

HB

174

STATE OF ALASKA

Department of Education & Early Development
Office of the Commissioner

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

Goldbelt Place
801 West Tooth Street, Suite 200
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1A04
(907) 463-2800
(907) 463-4156 Fax

March 6, 2003

Dear ACS students and families,

We regret to inform you of the proposed permanent closure of Alyeska Central School effective June 30, 2003. This proposal is being pursued as part of a statewide move to reduce government spending and to eliminate duplicate services. We want to assure you and your family that we will make every attempt to make this change with as little impact as possible on your schooling.

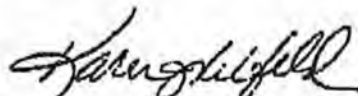
Alyeska has been in existence since 1939 as an effective alternative correspondence study program for students, first in the Territory of Alaska and, upon statehood in 1959, in the State of Alaska. In the past six years about a dozen additional correspondence study programs have been created by school districts in Alaska. Each of these programs enrolls students statewide. In fact, Alyeska Central School enrollments have decreased in recent years as some students have selected services through these other programs. There are about 8,000 students enrolled in other district operated statewide correspondence programs.

There are several options available for Alyeska students in our state. The local school district in which you reside may offer a correspondence program, a charter school or other alternative school. Our Alyeska staff will work with you over the next four months to find a suitable program, should you need assistance. In addition, Alyeska staff members will do all they can to help students complete their current coursework and graduating seniors earn their diplomas by June 30, 2003.

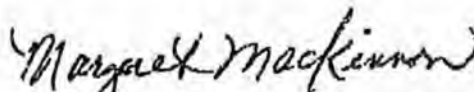
The closure of Alyeska is currently a proposal that will require legislative action to repeal the responsibility of the Department of Education & Early Development to operate a correspondence program [AS 14.07.020 (9)]. There will be public hearings on the bill as it moves through the legislature. You can follow the bill through your local Legislative Information Office.

We encourage you to work to complete your current courses by the middle of June. Continue to send in your work on a regular basis and contact your teacher or counselor if you have questions or need any help in completing your work. Thank you for the opportunity to support your education through Alyeska Central School.

Sincerely,



Karen Rehfeld
Acting Commissioner



Margaret MacKinnon, Acting Director
Alyeska Central School

Alyeska Central School Student Enrollment Counts as of 3/4/03

ACS Students by district as of 3/4/03	Total	Grades K-6	Grades 7-12	Regular (all grades)	Tuition (all grades)
TOTALS	1082	176	906	641	441
Alaska Gateway Schools	3	0	3	1	2
Aleutians East Borough Schools	1	0	1	0	1
Anchorage Schools	459	64	395	324	135
Annette Islands Schools	3	1	2	2	1
Bering Strait Schools	9	1	8	6	3
Bristol Bay Borough Schools	2	0	2	0	2
Chatham Schools	9	1	8	7	2
Copper River Schools	22	5	17	8	14
Craig City Schools	1	0	1	1	0
Delta/Greely Schools	2	0	2	1	1
Denali Borough Schools	1	0	1	1	0
Dillingham City Schools	3	0	3	3	0
Fairbanks North Star Borough Schools	62	15	47	45	17
Galena City Schools	5	0	5	2	3
Haines Borough Schools	10	0	10	4	6
Hoonah City Schools	1	0	1	1	0
Iditarod Area Schools	3	0	3	1	2
Juneau Borough Schools	148	21	127	65	83
Kake City Schools	1	1	0	1	0
Kenai Peninsula Borough Schools	65	9	56	35	30
Ketchikan Gateway Borough Schools	14	3	11	10	4
Kodiak Island Borough Schools	20	14	6	17	3
Kuspuk School District	1	0	1	0	1
Lake & Peninsula Borough Schools	6	2	4	3	3
Lower Kuskokwim Schools	23	5	18	11	12
Lower Yukon Schools	2	0	2	1	1
Mat-Su Borough Schools	59	11	48	39	20
Mt. Edgecumbe High School	17	0	17	0	17
Nenana City Schools	1	1	0	1	0
Nome City Schools	6	2	4	5	1
North Slope Borough Schools	51	3	48	5	46
Northwest Arctic Borough Schools	8	1	7	6	2
Pelican City Schools	1	0	1	1	0
Petersburg City Schools	10	3	7	10	0
Pribilof Schools	2	0	2	2	0
Sitka Borough Schools	20	2	18	2	18
Skagway City Schools	1	0	1	0	1
Southeast Island Schools	5	2	3	5	0
Southwest Region Schools	10	4	6	5	5
Valdez City Schools	4	0	4	3	1
Wrangell Public Schools	4	1	3	2	2
Yukon Flats Schools	4	3	1	4	0
Yukon/Koyukuk Schools	2	0	2	0	2
Yup'it Schools	1	1	0	1	0

Regular enrollment represents students funded by the foundation formula. Tuition enrollment represents students enrolled in courses paid for by parents or districts.

