ANCSA
A Native’s Perspective
High School Lesson Plans

Students will learn about the concerns regarding Native land claims prior to the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Students will also explore the outcomes of ANCSA.

Materials:
Copies of Testimonies *(Statements from: Alaska Native Claims Part II)*
http://www.alaskool.org/projects/ancsa/testimony/ancsa_hearings/ancsahearindx.html

FNSBSD Destiny Resources on Native Perspectives regarding ANCSA
http://destiny.k12northstar.org/cataloging/servlet/handlebooklistform.do

• Have students read testimonies on the unfairness of the Land Claims Act and respond to questions.
• Assign readings from list of resources on Native Perspective
• Host discussion on why students think ANCSA was fair or unfair.
• Have students choose one of two stand points: For ANCSA or Against ANCSA and develop debate on their views

Questions to consider when reading the October 18 & 19, 1969 testimonies

• Who is giving the reports/statements?
• How has the Land Claims Settlement Act affected the region they represent?
• What do the Natives request of the government? Does that seem fair?
• Provide two specific examples of non-Native encroachment on the land.
• Provide two specific examples of how the Natives used the land.
• What does land ownership mean to Native people? Does it differ from the non-Native meaning?
• Do you think Natives have the “Natural Right” to the land? Why or why not?
• What are several reoccurring themes in the testimonies you have read about?

Students can demonstrate their understanding with any of the following methods:
• Write a 5 Paragraph essay with a solid thesis statement, introductory paragraph, three supporting details, and a concluding paragraph. Essay includes three quotes backing up claims.
• Prepare a powerpoint presentation with who, what, where, when, why and how and share with the class.
• Prepare poster board presentations with pictures and captions
• Develop play and re-enact events
• Write a letter home with information
• Create 8-10 cartoon strip of events