

Letters from Here and There

Noorvik Suggests High School Classrooms

Noorvik Education Association
Noorvik, Alaska 99763
January 3, 1974

Tundra Times
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which we are sending to Mr. Friese, Superintendent, Alaska State Operated School System, concerning Noorvik High School plans for next school year. The high school planners came around nearly a year ago but nothing in writing concerning the plans for a full high school program has been received yet. We still only have a ninth grade high school program even after

being promised a tenth grade program for this year. The new high school building is under construction now; but the question is whether or not we will be using it when it is finished in December of 1974. We are concerned and would appreciate your help in supporting us in getting the full high school program operational this coming fall.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
Darrel Sonnenberg, Sec.

Noorvik Education Association
Noorvik, Alaska 99763
January 2, 1974

Mr. Stanley Friese,
Superintendent
Alaska State Operated School System
650 International Airport Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Friese:

Since one half of the 1973-74 school year is almost complete and there appears to have been no effort to make plans for the Noorvik High School for the 1974-75 school year, and in order that no Noorvik student be forced to spend another year away from home, the Noorvik Education Association in conjunction with the Noorvik Advisory School Board representing the community would like to propose the following plan that will achieve said purpose of this proposal.

Since the new high school building is scheduled for completion by December, 1974, and where as classes could be moved directly into the new building, we would like to suggest the following:

First, that temporary classrooms be set up in one of the following manners:

Alternative I; utilize existing village facilities:

1. present ninth grade classroom for one large and one small class.

2. present ARTTC room (last year's ninth grade room) for one large class.

3. one classroom in Friends Mission house,

4. one classroom in old Head Start building,

5. National Guard Armory for possibly two classes,

6. Friends Church for possibly two classes,

7. possible use of new Head Start building for afternoon use.

Alternative II; utilize existing school facilities: split shifting with the present four intermediate classrooms.

Second, that additional teachers for this program be recruited, keeping in mind the following:

1. 45-60 students are expected which would qualify for a minimum of three regular and one special teacher,

2. qualification of one teacher to act as vice-principal or head teacher of the high school program,

3. qualifications of teachers aggregately to teach in the areas of industrial arts, home economics, English, science, mathematics, business, vocational education, etc.,

4. qualifications of existing teachers in Noorvik,

5. possibly using village people for part-time positions,

6. Noorvik Advisory School Board making final selection of teachers to be hired.

Third, that students' needs be assessed or gone over again in order to place necessary orders as soon as possible for the following types of supplies and equipment:

1. desks, chairs and other necessary classroom furniture,

2. industrial arts supplies and equipment,

3. home economics supplies and equipment,

4. physical education supplies and equipment,

5. music books, supplies and equipment,

6. books, supplies and equipment for academic subjects: science, mathematics, English, business, history, etc.

Fourth, that beginning immediately a qualified person or persons be sent to Noorvik from the central ASOSS office to meet with the Noorvik administrator, faculty and advisory school board to determine and order all necessary items in the list above.

The Parent-Teacher Organi-

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zation of Noorvik has worked for the past two months raising nearly \$4,000 to help bring high school students home for the holidays and illustrates the strong desire on the part of parents to have their children home. Some of these students who come home for the holidays will not be returning to Mt. Edgecumbe and Kenai which makes it even more important and doubly insistent that we have the assurance as soon as possible that the above proposal or a similar one be instigated at once.

Your kind and immediate attention to this proposal will be very much appreciated by each and every child and parent of the Noorvik community.

Sincerely,

Noorvik Education Assoc.

Donald G. Flippo, President

Sandy Troxell

Stanley Reed

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Glen LaFave

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Robert Newlin

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William Sheldon

Eileen MacLean

cc: Tom Troxell, Principal

Ronald Hohman, Regional Supt.

Marshall Lind, Commissioner
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Hon. William Egan, Governor

Hon. Willie Hensley, Senator

Hon. Frank Ferguson, Rep.

John Schaeffer, NANA Exec.
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June Nelson, Maneluk Educ.
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Jim Elliot, DOE A Pres.