ACSEA 2000-2003 Master Agreement

ARTICLE 14 Salary

Section 1 Salary Schedule

A. Salary Schedule effective July 1, 2000:

Year	B+0		B+18		B+36 M+0	
	Annual	Semi-Monthly	Annual	Semi-Monthly	Annual	Semi-Monthly
0/A	\$41,280	\$1,720	\$42,960	\$1,790	\$44,592	\$1,858
1/B	\$42,960	\$1,790	\$44,592	\$1,858	\$46,248	\$1,927
2/C	\$44,592	\$1,858	\$46,248	\$1,927	\$47,904	\$1,996
3/D	\$46,248	\$1,927	\$47,904	\$1,996	\$49,560	\$2,065
4/E	\$47,904	\$1,996	\$49,560	\$2,065	\$51,216	\$2,134
5/F	\$49,560	\$2,065	\$51,216	\$2,134	\$52,872	\$2,203
6/G	\$51,216	\$2,134	\$52,872	\$2,203	\$54,528	\$2,272
7/H	\$52,872	\$2,203	\$54,528	\$2,272	\$56,184	\$2,341
8/I			\$56,184	\$2,341	\$57,816	\$2,409
9/J			\$57,816	\$2,409	\$59,496	\$2,479
10/K					\$61,104	\$2,546
11/L					\$62,784	\$2,616
12/M					\$64,416	\$2,684

- B. The annual (semi-monthly) pay rate are for teachers who work full-time. Pay computations for teachers who work less than full-time shall be pro-rated.
- C. The State will provide each teacher who was employed on May 31, 2000 and on the payroll July 3, 2000, a one-time flat payment of \$1,200.00 less required employee and employer deductions, no later than July 31, 2000.
- D. The salary schedule shown in Section 1A will be in effect for the period July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001.
- E. The salary schedule shown in Section 1A will be adjusted by an increase of 2% for the period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002.
- F. The salary schedule shown in Section 1A as adjusted by Section 1E will be further adjusted by an increase of 3% for the period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003.

**Source: Alaska Department of Education and Early Development
Public School Funding Program
Prepared 3/13/02**

School District	State Contribution	Cost Per Student	FY02ADM	Cor.ADM	#ACS St.
Anchorage	\$199,751,175	\$4,101.85	48,697.83	549.00	459
Fairbanks NSB	\$65,099,549	\$4,325.10	15,051.58	202.93	62
Juneau	\$20,873,019	\$3,825.06	5,456.90	50.60	148
Kenai	\$42,718.263	\$4,530.57	9,428.90	370.48	65
Lower Kuskokwim	\$35,262,741	\$9,669.69	3,646.73	00.00	23
Mat-Su	\$65,370,660	\$5,133.72	12,733.59	422.65	59
Sitka	\$6,709,606	\$4,390.069	1,528.36	81.05	20
North Slope	\$8,945,709	\$4,426.86	2,020.78	00.00	51
Northwest Arctic	\$19,505,893	\$9,070.82	2,150.40	13.95	8
ACS	\$4,701.228	\$3,220.80	00.00	1,465.47	1,465.47

March 25, 2003

To HESS Committee members:

Re: HB 174 – Closure of Alyeska Central School

Due to limited phone access the following testimony has been called in.

From: Sharon McEwen, Gold Creek, via Talkeetna, Alaska 99676

We live north of Talkeetna off of the railroad. We receive mail every other week. Have two daughters attending Alyeska Central School via snail mail. The school has been wonderful. We have been nine years with Alyeska. My oldest daughter began with Alyeska when she was in kindergarten and she is now in 8th grade. I also have a younger daughter in the program. Like teachers, think they are wonderful.

Not sure if they (other correspondence programs) will have a mail program available. We have no e-mail or other access. Only have a radiophone that doesn't always work all that well.

