

First meeting

State Council for bilingual education formed

by **Ramona N. Suetopka-Duerre**

On December 13 and 14 the State Advisory Council for Bilingual-Bicultural Education held its first meeting at the Anchorage International Inn. Eight agencies involved in bilingual bicultural education activities gave reports to the council. Participating agencies included: Mauneluk Association, Teacher Certification Board, Center for Equality of Opportunity in

Schooling, Sheldon Jackson College, Title VII Materials Development Center in Fairbanks, Alaska Native Language Center, X-CED Cross-cultural Education Program, and the Kuskokwim Community College.

The council members were appointed by Dr. Marshall Lind, State Commissioner of Education. The council was established to advance the establishment of bilingual-bicultural education programs in the regional educa-

tion attendance areas and organized borough school districts. And to make recommendations to the State Board of Education on policies and practices for bilingual-bicultural education statewide.

Members on the council include: Ray Colling (McGrath), Mary Gregory (Bethel), Bernadette Steve (St. Marys), Elaine Ramos (Fairbanks), Bill Tegoseak (Barrow), Robert McCopnell

(Hoonah), Ernest Casalucan (Kodiak), Maxine Richert (Juneau), Evan Thomas (Buckland), and Elmer Ipalook (Tok).

Two major items of concern the council has identified include: bilingual teacher certification and more parent/community involvement in the bilingual-bicultural education programs.