

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Chugach School District****Federal Tax ID: 12-0099887****Project Title:****Project Type:** Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades

Chugach School District - Voyage to Excellence Facility Renovation

State Funding Requested: \$2,352,952**House District:** Anchorage Areawide (16-32)

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Facility Renovation Project for school which serves rural students statewide.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost: \$2,352,952

Funding Already Secured: (\$0)

FY2013 State Funding Request: (\$2,352,952)

Project Deficit: \$0

*Funding Details:**See attached.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Facility provides services for students from Alaska Native Villages all over the state. A proven track record of success, the program boasts a 98% graduation rate and has a waiting list for students wishing to attend.

Project Timeline:

Renovation and construction to begin in 2012

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Chugach School District

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Bob Crumley

Title: Superintendent

Address: 9312 Vanguard Dr.
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Phone Number: (907)522-7400

Email: bcrumley@chugachschoools.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Chugach School District

Agenda Item 10.1 - Resolution Number 12-05

CAPIS Project - Voyage to Excellence Expansion Phase Two

WHEREAS, the Voyage to Excellence (VTE) program has demonstrated high levels of success with a 98% graduation rate; and

WHEREAS, the VTE program has a long and growing wait list of students from across Alaska; and

WHEREAS, current VTE facilities limit the number of students who are able to participate; and

WHEREAS, the Chugach School District has funded the VTE program for 15 years with unsustainable grants; and

WHEREAS, a viable business plan has been developed to sustain the VTE program; and

WHEREAS, the cost of NOT expanding VTE is that it will NOT be sustained and all students will lose this valuable program;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Chugach School District Board of Education is hereby committed to supporting the Voyage to Excellence CAPIS proposal.

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board pass this resolution as presented.

PASSES, APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE CHUGACH SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND, AT ANCHORAGE, ALASKA THIS 5th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2011.

Board Member	Approve/Yea	Reject/Nay	Abstain
Charlene Arneson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thelma Vlasoff <i>N/A</i>			
Andrea Korbe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Roselene Vlasoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Katherine Kompkoff <i>N/A</i>			

ATTESTED: Patrick Flecker

DATE: 12/05/11

TITLE: Board Assistant

Esther J. Cox
7705 Highlander Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99518

January 26, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing this letter of support for the sustainability and proposed expansion of the Voyage to Excellence program.

Voyage to Excellence has generously partnered with many rural school districts across Alaska to offer excellent educational opportunities that compliment and enhance the education they are receiving in their local schools. Many rural students don't have the experience base of traveling to Anchorage or other larger urban centers, so you can only imagine the nervousness that a simple "trip to town" may have as they begin to transition to post-secondary opportunities.

The Voyage to Excellence program has a tremendously, positive impact on students in regards to building academic knowledge to help them in their pursuit of a high school diploma, as well as building the life skills that all young adults need to be successful in the world after high school. The program builds confidence, knowledge base and capacity in our youth so they can move on to a variety of post-secondary opportunities that may otherwise be out of their reach.

For students in rural Alaska, programs such as this are a must! The Voyage to Excellence program has developed an individualized curriculum that allows students to experience real-life opportunities, solve problems, make decisions, and become leaders in their schools and communities - all while in a supervised, supportive and success-driven environment. Students come back from this program with enthusiasm and tales of successfully completing things such as a solid career plan, preparing a personal budget, registering for college, and job shadowing at a variety of businesses throughout the Anchorage area, all of which are important to the successful transition to the world of work after high school.

We fully support the expansion and sustainability efforts of the Voyage to Excellence program as it seeks to offer opportunities to more of our young people statewide.

Sincerely,



Esther J. Cox
7705 Highlander Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99518
907-333-0956

STATE OF ALASKA

Department of Education & Early Development

Office of the Commissioner

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

*Goldbelt Place
801 West 10th Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 110500
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500
Telephone: (907) 465-2800
Fax: (907) 465-4156*

December 1, 2011

Chugach School District
Attn: Bob Crumley, Superintendent
Voyage to Excellence Program
9312 Vanguard Drive, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99507

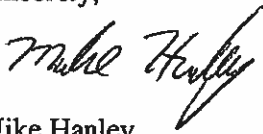
To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is to affirm that the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development heartily supports the Voyage to Excellence Program.

Voyage to Excellence is a long-standing, proven way to prepare students from around the state for the high-stakes High School Graduation Qualifying Examination and for careers. The program has formed successful partnerships with school districts, Native corporations and businesses. It is a well-thought-out program that first reaches students in middle school and continues with them throughout their high school careers.

