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# Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

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February 11, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.  
Regular Meeting

Borough Administration Building  
148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, Alaska

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**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:** Mr. Joe Arness, President  
Mrs. Liz Downing, Vice President  
Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk  
Ms. Lynn Hohl, Treasurer  
Mr. Marty Anderson  
Mrs. Sammy Crawford  
Mrs. Sunni Hilts  
Mr. Bill Holt  
Mr. Tim Navarre  
Mr. Hayden Beard, Student Representative

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mr. Sean Dusek, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Gordon Merrill	Mr. Tim Peterson
Mrs. Debbie Michael	Ms. Edith Staley
Mrs. Margie Warner	Mrs. LaDawn Druce
Ms. Martine Dikes	Ms. Naomi Walsworth
Mrs. Kellie Steiner Kelso	Mr. Mike Petrovich
Mr. Richard Kelso	Mrs. Terry Tidwell
Mrs. Pauline Mills	Mrs. Carolyn Hitzler
Mr. John Mills	Mrs. Michelle Gabriel
Mr. Brent Johnson	

Others present not identified.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Arness called the meeting to order at 4:22 p.m. A quorum of School Board members, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Downing, Mrs. Hilts, Mr. Holt, Ms. Hohl, and Mr. Arness were present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 4:23 p.m., Mrs. Crawford moved the Board go into executive session to discuss matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the Borough. Specifically, the executive session was to discuss negotiation strategies and tactics. Mrs. Downing seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Due to a conflict of interest, Mr. Holt did not participate in the executive session.

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 5:08 p.m., Mrs. Crawford moved the executive session be adjourned. Mrs. Downing seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

At 5:09 p.m., the Board recessed the meeting until 7:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

*(7:00:22 PM)*

Mr. Arness called the meeting back to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

*(7:00:40 PM)*

Mr. Arness invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:**

*(7:01:12 PM)*

Mr. Holt read the District’s mission statement.

**ROLL CALL:**

*(7:01:30 PM)*

Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Mr. Marty Anderson	Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Mrs. Liz Downing	Present
Mrs. Sunni Hilts	Present
Ms. Lynn Hohl	Present
Mr. Bill Holt	Present
Mr. Tim Navarre	Absent/Excused
Mrs. Penny Vadla	Absent/Excused
Mr. Hayden Beard	Present

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

*(7:02:05 PM)*

The agenda was approved with the addition of Item 11d. Support of House Bill 27.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*(7:02:55 PM)*

The School Board Minutes of January 16, 2013, were approved as printed.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

*(7:03:28 PM)*

Mr. Mike Petrovich, General Teamster Local 959 Business Representative and school bus driver representative, spoke regarding statements recently posted online on Craig’s Lists’ “Rants and Raves” that dealt with an allegation against a First Student bus driver.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:**

*(7:08:09 PM)*

On behalf of Dr. Atwater, Mr. Dusek reported that due to an electrical surge in Nikiski on January 31, 2013, Nikiski Middle/High School did not have potable water for a short time, and he thanked Mr. Dennis “Moegy” Moeglein of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Maintenance Department for quickly resolving the situation. He announced that Nanwalek School does have water, however, the system is not completely repaired and he thanked Mr. Dave Tressler, Director of Planning and Operations, for his work on both schools’ water situations. Mr. Dusek stated that candidates were interviewed on Friday, February 8, 2013 for the position of Director of Elementary Education and a decision will be made soon. He announced that the position of Curriculum and Assessment Coordinator will close on February 12, and that the Paul Banks Elementary Administrator position has been reopened and interviews for that vacancy will be held on February 28. He invited the audience to attend the annual Borough Mass Choir performance at Kenai Central High School on February 12, at 6:00 p.m. and announced that the guest conductor will be Dr. Jeffrey Benson of San Jose State University.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE,  
SITE COUNCIL AND/OR  
P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A.,  
K.P.E.S.A, BOROUGH  
ASSEMBLY:  
(7:10:10 PM)**

Mrs. Margie Warner, KPESA president, thanked the Board for their work on substitute and temporary employee wages and stated that a pay rate increase will aid in providing competent substitutes. She thanked District employees for their extra efforts and support during the water outage, especially Mr. Dean Hamburg and Mr. Dave Tressler. She urged and requested a fair contract for district employees.