Please do not close the Alyeska Central School. Thank you

Subject: [Fwd: Testimony Daniel Knudson Concerning HB 174 purposed closer of ACS]
Date: Tue, 25 Mar 2003 14:43:07 -0900
From: Carl Gatto <Representative_Carl_Gatto@Legis.state.ak.us>
Organization: Alaska State Legislature
To: Cody Rice <Cody_Rice@legis.state.ak.us>

Subject: Testimony Daniel Knudson Concerning HB 174 purposed closer of ACS
Date: Tue, 25 Mar 2003 18:06:28 EST
From: Terrymcdt@aol.com
To: Representative_Carl_Gatto@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Representative Carl Gatto,

My name is Daniel Knudson. I testified via teleconference in favor of keeping Alyeska Central School open when this bill was last heard in the special committee on Education. When this bill (HB174) was last heard it was requested that I send in a written copy of my testimony. Here below is a copy of the testimony as it was meant to be read.

Thank You For Your Time
Life Long Alaskan Daniel Knudson

My name is Daniel Knudson. I am a senior at Alyeska Central School and have been attending the program for the last three years. Before attending Alyeska Central, I went to both public and private schools. I have also taken classes from the University of Alaska. In all of my academic experience, I have never participated in such a well organized, challenging and enlightening program. Why did I chose to go to Alyeska over the public and private schools offered in my area? Because I was afraid, not of the growing violence in schools or that I would fail the curriculum, for I have always had good grades, but I was afraid that I wasn't learning anything. Sure I got good grades and yes I did well on the standardized tests, but I never felt like I was receiving the education I needed. Later, when I began to think about my future, I could not get over the doubt in my mind that when I graduated, these schools would not have prepared me for the next stage in life. Then I became a student of Alyeska Central and found stimulating classes, supportive teachers and interesting topics that challenged my intelligence. The self-reliance and self-initiative that is required to succeed at Alyeska teaches the youth of this State how to think for themselves, organize their own schedules, and to follow the facts. This will give them an advantage as the future entrepreneurs of Alaska.

Alyeska's year-round courses allow students to study at their own pace and, if for some reason they should have to stop for a time, Alyeska allows those students to continue while out of state or to stop in the middle of the semester and begin again where they left off. I was able to use this advantage last year when my father was diagnosed with cancer. We had to leave the state for several months. If I had been attending another school, I would have had to retake that semester of school, putting off my high school graduation for another year. This year round flexible schedule does not only benefit the students of ACS but also students from schools around the state. Those students that need just one more credit to graduate can take a class over the summer and finish before college starts. Students who want to participate in a class that is full or not offered at their school can receive that class through ACS.

Alyeska is a complete, effective, and accredited academic institution, which has been effectively educating the youth of Alaska since 1939. Alaska's future depends on a well educated youth and Alyeska has demonstrated for the last 64 years that it is one of the best educational programs in Alaska. And if Alyeska is allowed to continue, it will carry on its mission of help the youth of the state achieve academic excellence. And I believe Alyeska Central School will be instrumental in building an Alaska that is one of growth and prosperity.

Hello,

I am Becky Crabtree, an alternative education teacher in Barrow.

One of my jobs in the North Slope Borough School District is to coordinate correspondence classes for students throughout the district.

We began a district affiliation with Alyeska Central School last March. Since that time, over 50 North Slope students in six remote villages in grade levels 1-12 have enrolled in one or more classes. A wide variety of classes are available to our students who do not have access to higher level language classes or other elective offerings, to those who choose to study at home, and to those who need a class at a time when some of our small schools can't schedule it. Imagine, in the tiny village of Nuiqsut, we have a student learning Basic Electronics and another taking Photography, classes that the local school district cannot offer. These students have in-depth support for their studies from ACS.

Our students NEED ACS and the accredited opportunities it provides.

The proposal to close it has driven me to search for other options for the North Slope. After looking at the alternatives I am convinced that ACS provides the best academic support, and most varied classes off-line and on-line for the students of the North Slope.

Please consider the needs of our North Slope rural students as you study this bill.

Thank you.

-Becky Crabtree

MAR 19 2003

Wolcott Family
5639 Fenwick Circle
Anchorage, Alaska 99516
907-346-2962 hm
907-346-3962 fx

To: Senator Davis, Senator Dyson, Senator Green, Senator Guess, Senator Wilken, Representative Coghill, Representative Cissna, Representative Gara, Representative Gatto, Representative Heinze, Representative Kapsner, Representative Seaton, Representative Wilson, Representative Wolf, Representative Rokeberg.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify yesterday (March 18, 2003). I have been listening to testimonies from different perspectives since testimonies began. What I got out of yesterdays meeting was that you are in need of more financial information and requested copies of our testimonies. In my research the attached is the most informative information I have seen. Currently, we are working on the comparisons of other programs to ACS, upon completion we will forward on to you. We are still waiting for several schools to call us back. We began this mission March 5th, 2003 (10 working days). What will our children do with this return phone call time frame? Please SAVE Alyeska Central School (ASC) Home School Program.

