be helpful in shaping this important bill into a form which will serve Alaskans for years to come.

Sincerely,

Karen Colligan-Taylor

Dr. Karen Colligan-Taylor
Assistant Professor of Japanese



Telegram

08003 TDA ANIAX AK 91 02-02 1000A AST

PMS

REF JOHNNY ELLIS, CO-CHAIRMAN, HOUSE HESS COMMITTEE 465-3704

JUNEAU AK

TO: HESS

RE: SUPPORT FOR H-343

SINCE WE ALREADY HAVE BISTER SCHOOLS IN BOTH JAPAN AND CHINA WE ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES THAT YOUR BILL OFFERS. RECENTLY I ACQUIRED THE U.S. ARMY'S INTRODUCTION TO BASIC JAPANESE LANGUAGE COURSE. WE ARE VERY INTERESTED AND HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE KUSKOKWIM NATIVE CORPORATION IN OUR DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE.

WE WOULD BE HONOURED TO BECOME INVOLVED IN LEARNING THE LANGUAGES AND THE CULTURES OF OUR PACIFIC RIM TRADING PARTNERS.

CONSIDER US EXCITED VOLUNTEERS.

FOR THE BOARD AND CHILDREN OF THE KUSPUK SCHOOL DISTRICT,

BOB O MCHEERY, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

AFLA

ALASKA FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

415 Farewell
Fairbanks, Alaska, 99701
January 10, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
House of Representatives
P.O. Box V.
Juneau, Alaska 99811

JAN 15 1988

Dear Johnny:

This is a response to your idea to provide 100% funding for starting or enhancing public school Asian language programs in Alaska.

Further details of the plan are needed, of course, but at the business meeting of the 1987 Conference of the Alaska Foreign Language Association, the membership came out strongly in favor of this proposal. Subsequent discussion led to the following suggestions:

1. In the interest of increasing cultural and economic awareness worldwide, the Alaska Foreign Language Association (AFLA) supports the expansion of all foreign language programs in the state. Of particular importance is expansion to include articulation of middle, junior high and elementary school programs with those in high schools. As such, AFLA agrees with the phrase in the proposal which states that the Asian language programs thus funded would supplement and not replace existing foreign language programs.
2. Schools and/or school districts with state-funded programs would use the money to hire qualified, certified teachers directly under the school and/or district hiring policy, whether or not this involves a statewide or out-of-state search. AFLA's intent is to ensure that the best possible teachers are hired to give the programs their best possible chance of success.
3. Members of AFLA are willing and able to provide input, suggestions and constructive criticism of the plan as it develops. Specific recommendations will include key schools and age groups to be targeted, and goals and objectives of the program.

AFLA appreciates the interest shown by you and the HESS Committee in developing foreign language programs in the state, and the presence of Mike Travis from DOE at the AFLA state conference. We look forward to being part of this exciting proposal to expand Asian language programs in the state.

Sincerely,

Doug Bruce

Doug Bruce, President, AFLA

AFLA

ALASKA FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

January 20, 1968

Representative
Johnny Ellis
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

JAN 25 1968

Respond

Dear Representative Ellis:

I commend you for proposing an Asian Language Study Grant fund of \$1,000,000 with the Department of Education. The bill acknowledges the fact that Alaska cannot hope to develop close commercial and cultural ties with North Pacific Rim countries without preparing the citizens for this new opening. Our immediate competitors -- I think of California, Oregon and Washington -- are also trying to provide special educational opportunities to their students. In fact, they seem to be, in a number of areas, ahead of us.

*Chris
Leate
?*

I would like to stress in this context that any effort to develop foreign language programs, especially the ones focused upon in your legislation, requires CONTINUITY: continuity in funding on the part of the Legislature and the Department of Education; continuity in offering a given language over time and on several levels, on the part of the school districts involved.

Learning another language, in particular these Asian languages, takes a lot of time and commitment. Preparing Alaskans, and keeping them prepared, for closer ties with Asia must be a long-term, an on-going thing -- just as we hope to do business with these nations on a long-term, on-going basis. Alaska will reap the benefits of the proposed legislation not in two or three, but rather in ten or twenty years, if the effort can be kept up.

Can funding continuity be built into the initial bill creating the fund? Have you considered an endowment whose interest would pay for grants to schools? Tied in with a sliding scale and perhaps with matching funds (from districts, Alaskan business and federal sources), an endowment of 5 - 10 million could make possible a lot of learning over a ten year span. On the other hand, is an endowment of that magnitude realistically feasible?.....

Another crucial point are undoubtedly the eligibility criteria and other guidelines, but I suppose these will be worked out by the DOE staff, once the fund has been established.