Voyage to Excellence is a heartening example of local communities taking the lead to create solutions to statewide needs, and it is a model of urban and rural cooperation.

Sincerely,



Mike Hanley
Commissioner



8005 Schoon Street
Anchorage, AK 99508

Date: January 24, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing this letter of support for the sustainability and proposed expansion of the Voyage to Excellence program.

Voyage to Excellence has generously partnered with many rural school districts across Alaska to offer excellent educational opportunities that compliment and enhance the education they are receiving in their local schools. Many rural students don't have the experience base of traveling to Anchorage or other larger urban centers, so you can only imagine the nervousness that a simple "trip to town" may have as they begin to transition to post-secondary opportunities.

The Voyage to Excellence program has a tremendously, positive impact on students in regards to building academic knowledge to help them in their pursuit of a high school diploma, as well as building the life skills that all young adults need to be successful in the world after high school. The program builds confidence, knowledge base and capacity in our youth so they can move on to a variety of post-secondary opportunities that may otherwise be out of their reach.

For students in rural Alaska, programs such as this are a must! The Voyage to Excellence program has developed an individualized curriculum that allows students to experience real-life opportunities, solve problems, make decisions, and become leaders in their schools and communities - all while in a supervised, supportive and success-driven environment. Students come back from this program with enthusiasm and tales of successfully completing things such as a solid career plan, preparing a personal budget, registering for college, and job shadowing at a variety of businesses throughout the Anchorage area, all of which are important to the successful transition to the world of work after high school.

We fully support the expansion and sustainability efforts of the Voyage to Excellence program as it seeks to offer opportunities to more of our young people statewide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Kathleen Castle".

Kathleen Castle
Executive Director
Alaska Construction Academies

January 23, 2012

To Whom It May Concern,

The Tatitlek Corporation (TTC) is pleased to provide this letter expressing our support of the Chugach School District's Voyage to Excellence program (VTE). This remarkable program has the ability to provide necessary skills crucial to the transition from high school to adulthood, whether that is post-secondary education or the workforce. In addition to a 15-year record of success, VTE can also boast a 98% graduation rate for students who have participated in the program over the last 8-years.

VTE is structured to be a complementary educational program that can be paired with, and is beneficial to, any educational entity and its curriculum. It is due to this, and VTE's successful teaching methods, that there is a wait list for students wanting to attend. With your support in allocating funds toward the renovation and expansion of VTE, program capacity would increase from 250 students to 600 students annually. TTC has witnessed the difference this program makes in the success of our Tribe's youth and fully supports the transition of VTE to the next stage of program development.

As you continue to work towards developing the economic future for Alaska's youth, I urge you to consider supporting the expansion of the Voyage to Excellence Program.

Thank you for your time,



Lloyd Allen
Chairman of the Board
The Tatitlek Corporation



**ALASKA PENINSULA
CORPORATION**

2221 East Northern Lights Boulevard,
Suite 119 Anchorage, Alaska 99508

January 9, 2012

Dear Senator Begich,

I am writing to encourage your support to allocate funds for the renovation and expansion of the Voyage to Excellence (VTE) program. The VTE program, located in Anchorage, provides complimentary educational services for middle and high school students across Alaska. With a successful, 15-year proven record, students who participate in this program are 98% more likely to graduate from their local high schools and successfully enter into post-secondary training and/or the workforce. This program enhances the educational experience for our Alaskan youth, and creates a winning advantage for the entire state, as well as fosters the growth of our younger generation.

Benefits for Anchorage:

- All monies received from the request will have a positive economic impact in Anchorage through purchased goods and services. It would potentially add \$3.8 million to the local economy in the next 2 years.
- Allowing Anchorage-based businesses and corporations the opportunity to showcase potential industry jobs and careers to Alaska's future workforce.
- Providing an opportunity for Anchorage to play a key role in fostering the positive growth of all Alaskan youth.

Benefits for rural Alaska:

- Increased high school graduation rate for rural Alaska youth, which will lead to a direct economic impact in bush Alaska.
- Provide employability and technical training for the future workforce of Alaska.
- Develop and/or enhance skills and training in various areas including life skills, personal development, social development, service training, urban familiarization, leadership, and career development.

As you continue to work towards developing the economic future for Alaska's youth, I hope you will consider supporting the renovation and expansion of the Voyage to Excellence program.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Adrianne Hicks
Operations Assistant
Alaska Peninsula Corporation

KUSPUK SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 49
Aniak, Alaska 99557
(907) 675-4250
Fax (907) 675-4305

Brad Allen
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
(907) 675-4250, Ext. # ~~183~~ 222

January 24, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing this letter of support for the sustainability and proposed expansion of the Voyage to Excellence program.