My testimony:

My name is Kym Wolcott. We are an Alaskan family born & raised. Currently we have two children enrolled in ACS, 7th and 8th grade.

Our experience with our local schools was a night mare. We were told on several occasions that they did not have time for our children due to the overcrowding and lack of staff (budget cuts). Upon repeated messages such as this, we started researching other options for our children's education. We found ACS to be the best resource for our family. Our family business takes us to many areas in Alaska. ACS allows our family the opportunity to be together and at the same time contribute to their education to the highest quality. At the time they were in the local school system they were receiving middle to low grades. Now due to ACS's quality education program they are receiving top notch grades.

On Saturday at the Anchorage Town Hall Meeting the Anchorage School District representatives were crying over lack of funding and additional budget cuts. Sending our children to Anchorage School District is not going to save the state money. Seems to us you would just be shifting the problem, not solving the problem.

The children actually enjoy learning now. These children are our future for Alaska. Please don't undermine this already effective educational opportunity. Let there be no child left behind. Please do not get rid of the ACS family.

1 of 4

Alyeska Central School Costs and Funding

Statement by Rick Currier,

**Alyeska Central School Teacher and member, Alyeska Central School
Education Association**

Alyeska Central School receives the majority of its funding from the Department of Education and Early Development foundation funding. Other income comes from selling courses on a tuition basis at \$250.00 per semester course and some federal grant funding under the Migrant Education program. Foundation funding and tuition course receipts, not appropriated funds fund faculty and staff salaries, educational supplies, the warehouse lease, and course-printing equipment costs. In addition, ACS is "taxed" for certain services received from the Department and other state agencies including:

\$52,000.00 per year for the Commissioner's office
\$15,000.00 per year for the State Board of Education
\$18,300.00 per year for ESS costs including Human Resources, and accounting
\$19,000.00 per year for miscellaneous services from other departments
Including legal services from the Department of Law, risk
management, mail room operation, and the library connection
\$11,000.00 per year for IT support
\$115,300.00 annual total

The above costs are paid with receipts from foundation funding and tuition courses. If ACS is closed, other divisions in the Department will have to bear these costs.

Alyeska Central School has two major leases. One is the warehouse at \$128,000.00 per year. The Department of Administration contributes \$19,000.00 per year toward this lease. Alyeska's annual cost share for the warehouse lease is \$109,000.00 per year. The other lease is \$95,000.00 for printer/copier machines to reproduce course lesson plans. Both leases are funded with ACS's proceeds from foundation funding and tuition courses. The warehouse lease expires in 2009. Although the lease has a release clause if the Legislature doesn't fund ACS, the State doesn't typically cancel active leases in order to maintain the good will and confidence of lenders and leasers.

In my previous testimony, I stated that closing Alyeska Central School will cost the State money, rather than save money. I have included several enclosures that breakdown the differences in FTE the State will pay if various percentages of our currently enrolled students enter classrooms in Anchorage, which receives no rural cost differential funding, rather than enroll in another distance education program. Please note the statements that you have heard from several parents and students indicating that they do not feel other distance learning programs can meet their needs. Thus, if 25 per cent of our 641 foundation-funded students enroll in local brick and mortar schools at 100 per cent FTE, the State will pay an additional \$128,521.00 or 6 per cent more per year.

2054

If 40 per cent seek brick and mortar enrollment, it will cost the State \$205, 000.00 more per year. If 70 per cent enroll in local classrooms, the State will pay an additional \$359,000.00 per year. Note that these figures are for Anchorage or schools that have no rural cost differentials. If rural cost differentials are added, the costs increase substantially. For example, our five Barrow students will cost the State an additional \$2823.04 each per year each or \$14, 115.00 per year in rural cost differential plus the difference between 0.8 and 100 per cent FTE of \$3946.00 for an increase of \$18,061.00. That's just for five students. We have students in every school district in the state. Note that if 95 per cent or more of our students enter brick and mortar classrooms next year, the result will be a 25 percent foundation funding increase.