Once again: I deeply appreciate your initiative. Please do not hesitate to call upon me if you have questions or if you think I might be of help in any way.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]

Dr. Bill Hollerbach
Professor of French and Spanish, AF
President, AFLA, 1967-68

1000 1/2 Franklin Street, Juneau, Alaska 99801

*Chris
copy if bill files*

Parent Advisory Council
Gastineau School, Douglas, AK.
January 15, 1988

JAN 1 2

To: Representative Johnny Ellis

Dear Representative Ellis,

Gastineau School, in the Juneau School District, serves the community of Douglas and Douglas Island. Our student population is currently set at 312 elementary schoolchildren. For the past year, our parent group has sponsored a Japanese teacher who has provided our children with instruction in the Japanese language and exposure to the culture and customs of Japan. Parents, teachers and students have expressed such satisfaction with the program, we are preparing to extend the stay of our teacher for another year. The financial burden this places on our Parent Group is staggering, especially in light of our relatively small student population and the current economic slump being experienced by Juneau. As is usually the case, the benefits of such a program are shared by all of our students, while the commitment to fundraising is borne by a few of our more dedicated parents.

Your introduction of House Bills 341 and 343 which would appropriate funding and establish an Asian Language Fund for Alaskan schools, is a most timely and progressive step in preparing our children for their futures. Our Parent Advisory Council would like to extend our appreciation to you for recognizing this need and offer strong support for the passage of these bills. We would hope that the Alaska legislature would join you in your efforts to develop and maintain strong educational ties with the Pacific Rim.

Sincerely,

Paula M. Simpson

Paula M. Simpson
Exec. Director
Parent Advisory Council
Gastineau School, Douglas

EDITOR
Area School District

POST OFFICE BOX 90 - McGRATH, ALASKA 99627- (907)524-3033

Handwritten note:
Aid to
Leads to...
for...

MAR 07 1988

March 1, 1988

Representative Johnny Ellis
Co-Chairman, House HESS Committee
House of Representatives
Committee on Health, Education & Social Services
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Ellis:

I would like to offer my support for legislation HB 343. Representing a rural district I see this as an opportunity for the Alaska Department of Education to use the state's television capabilities to offer these language courses statewide. Along with the language, districts could purchase or copy selected videos on the history and culture of these countries.

Many districts are participating in the Sister-Schools project with some Pacific-Rim countries. The correspondence between students now is in English. This could change.

I see this legislation tying together Pacific Rim studies and the Sister-Schools programs and enhancing their relevancy for students.

Sincerely,

Sarah Hanuske-Hamilton
Superintendent

SHH:stc

Original sponsors: Ellis, Martin,
Brown, Boyer, et al.

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 343 (HESS)

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Pacific Rim language study grant
7 fund."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. PURPOSE. It is the purpose of this Act to

10 (1) assist the public school system to provide Pacific Rim
11 language study programs;

12 (2) encourage pupils in the study of Pacific Rim languages;

13 (3) promote growth in relations between the state and Pacific
14 Rim nations.

15 * Sec. 2. AS 14.30 is amended by adding new sections to read:

16 ARTICLE 9. PACIFIC RIM LANGUAGE STUDY GRANT FUND.

17 Sec. 14.30.700. PACIFIC RIM LANGUAGE STUDY GRANT FUND. (a) The
18 Pacific Rim language study grant fund is established. The department
19 may make grants from the fund to eligible districts in the public
20 school system for both written and spoken Pacific Rim language study
21 programs in grades K-12. Pacific Rim language study programs must be
22 in addition to and not in replacement of existing foreign language
23 programs.

24 (b) The department shall establish by regulation eligibility
25 criteria for receiving grants under this section. The department may
26 not award a grant to a district of the public school system under this
27 section for more than three consecutive fiscal years.

28 (c) In this section, "Pacific Rim languages" means Russian,
29 Tagalog, Chinese, Japanese, or Korean languages.

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY ELLIS, MARTIN, BROWN
AND BOYER

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 343

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Asian language study grant
7 fund."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. PURPOSE. It is the purpose of this Act to

10 (1) assist the public school system to provide Asian language
11 study programs;

12 (2) encourage pupils in the study of Asian languages;

13 (3) promote growth in relations between the state and Pacific
14 Rim nations.

15 * Sec. 2. AS 14.30 is amended by adding new sections to read:

16 ARTICLE 9. ASIAN LANGUAGE STUDY GRANT FUND.

17 Sec. 14.30.700. ASIAN LANGUAGE STUDY GRANT FUND. (a) The Asian
18 language study grant fund is established. The department may make
19 grants from the fund to eligible districts in the public school system
20 for Asian language study programs in grades K-12. Asian language
21 study programs must be in addition to and not in replacement of exist-
22 ing foreign language programs.

23 (b) The department shall establish by regulation eligibility
24 criteria for receiving grants under this section. The department may
25 not award a grant to a district of the public school system under this
26 section for more than three consecutive fiscal years.

27 (c) For purposes of this section, "Asian language" means
28 Chinese, Japanese, or Korean languages.