



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Nancy Rock, President
Members of the School Board

THROUGH: Rich Carlson, Interim Superintendent

THROUGH: Fadil Limani, Chief Financial Officer

FROM: Lori Roth, Director of Student Services, State & Federal Grants

DATE: December 5, 2021

SUBJECT: Grant Acceptance: Suicide Awareness Grant

DocuSigned by:
Richard Carlson
A89A62E72D5674F...

DocuSigned by:
Lori Roth
72BB07FFE6704B7...

Memo No: SB22-102
(Action Item)

2020-2025 Strategic Plan Goal:

1.0 STUDENT SUCCESS: All students will reach their intellectual potential and achieve academic success through integrating Iñupiaq knowledge systems into the core content areas and focusing on the development of the Whole Child.

1.7 STUDENT WELL-BEING: Support the physical, nutritional, mental, and social-emotional health of all students.

2.0 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Foster collective responsibility, commitment and trust between the school and community.

4.0 FINANCIAL & OPERATIONAL STEWARDSHIP: Effectively employ our operational and financial resources to support our strategic goals and long-term stability of the district.

4.2 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP/MANAGEMENT: Ensure financial management based on what is best for our students.

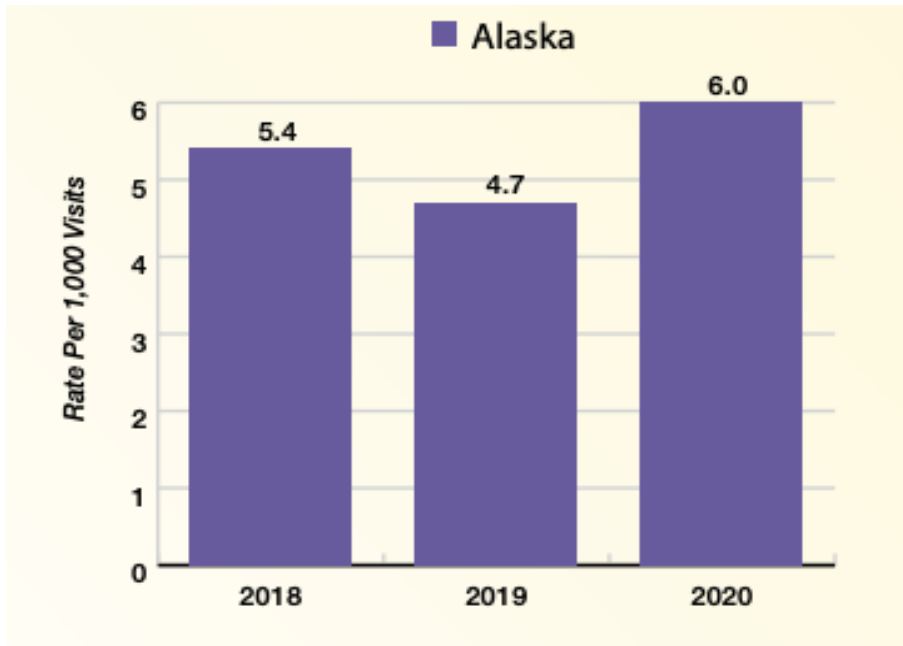
Issue Summary:

As prescribed in Board Policy 3290, the School Board greatly appreciates the support of community members and may accept suitable donations on behalf of the district. In order for the gift to be acceptable, the gift, grant or donation must satisfy the criteria 1 thru 7. Upon acceptance by the district, all gifts, grants, and bequests shall become district property. At the Superintendent or designee's discretion, a gift may be used at a particular school.

Background:

Alaska’s suicide rate remains among the highest in the country — around 30 deaths per 100,000 people (see data chart below). It’s the leading cause of death among Alaska youth over the age of 15. Beverly Schoonover, director of the statewide Suicide Prevention Council, said issues like economic inequity and childhood trauma have largely driven Alaska’s high suicide rates long before COVID-19. To date, there is no clear data to support the adverse effect of COVID-19. Schoonover said, people with existing mental health concerns have seen those exacerbated, and people who’ve never had serious concerns are developing anxiety or depression and seeking help. The Alaska Careline crisis hotline saw a 51 percent increase in the number of callers this year, according to the state’s report.

The North Slope Borough School District has applied for, and received the SAPP grant prior to 2015. Funds have been used to support the development of programs, increase staff and community awareness, and increase protective factors surrounding our youth. Protective factors include supportive adults and connections, student activities that promote feeling valued, social-emotional competence and self-regulation skills, attending a school with a positive climate, participating in quality and meaningful activities, promoting a sense of cultural identity and connection, and regular physical activity.



Length of Grant:

The Grant commences upon acceptance of the Grant by the BOE and execution of the Grant Agreement and terms on June 30, 2022.

Funding Source and Grant Award Amount:

This grant is funded by the Department of Education & Early development in partnership with the Alaska Suicide Prevention Council. The grant award amount is \$30,000.00.

Proposed Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve and accept the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Grant funded through the Department of Education & Early Development in the amount of \$30,000.00 for district-wide suicide awareness and intervention activities”.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Vote _____