- Encl: (1) ACS Closure is not a Cost Saving chart
(2) Potential Foundation Funding Increases due to ACS Closure graphic
(3) Alyeska Central School Student Enrollment Counts as of 03/04/03

3 of 4

ACS Closure Is not a cost savings!

\$4,010 Per Student 641 Students \$ 2,056,328

Correspondence		Brick & Mortar		Foundation \$	Increase	%
Stay	80%	Switch	100%			
95%	\$ 1,953,512	5%	\$ 128,521	\$ 2,082,032	\$ 25,704	1%
90%	\$ 1,850,895	10%	\$ 257,041	\$ 2,107,736	\$ 51,408	3%
85%	\$ 1,747,879	15%	\$ 385,562	\$ 2,133,440	\$ 77,112	4%
80%	\$ 1,645,082	20%	\$ 514,082	\$ 2,159,145	\$ 102,817	5%
75%	\$ 1,542,246	25%	\$ 642,603	\$ 2,184,849	\$ 128,521	6%
70%	\$ 1,439,430	30%	\$ 771,123	\$ 2,210,553	\$ 154,225	8%
65%	\$ 1,336,613	35%	\$ 899,644	\$ 2,236,257	\$ 179,929	9%
60%	\$ 1,233,797	40%	\$ 1,028,164	\$ 2,261,961	\$ 205,633	10%
55%	\$ 1,130,980	45%	\$ 1,156,685	\$ 2,287,665	\$ 231,337	11%
50%	\$ 1,028,164	50%	\$ 1,285,205	\$ 2,313,370	\$ 257,042	13%
45%	\$ 925,348	55%	\$ 1,413,726	\$ 2,339,074	\$ 282,746	14%
40%	\$ 822,531	60%	\$ 1,542,246	\$ 2,364,778	\$ 308,450	15%
35%	\$ 719,715	65%	\$ 1,670,767	\$ 2,390,482	\$ 334,154	16%
30%	\$ 616,898	70%	\$ 1,799,287	\$ 2,416,186	\$ 359,858	18%
25%	\$ 514,082	75%	\$ 1,927,808	\$ 2,441,890	\$ 385,562	19%
20%	\$ 411,266	80%	\$ 2,056,328	\$ 2,467,594	\$ 411,266	20%
15%	\$ 308,449	85%	\$ 2,184,849	\$ 2,493,298	\$ 436,971	21%
10%	\$ 205,633	90%	\$ 2,313,369	\$ 2,519,003	\$ 462,675	23%
5%	\$ 102,816	95%	\$ 2,441,890	\$ 2,544,707	\$ 488,379	24%
0%	\$ -	100%	\$ 2,570,410	\$ 2,570,411	\$ 514,083	25%

Current ACS Foundation Funding

Average Foundation Funding Increase

Potential Foundation Funding Increase

Cost Differential
1.504

Barrow	\$ 6,031.04
ACS	\$ 3,208.00
	\$ 2,823.04

Additional Foundation Funding needed for students returning to local districts with cost differential such as Barrow.

Local Contribution
23%

JSD	\$ 4,932.30
ACS	\$ 3,208.00
	\$ 1,724.30

Additional Local Funding needed for students returning to local districts with a local contribution such as Juneau.

A of A

.. "Keep Calm" - I was a little upset that you would
adjourn in the middle of my 3 minutes. Would it
have hurt anyone to wait 1-1/2 min?? after I waited
4 hrs on the phone... I was forced to skip much so
I hope you will read this thru for what I was
unable to say.

*Please make copies for the other committee members.

testimony before House Education Committee 2/12/03

MAR 19 2003

Mr. Chairman:

My name is Nancy Richard. I live remote. My son attended Hiyeska
A thru 12. He graduated in Jan and immediately entered UAF's
school of fisheries.

Speaking from experience I can honestly say Hiyeska has a
program so far beyond other schools that there is no comparison.
Their wisdom in education by correspondence comes from 50 years
of experience. . .

If my son had not graduated by June 30, I don't know what
we would have done. What about the students who will not
graduate till July and August with college plans for Sept?!

HLS has survived and thrived since 1937 because they have
the unique background, skill and knowledge to adapt to each
student's individual needs - things gained through long-term
experience, that in turn gives their students the necessary
tools, education and vital skills required to enter and succeed
in college. They write their own courses supplemented by text
books as there are none, esp in math, written for
correspondence and have received awards for them. They have
the unique ability to write courses that enable home teachers to
integrate students from several grade levels into one class.

