

**Alyeska Central School
and
Juneau School District and Community**

Alyeska Central School (ACS) Academic Committee submitted an application for Alyeska Central School Correspondence Charter to the Juneau School District. ACS has been in existence for over 60 years. It is fully accredited as a K-12 school by the Northwest Association of Schools and of Colleges and Universities. The projected annual enrollment is 650 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) students K-12, with a student teacher ratio of 50 students for every teacher. ACS currently employs 28 staff who serve a variety of functions beyond the role of teaching. The need to seek district sponsorship for an ACS charter began in March of 2003 when an amendment was passed to allow the school a one-year transition out of the Department of Education & Early Development. The charter would not be enacted until July 2004. The Department of Education & Early Development has set a deadline of November 14, 2003 for submittal of proposals to assume the operation of Alyeska Central School. EED will select the proposal that best serves the educational needs of students in the state. Notification to the successful proposal will be given on or around December 1, 2003.

The Juneau Board of Education will formally decide on November 4, 2003 whether the district will submit of a proposal to the State. In the meantime a draft proposal is being developed.

Prior to the November 4 meeting, the School Board wanted to meet with the Assembly to make the Assembly aware of the potential acceptance and submittal of a proposal to EED and its possible impact to the community and the local taxpayers. This would provide them with an opportunity to gather ideas from the Assembly and address any concerns.

The over-riding impetus for the JSD to change their mission from Juneau students to statewide students is economic development. The assumption of ACS by the JSD has potential of keeping jobs in Juneau. Board members and District administration have met with the legislative delegation and the Chamber of Commerce to discuss many concerns and questions. The Board of Education is interested in supporting the economic development of the community of Juneau but not at the cost of local support.

There is a potential that with the assumption of ACS as a statewide charter, Juneau tax dollars could go to students outside of the city of Juneau. The Board does not want that to occur. The Board and the District administration are sensitive to this and will work collaboratively with the Assembly to insure that this would not occur (please see attached).