Gruening students fight alcoholism

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Students at Gruening Junior High School in Eagle River recently used skits, videos and other means to get across an important message to their fellow students — don't use drugs and alcohol.

The students in Eagle River talked with Alaska Sen. Frank Murkowski in Washington, D.C., about thier program, "The Young are the Stoned." The discussion took place during the senator's weekly radio show which airs statewide.

Murkowski was treated to a special presentation of the program by Erin Lamb, Holly Baker, Stacy Raygor and Sandra Stauber, all 7th graders at Gruening.

The project is led by Gruening's school nurse, Ann Carter, and Dorothy Cyrus of the Anchorage Police Department. The two worked with the students at Gruening to develop ideas on how to get out their anti-drug and alcohol message to their peers.

Murkowski urged other schools in Alaska to get involved in similar projects. School teachers, administrators and other interested individuals may write to Carter or Cyrus at Gritening Junior High School in Eagle River for information on how to start their own projects.