They have science programs developed to address the needs
of all of Alaska's unique lifestyles - be it a student on a
fishing boat, a trapline, living subsistence, rural, remote,

urban, traveling or becridden.

My son was obsessed with marine life since age 3. Working with the school we developed marine life courses for him K thru 6 th grade... one has becomea permanent course. In high school they found him an out of state oceanography course

This past summer he was accepted into the Rural Alaska honors institute at UAF where he completed a full semester of 3 regular courses in 6 weeks, earning 6 college credits, with 3.25 GPA. The learning skills he gained at HOS were really put to the test.

he is currently a straight A student at UAF and has been allowed to take a post graduate course in marine research as a freshman because of the strong background they helped him to build.....

He is not unique. I attended the past 3 Academic Decarnations and saw the brilliant, teams they built each year. In 2001, a student from a small island in southeast, won 7 medals and was later offered a full scholarship to Stanford. They also won the Super Quiz, their main event, over all 30 schools competing and took 3rd place in the large school Div, competing against all the largest schools in Alaska. In 2002 they again took 3rd place for large schools, missing and by only a few points coming close to being runner up for National competition. The team also won numerous medals. The 2003 team won 4 gold medals and a silver. We had, and hope to have, high hopes for them for next year. Their opportunity rests in your hands. This kind of achievement is a direct reflection of the

school..and it's teachers. Su-Valley has been the only Mat-ED school attending .

I have known parents who left HCS for Calvert or Borough programs because they were not so demanding, and rigorous.

Parents and students continue to choose HCS because of its academic excellence. I cannot emphasize this enough. they deserve to continue to have this option. You cannot say you value a good education for ALL of Alaskas children and then close the door on a program like this..many rural and remote students will literally be left behind.

Schools Statewide can purchase courses from HCS to replace ones hit by budget cuts. One more valuable service to the state.

Alyeska is a priceless treasure that deserves to be appreciated, respected and continue to be PROMOTED by STATE LHW. In ending I can only say

my God

how can it be that budgets are balanced
on the backs of children and the elderly
those who were our beginning and those
who are our future

my God

how do you make children understand
that their school is irrelevant,
and their education is only equated

in dollars.

My God

How can they say that a school
older than the state itself
that is the embodiment of the old saying
"Age is Wisdom" faces extinction

My God

what kind of future can we hope to have
when we are so blind
to the precious gifts we have
and hold in our hands

We need your help Lord

amen.

TO: State of Alaska
House Education Services Committee
ATTN: Representative Peggy Wilson, Chair

March 14, 2003

FROM: Phoebe Blackwell
Yukon Island
PO Box 2454
Homer, AK 99603

NOTE: I would like this testimony entered into public record.

I am the mother of a 15-year-old Autistic child (Asperger's Syndrome) who is enrolled in Alyeska Central School (ACS). We recently received notice that there is a proposal to close ACS. We are frankly horrified. Our son was enrolled at the beginning of this school year in ACS and for the first time in his life is on grade level in his schooling and achieving a B+ average. This would not be possible without ACS. In addition, due to other health issues in our family we travel to and from Alaska and the only way his schooling is still accommodated is through ACS.

My husband and I have five children. Within Alaskan schools our score is 1 success, 4 failures. Our oldest daughter did fine in the Anchorage School District. The next 4 kids (all boys) have the following record: Our 25 year old ended up in SAVE, our 22 year old made it with a 3.8 gpa to his senior year then barely graduated. Our 18 year old got a GED from the Alaska Military Youth Academy. The last of the four is our 15 year old. Not a great average!

The teachers and counselors at ACS have been wonderful. This is one of the most beneficial programs in Alaska, I myself was homeschooled on Yukon Island in Kachemak Bay, Alaska some 30+ years ago. Please don't take away this viable alternative for kids who just do not do well in the regular schools of Alaska. I believe removal of this program would be a detriment to the future of Alaska.

Sincerely,



Phoebe Blackwell

P.S. With No Lab Fees, No Athletic Fees, NO Office Staff, No Luncheon I cannot believe putting these kids back into a district school would be cheaper than ACS.