Mrs. LaDawn Druce, KPEA president, reported that she attended a meeting at Soldotna High School earlier in the evening regarding the Soldotna area schools, discussed the District's reconfiguration options and her personal experience with reconfiguration while in high school. She reported attending the NEA Delegate Assembly meeting and discussed the topics covered at the meeting. She stated that she will speak to the Alaska Association of Student Government in Anchorage on February 12, regarding the new teacher evaluation regulations. She announced that Mr. Tim Peterson and she were invited, by the Department of Education and Early Development, to participate in a committee meeting regarding the teacher evaluation regulations. She discussed recently introduced legislative bills and resolutions including House Bill 95 regarding the base student allocation; House Joint Resolution 1 regarding school vouchers; and HB 93 regarding charter school laws, and encouraged the Board to monitor these legislations. She thanked the Board for their time and service.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:  
(7:20:12 PM)**

On behalf of Dr. Atwater, Mr. Dusek reported that several KPBSD administrators and teachers attended the Response to Intervention (RTI) Conference in Anchorage on January 25-27, 2013, stated that the District's RTI processes are sound and discussed areas to consider for improvement. He discussed the community meetings taking place at all Soldotna area schools this evening regarding school reconfiguration. He stated that District administrators will present a proposal to the Board at a worksession in March and that proposal currently consists of two, grade 7-9 junior high schools and one high school. He discussed recent changes to the Six Year Plan that is on the agenda for approval. He congratulated Ms. Francie Roberts, Homer High School teacher, for the prestigious honor of being appointed by Governor Parnell to the Professional Teaching Practices Commission (PTPC). He announced that February is Alaska School Board Recognition Month and thanked the Board for their dedication and service to the District and its students.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:  
(7:24:10 PM)**

Mr. Jones presented the financial report of the District for the period ending January 31, 2013.

**BOARD REPORTS:  
(7:25:21 PM)**

Mrs. Downing reported that she, along with Mrs. Hilts, Ms. Hohl and Mr. Beard, attended the AASB Legislative Fly-In on February 2-5, commented on a workshop by Dr. Diana Moon entitled "Creating the Conditions for Change", and reported meeting with Commissioner Hanley, Governor Parnell and 15-20 legislators. She reported that she attended the community meeting at Paul Banks Elementary regarding the hiring of the school's new principal and is looking forward to the interviews on February 28, 2013.

**BOARD REPORTS:**

*(continued)*

Mrs. Hilts expressed appreciation for Mr. Hayden Beard's attendance at the AASB Legislative Fly-In. She reported that she had attended conferences in Washington, D.C. (the NSBA Leadership Conference and the Federal Relations Networking Conference), discussed the seminars and worksessions attended and the topics discussed (including school security). She stated that she also met with Senator Lisa Murkowski, and staff members for Congressman Don Young and Senator Mark Begich, and that one of the topics they discussed was sequestration and the ripple effect caused by this process. She discussed the AASB Legislative Fly-In, the meetings attended and expressed appreciation for the District's students and accomplishments.

Ms. Hohl discussed the value of parents communicating with the state legislators and encouraged them to do so. She thanked Ms. Pegge Erkeneff for the legislative flyers, the District brochures and the annual report that she prepared for the Board members to take with them to the AASB Legislative Fly-In.

Mr. Beard stated that he attended the AASB Youth Advocacy Institute while in Juneau, met other school board student representatives, served as a guest page on the House floor and advocated for education and District students.

Mr. Holt reported that he attended a Skyview Site Council meeting where they discussed the school reconfiguration options and expressed appreciation for the student input given, and stated that the meeting was organized and positive.

**BOARD WORKSESSION REPORT:**

*(7:34:40 PM)*

Mr. Arness reported that the Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting on Board Policy, FY14 Budget, Substitute and Temporary Employee Wages, and Legislative Priorities on School Security, an Executive Session and a public hearing regarding the Greatland Adventure Academy Charter School. He noted that all members currently at the meeting attended the worksessions.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*(7:35:20 PM)*

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Six-Year Plan FY 2014-2020, 2013-2014 District Organizational Chart, 2013-2014 Tentative Administrator Contracts, Resignations, 2012-2013 Long Term Substitute Contracts, 2012-2013 New Teacher Contracts, 2013-2014 Tentative Non-Tenured Teacher Contracts, 2013-2014 Tentative Tenure Teacher Contracts, 2013-2014 Non-Tenured Teacher Contracts and Tenure, Board Member Committee Appointments, and Budget Transfer.

