
Parent Teacher Student Association
District Website Suggestions
November 17, 2005

The following is a compilation to date of the district website suggestions received from PTSA members:

For the elementary school website, include a Curriculum Page, which outlines the school-wide curriculum used for reading, writing, math, history, geography, science, art and music. (The GLEs for reading, writing and math would be separate linked pages; this page would outline the methods used to accomplish those GLEs.) An example of a school-wide curriculum page can be found at <http://academy.d20.co.edu/mve/curriculum.html>.

Include a page for each elementary school grade that further details the curriculum by grade. An example of this can be found at <http://academy.d20.co.edu/mve/second.html>

Include a page for each classroom that includes:

- Photo of the teacher and their mission, philosophy of teaching, and class goals.
- Class schedule
- Curriculum map (by subject and month - what will be covered each month)
- Methods used for leveling
- Homework policy
- Classroom rules/rewards

These class pages would be unchanging during the school year, requiring minimal teacher involvement. Of course, if teachers want to take it further, they could include additional pages that are updated throughout the year (class photos, projects, etc.)

An example of a static classroom page that includes some of the above information can be found at <http://academy.d20.co.edu/mve/brown.html>

An example of curriculum maps can be found at http://www.libertycommon.org/academics/curriculum_maps/index.htm

Redesign the home page to make it more user-friendly. The home page is becoming difficult to use because there are so many text links. These need to be organized into categories so that the individual links can be found more quickly. The Anchorage School District website furnishes an example of a "plain" but well-organized home page. See <http://www.asd.k12.ak.us/>. Fairbanks offers an example of an even cleaner home page, with

links accessible by scrolling over headings. See <http://www.northstar.k12.ak.us/>.

Add, at a minimum, the following information to the Administration link:

School Board Policies and Procedures. This should include the entire, updated contents of the manual. The bulk of the current manual is ready to upload to a website. Revisions which have been adopted since June 2003 need to be incorporated into the electronic version of the manual before it is uploaded. If staff does not have the time to make these revisions, perhaps the PTSA could offer volunteers to assist in this project. Once the update is completed, future revisions to the electronic version should be made as they become effective. Ultimately, this will save time and insure that everyone is "working from the same page" (instead of depending upon many different people to update paper copies once they are typed and distributed).

Current contact information, including school-based (rather than personal) email addresses, for Board members.

School Board meeting calendar.

Agendas and all non-confidential board packet documents. Such documents would include department director reports, principal reports, minutes, and similar written information.

NPS Budgets

Add a heading for assessment information, which should include:

All district-wide and school site AYP information and reports, including data broken down by grade-level and subject-matter, beginning with data from the earliest year such information has been available. Archived information should be available on the website for purposes of longitudinal comparisons.

Reports produced with data available from MAP testing.

On the "what's happening" section where it shows the date/time of the school board meeting, include a link to the agenda. (I appreciate PTSA's e-mails with this info, too, but including the agenda on this website is just another opportunity to share the info.)

Also on the "what's happening" section include a link to the tournament schedules where appropriate.

Add a "what's new" section to the website so that users could see at a glance if there is any major new content to the site. (Not calendar items and other minor updates, but new links, etc.)

Review the website to make sure the content is up-to-date (I see that it still shows Tom Brannan as the athletic director contact.)

Include the lunch menu on the district website.