P Blackwell



Willow Springs Center

A Residential Treatment Center For Children and Adolescents
890 Edison Way
Reno, NV 89502
(775) 858-3303
FAX: (775) 858-4585

August 16, 2001

ATTENTION: SERGEANT BREWER - FAX No. (907) 580-2180

Re: Christopher Czokra

This is a letter supporting the medical necessity of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Blackwell being in Reno for transition family therapy and the discharge of Mrs. Blackwell's 13-year-old son, Christopher Czokra from 8 months of residential psychiatric treatment at Willow Springs Center. Issues about discharge planning, family structure, stabilization, and coping strategies and support are crucial in Chris making a successful return to his family and community. His present Axis I psychiatric diagnoses are:

1. Impulsive control disorder
2. Pervasive developmental disorder, atypical
3. Attention Deficit Disorder, mixed.

He has done quite well in the treatment program and is on no psychotropic medication.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'L. Nussbaum', is written over the typed name.

Larry Nussbaum, M.D.
Medical Director
Willow Springs Center

LN/jb

CUMULATIVE STUDENT RECORD

TRUCKEE MEADOWS SCHOOL
 880 EDISON WAY RENO, NV. 89502
 (775) 858-3303 1-800-448-8454

DATE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	GRADE	CREDIT
	Language Arts 7	F	
	Social Studies 7	F	
	Science 7	F	
	Math 7	F	
	Physical Education	Pass	
	Recreation	Pass	

STUDENT ENTRY DATE: 1/29/01
 LAST SCHOOL ATTENDED: Romig Middle School
 GRADE: 8

STUDENT NAME: CZIKRA, Christopher
 BIRTH DATE: 11/24/87

PARENT OR GUARDIAN: Don and Phoebe Blackwell
 HOME PHONE: _____
 WORK PHONE: _____
 CITY: Anchorage, AK
 ZIP CODE: 99517

DATE OF WITHDRAWAL: 10/8/01

PROFICIENCY TEST:

READING	_____	ATTENDED	ASSENT
WRITING	N/A	122 DAYS	0
MATH	_____	CREDIT EARNED	NC
DATE PASSES	_____		

Grades reflect Spring semester 2000-2001 at Truckee Meadows School.

Note: Failing grades due to excessive absences and incomplete work.

SUMMER SCHOOL

DATE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	GRADE	CREDIT

CURRENT SEMESTER

DATE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	GRADE	CREDIT
Fall '01-02	Language Arts 8	F	
	Science 8	F	
	Social Studies 8	F	
	Math 8	F	
	Physical Education	Pass	
	Recreation	Pass	

Grades are withdrawal from Truckee Meadows School.

DATE THIS TRANSCRIPT ISSUED: MONTH Oct DAY 9 YEAR 2001
 TRANSCRIPT SENT TO: Romig Middle School
Don and Phoebe Blackwell
 AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: *[Signature]*
 School Registrar

— CLASSES MEET 5 DAYS A WEEK — 60 MINUTES LENGTH OF PERIOD
 38 WEEKS IN A SCHOOL YEAR —
 CREDITS MAY BE EARNED: TRADITIONAL COURSE WORK
 COMPETENCY-BASED APPROACH
 INDEPENDENT SUPERVISED STUDY

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

FORM SMS 444/99

SCHOOL NAME AND ADDRESS

RONIC MIDDLE SCHOOL
2500 MINNESOTA DRIVE
ANCHORAGE ALASKA 99515
274-0541

STUDENT NAME

GIKWA, CHRISTOPHER H

STUDENT NUMBER

9301273

GRADING PERIOD

SECOND QUARTER

DATE

07 JAN 03

COURSE TITLE / TEACHER

- 1 AFF SK DEV 7-B
RUBEN, Barb
- 2 M SKA SOC 7-B
Lydia, Kerry
- 3 READINGS 7-B11
TAYLOR, MARSHA
- 4 TM MATH B
DANNEBRING, T
- 5 MEAC 1A
MEAC 1A
- 6 CHALMERS, AL
COMPUTER
WHITTEN, T
- 7 LS SOC SK 7-B
RUBEN, Barb

CLASS

- 1 C 02
- 2 C 03
- 3 C 04
- 4 B 01
- 5 C 02
- 6 C 02
- 7 C 10

COMMENTS

STUDENT'S CLASS MATERIALS ARE OFTEN FORGOTTEN

STUDENT'S CLASS MATERIALS ARE OFTEN FORGOTTEN
CLASS PARTICIPATION IS USUALLY SATISFACTORY

STUDENT MUST LEARN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES AS AN ENTERING 9TH GRADE STUDENT

IF THE PARENTS OR GUARDIAN OF
CHRISTOPHER GIKWA
3175 DORRIS AVE
ANCHORAGE AK 99517-2032

PowerSchool

Page 1 of 1

Class Score Detail

Course	Teacher	Period	Final Grade
Phya Science S1	Herding, Patrick	3	B+ (89%)

Due Date	Category	Assignment	Score	%	Grd
08/14/2002	Unit	Unit 1	266.5/310	85.97	B
08/15/2002	Unit	Unit 2	290/314	92.36	A-
08/16/2002	Unit	Unit 3	()/311		
08/17/2002	Unit	Unit 4	()/306		
08/18/2002	Unit	Unit 5	()/338		

Grades last updated on 12/6/2002

Have Not Received Course Completion Yet.

