

Hoonah Receives Follow-Through Grant for 1969

The Hoonah City School District has been selected to receive a Follow-Through Grant for 1969.

Follow-Through, a division of compensatory education of the U.S. Office of Education, has been operating for the past four years. Federal funding was provided for projects after research indicated that "Head Start" participants were losing ground after entering into regular classroom situations.

The State Department of Education submitted the names of three Alaskan communities as candidates for Follow-Through grants.

Hoonah was selected because the city exhibited quality pre-school, early elementary and Title I programs; a willingness to involve parents and other community members significantly in decision making; a close working

relationship between the school and community action agencies; a high concentration of children from low income families; and a willingness to select a particular program approach and to work with a program sponsor in its implementation.

Superintendent of Hoonah schools, Donald MacKinnon, will be meeting with representatives

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Follow-Through . .

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from the Alaska Governor's office and U.S. Office of Education in Denver, Colorado on March 7-8 to discuss further dispensation of the Follow-Through grant.

The 1969 grant is a continuation of a State Technical Assistance Follow-Through grant which Hoonah received last year. The Hoonah School District, under the supervision of the District Superintendent and State Elementary consultant Margaret Justice, has initiated a school organization which allows for children's individual differences and learning abilities.

Classrooms are divided into multi-age groups; and skill-building subjects, such as reading, speaking, and other language arts, are tailored to each group's particular needs.

A new "grading" system, developed by the State Elementary Consultant, is being studied by the Hoonah teaching staff, school board, parents, and students. The new progress reporting system starts with student self-evaluation in the classroom, and solicits comments from parents and students, as well as teachers.