Voyage to Excellence has generously partnered with many rural school districts across Alaska to offer excellent educational opportunities to students that compliment and enhance the education they are receiving in their local schools. Many rural students don't have the experience base of traveling to Anchorage or other larger urban centers, so you can only imagine the nervousness that a simple "trip to town" may have as they begin to transition to post-secondary opportunities.

The Voyage to Excellence program has a tremendously, positive impact on students in regards to building academic knowledge to help them in their pursuit of a high school diploma, as well as building the life skills that all young adults need to be successful in the world after high school. The program builds confidence, knowledge base and capacity in our youth so they can move on to a variety of post-secondary opportunities that may otherwise be out of their reach.

For students in rural Alaska, programs such as this are a must! The Voyage to Excellence program has developed an individualized curriculum that allows students to experience real-life opportunities, solve problems, make decisions, and become leaders in their schools and communities - all while in a supervised, supportive and success-driven environment. Students come back from this program with enthusiasm and tales of successfully completing things such as a solid career plan, preparing a personal budget, registering for college, and job shadowing at a variety of businesses throughout the Anchorage area, all of which are important to the successful transition to the world of work after high school. I know that it has had a great, positive impact in Kuspuk School District and have heard of similar experiences from other districts around the state that have had the opportunity to partner with Chugach School District in this very worthwhile endeavor.

Kuspuk School District fully supports the expansion and sustainability efforts of the Voyage to Excellence program as it seeks to offer opportunities to more of our young people statewide.

Sincerely,



Brad Allen
Superintendent – Kuspuk School District



KENAI PENINSULA

Graduation Really Achieves Dreams

December 15, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam,

Project GRAD Kenai Peninsula's is pleased to continue the support and strong partnership with the Voyage to Excellence (VTE) program. The VTE program is designed as a school-to-life program designed to give students the necessary skills to transition from high school to life after high school.

As a partner with VTE we have had the pleasure of sending many students to attend various VTE programs. Students have returned from these programs with more attainable goals, increased leadership skills, and added life-skills that are often not taught in the traditional education system. In addition, VTE has an outstanding proven record of student success. Students leave the program with an increased focus and passion of completing high school and either entering the post-secondary field or job market with the skills needed to succeed. Finally, VTE provides opportunities for students to earn career related certificates and college credit while attending high school.

Project GRAD Kenai Peninsula appreciates the partnership with VTE and looks forward to the continued collaboration and success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Petersen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Petersen
Executive Director



VOYAGE TO EXCELLENCE

9312 Vanguard Dr. Anchorage, AK 99507
Office 907-222-2712 | Fax 907-222-1514



January 24, 2012

Dear Supporter of Education:

Having served as a Teacher, Principal, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent with the Chugach School District (CSD) for 17 years, I have invested much of my livelihood into orchestrating the success of Alaskan youth through the Voyage to Excellence (VTE) program. While I have seen many succeed and shine, state statistics paint a less positive picture. The percentage of Alaska teens 16-19 neither in school nor graduated from high school has increased 25% from 2000 to 2008, ranking Alaska 47th in the nation for high drop-out rates. Minimal quality educational options exist for rural students, including opportunities that allow students to successfully transition into post-secondary school/training or the workforce. This results in increased dropout rates across Alaska.

Alaska's high dropout rate affects all Alaskans, not just in lost opportunities and an overall less employable workforce, but also monetarily. Nearly 4,000 students did not graduate from Alaska's high schools in 2009. The lost lifetime earning in Alaska for that class of dropouts alone, totals more than \$1 billion. Alaska would have saved more than \$57 million in health care costs over the course of the lifetimes of each class of dropouts had they earned their diplomas. Alaska's economy would see a combination of savings and revenue of approximately \$19 million in reduced crime spending and increased earnings each year if the male high school graduation rate increased by just five percent.

Many of these negative ramifications are preventable. The Chugach School district's Voyage to Excellence (VTE) program is a complimentary program to public school. Geared to individualize and to provide real-life academic experience, 98% of VTE students complete the requirements needed to receive a high school diploma. VTE has over 15 years of proven results and of those who completed VTE from 2003-2008: 39% are in college, 53% in work force (majority locally).

To continue to provide the immense benefits to students, CSD needs your help. We would like to invite your organization to contribute to the Voyage to Excellence and assist CSD in providing an outlet to prevent these negative outcomes for Alaska's youth. Please review the attached Alaska Education Tax Credit sheet for more information. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns at (907) 522-7400 or bcrumley@chugachschools.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Crumley'.

Bob Crumley
Superintendent
Chugach School District