Student Number 32973
Course Number 32011
Section 2

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
Alyeska Central School
3141 Channel Dr., #100
Juneau, AK 99801-7897

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL COURSE

This is to certify that Christopher Czikra has completed
General Math Semester 1 through the Alaska Department of
Education Alyeska Central School with a final grade of 89% B+.

This entitles the student to 1/2 units of high school credit.

Grading System	
Credits are "Carnegie" units	
A	= Outstanding (90 - 100)
B	= Superior (80 - 89)
C	= Average (70 - 79)
D	= Lowest Passing (60 - 69)
P	= Satisfactory Performance
F	= Failing (below 60)

Completion Date February 5, 2003



authorized signature

Teacher

(title)

Student Number 32973
Course Number 31111
Section _____

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
Alyeska Central School
3141 Channel Dr., #100
Juneau, AK 99801-7897

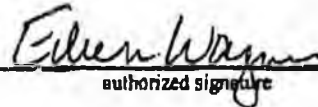
NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL COURSE

This is to certify that Christopher Czikra has completed
English 9, semester 1 through the Alaska Department of
Education Alyeska Central School with a final grade of B.

This entitles the student to 1/2 units of high school credit.

Grading System	
Credits are "Carnegie" units	
A	= Outstanding (90 - 100)
B	= Superior (80 - 89)
C	= Average (70 - 79)
D	= Lowest Passing (60 - 69)
P	= Satisfactory Performance
F	= Failing (below 60)

Completion Date January 31, 2003



authorized signature

Teacher

(title)

FROM :

FAX NO. :

Mar. 14 2003 02:32PM P4

Student Number 32973
 Course Number 34101
 Section 1

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
 Alyeska Central School
 3141 Channel Dr., #100
 Juneau, AK 99801-7897

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL COURSE

This is to certify that Chris Czilkra has completed
Alaska Studies: Geography and Cultures through the Alaska Department of
 Education Alyeska Central School with a final grade of A-

This entitles the student to .5 units of high school credit.

Grading System	
Credits are "Carnegie" units	
A =	Outstanding (90 - 100)
B =	Superior (80 - 89)
C =	Average (70 - 79)
D =	Lowest Passing (60 - 69)
P =	Satisfactory Performance
F =	Failing (below 60)

Completion Date November 27, 2002

[Signature]
 authorized signature

Teacher
 title

SID 32973
 Begin Date September 2002
 Course Code 33201.1

Alaska Department of Education
 Alyeska Central School
 3141 Channel Dr., #100
 Juneau, AK 99801-7897

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL COURSE

This is to certify that Christopher Czilkra has completed
Biology - semester 1 through the Alaska Department of
 Education Alyeska Central School with a final grade of B (84%).

This entitles the student to 0.5 units of high school credit.

Grading System	
Credits are "Carnegie" units	
A =	Outstanding (90 - 100)
B =	Superior (80 - 89)
C =	Average (70 - 79)
D =	Lowest Passing (60 - 69)
P =	Satisfactory Performance
F =	Failing (below 60)

Completion Date February 20, 2003

[Signature]
 authorized signature

Teacher
 title

Mary Alice McKeen
212 West 9th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
March 17, 2003

Representative Carl Gatto
Chair, Special Committee on Education
Re: House Bill 174 *via fax 965-2381*

Dear Representative Gatto,

I have two children currently in the Alaska schools and one who graduated last year. My daughter who graduated last year graduated from Alyeska Central Correspondence School. I think correspondence school is a valuable option for parents to have. It is different from support for parents who are home schooling their children, which I have also done. Therefore, I hope your Committee takes a hard look at House Bill 174. I think the State should not lose the correspondence option for parents and students in this State.

Thank you for your and the Committee's work.

Sincerely,

Mary Alice McKeen
Mary Alice McKeen

Please distribute to the other Committee members. Thanks.