**SIX YEAR PLAN  
FY 2014-2020:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve the proposed Six-Year Plan and capital improvement projects for FY 2014 through 2020.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*(continued)*

**2013-2014 DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART:**

By memorandum, Dr. Atwater recommended the Board approve the revised 2013-2014 District organizational chart that identifies the lines of primary responsibility and relationships between administrative positions.

**2013-2014 TENTATIVE ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a list of tentative administrator contracts for the 2013-2014 school year.

**RESIGNATIONS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve resignations from Denyse Hurst, Distance Education Science Teacher, Seward Middle School, effective January 30, 2013; Belinda Stevens, School Psychologist, Mt. View Elementary School, effective December 21, 2012; and Pavla Tyson, 2nd - 3rd Grade Teacher/Interventionist, Chapman School, effective February 7, 2013.

**2012-2013 LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve long-term substitute contracts for Wanda Brenner, Sterling Elementary School; Susan Whipp, Skyview High School; and Jasmine Woodhead, Chapman School.

**2012-2013 NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve new teacher contracts for Krista Parrett, Temporary Kindergarten-3rd Grade Teacher, Nikolaevsk School; Patricia Hansen, Temporary Title I Teacher, Mt. View Elementary School; Lindsey Erk, Temporary Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher, Ninilchik School; and Vivian Norenberg, Temporary Title I Teacher, Ninilchik School.

**2013-2014 TENTATIVE NON-TENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve Tentative Non-Tenured Teacher Contracts for Adrian Hurst, School Psychologist, Seward Elementary School; Margaret Leahy, Speech Therapist, Seward Elementary School; Megan Onishi, Speech Therapist, Mountain View Elementary School; and Kendra Rupp, Speech Therapist, Kaleidoscope Charter School.

**2013-2014 TENTATIVE TENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve Tentative Tenured Teacher Contracts for Roberta Creamer, Chapman School; Sandra Pelischek, Seward High School; Terese Kashi, K-Beach Elementary School; Cecilia Deatherage (.60 FTE), Skyview High School; Annarose Miller, K-Beach Elementary School; Camille Hill, Skyview High School; Timothy McIntyre, Kenai Central High School; Angela Nelson, Redoubt Elementary School; Rhonda Neill, Kenai Middle School; Jackie Kempf, Soldotna Elementary School; Barbara McNinch (.80 FTE), Soldotna Elementary School; Lori Ford, McNeil Canyon Elementary School; Cynthia Detrow, Soldotna Middle School; Wally Hufford, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Vidya Oftedal, Soldotna Middle School; David Standley, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Amy Hogue (.80 FTE), Sterling Elementary School; Katherine Van Saun, Ninilchik School; Holly Abel, Tustumena Elementary School;  
*(continued on next page)*

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*(continued)*

**2013-2014 TENTATIVE  
TENURED TEACHER  
CONTRACTS:**

*(continued)*

Jennifer Edwards, Paul Banks Elementary School; Mary Glynn, Tustumena Elementary School; Sharon Schulz, Paul Banks Elementary School; Judy Gonsalves, West Homer Elementary School; School; Amy Sundheim, West Homer Elementary School; and Jason Steadman, Redoubt Elementary School.

**2013-2014 TENTATIVE  
NON-TENURED TEACHER  
CONTRACTS AND TENURE:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve Non-Tenured Teacher Contracts and Tenure for Casey Davis, School Psychologist, Homer Middle School; Deana Kahn, School Psychologist, Soldotna Elementary School; and Trina Uvaas, School Psychologist, Homer High School.

**BOARD MEMBER  
COMMITTEE  
APPOINTMENTS:**

Mr. Arness recommended the Board approve a list of Board members to various District-level committees.

**BUDGET TRANSFERS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve budget transfers Number 614 and 632, in the amounts of \$323,296 and \$292,836 respectively, to move funds to the appropriate school accounts for the purchase of math curriculum materials.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 11. Mr. Anderson seconded.

Ms. Hohl removed Number 1, Approval of Six-Year Plan, FY 2014-2020; and Number 10, Approval of Board Member Committee Appointments.

Motion carried unanimously for Numbers 2 through 9 and 11.

Motion carried unanimously for Number 1.

**MOTION**

Ms. Hohl moved the Board approve an amendment to revise the Communications Committee assignments to include Mrs. Downing and remove Ms. Hohl and to revise the Charter School Committee assignments to include Ms. Hohl and remove Mrs. Downing. Mr. Holt seconded.

Amendment carried unanimously for Number 10.

Motion carried unanimously for Number 10.

**POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS:**

*(7:40:02 PM)*

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve revisions to BP 100 Philosophy, and BP 5131.43 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying.

**MOTION**

Mr. Holt moved the Board approve revisions to BP 100 Philosophy, and BP 5131.43 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**GREATLAND ADVENTURE  
ACADEMY CHARTER  
SCHOOL:**

*(7:41:42 PM)*

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve the Greatland Adventure Academy Charter School application.

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve the Greatland Adventure Academy Charter School. Mr. Holt seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**SUPPORT FOR HB 27:**

*(7:42:54 PM)*

**MOTION**

Mrs. Hilts moved the Board convey support for House Bill 27 having to do with current year Average Daily Membership count, taken in October and certified in January, to be the basis for Base Student Allocation for the following year. Mrs. Downing seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**FIRST READING OF POLICY  
REVISIONS:**

*(7:46:37 PM)*

The Board heard a first reading of revisions to BP 3513.3 Tobacco-Free Schools/Tobacco Use, BP 5131.62 Tobacco, and BP 5141.21 Administering Medication.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

*(7:49:07 PM)*

Mr. Holt thanked the Greatland Adventure Academy for their work and wished them well.

Mrs. Crawford thanked the Greatland Adventure Academy for their work and wished them well. She expressed appreciation for the Soldotna High School students in attendance and spoke to the students regarding the importance of government. She welcomed Mr. Brent Johnson, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly member, to the meeting.

Ms. Hohl stated that she attended the National Ocean Science Bowl in Seward February 8-10, and expressed appreciation for the students' work. She attended the Seward Prevention Coalition Town Hall Meeting where they discussed strategies to decrease under-age drinking and drug use. She commented on a letter in the general information packet regarding renaming the Kenai Central High School track and requested that the Board respond in writing. She noted that Governor Parnell had proclaimed February 4-8, 2013 as "Alaska School Counseling Week." She encouraged anyone interested to submit nominations for the BP Teacher of Excellence program and the District's Golden Apple Award.

Mr. Beard stated that he attended the opening of the new Seward Public Library where he spoke to Senator Lisa Murkowski regarding education. He announced that he was asked to serve on the BP Teacher of Excellence Committee. He congratulated Greatland Adventure Academy Charter School and wished them well in their efforts to secure a school location.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

*(continued)*

Mrs. Hilts wished Dr. Atwater a quick recovery from his recent illness. She expressed appreciation for the Soldotna High School students in attendance and spoke regarding the importance of civics, school boards, and the opportunities offered in a democracy.

Mrs. Downing thanked the District's school counselors and congratulated them on being recognized during Alaska School Counseling Week, February 4-8, 2013. She congratulated Ms. Francie Roberts, Homer High School teacher, for being appointed by Governor Parnell to the Professional Teaching Practices Commission (PTPC). She stated that she met with Senator Mark Begich on February 10, and provided him with a copy of the District information packet given to the state legislators at the AASB Legislative Fly-In and a copy of the District's legislative priorities.

Mr. Arness congratulated Greatland Adventure Academy Charter School and wished them well in their efforts to secure a school location. He requested that the KPESA and KPEA Unions present the Board with contracts for approval at the March 4, Board meeting.

**ADJOURN:**

*(7:58:01 PM)*

At 7:58 p.m., Mr. Arness adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. Joe Arness, President

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Mrs. Liz Downing, Vice President

The Minutes of February 11, 2013, have been approved as of March 4, 2013.