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# Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

## Board of Education Meeting Minutes

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May 6, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.  
Regular Meeting

Seward High School  
2100 Swetmann, Seward, 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:** Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Tim Peterson	Mr. Trevan Walker
Mr. Dave Tressler	Mr. Jason Bickling
Ms. Pegge Erkeneff	Mr. David Kingsland
Mr. John O'Brien	Mr. Matt Gray
Mr. Jim White	Ms. Mica VanBuskirk
Mrs. Julie Lindquist	Ms. Martha Fleming
Mrs. Terri Tidwell	Mrs. LaDawn Druce
Mr. Steve Keifer	Ms. Keri Clark
Mrs. Erin Knotek	Mr. Mark Fraad
Mrs. Margie Warner	Ms. Maya Moriarty
Mrs. Celeste Lemme	Mrs. Sarah Spanos
Mrs. Peggy Hamner	Mrs. Stephanie Mullaly
Miss Josephine Braun	Mr. Dave Hamner
Mrs. Sarah Spanos	Ms. Katy Journey Scrivo
Mr. Al McCarty	

Others present not identified.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Arness called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. Arness invited the Seward High Choir to sing the *National Anthem*.

**DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:** Mr. Beard read the District's mission statement.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda was approved with the removal of Number 10b. Revisions to AR420 School Based Management/Site Council.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The School Board Minutes of April 1, 2013, were approved as corrected. The School Board Minutes of April 9, 2013, were approved as printed.

**SCHOOL REPORTS:** Mr. Trevan Walker, Seward High School principal, noted the stage set built by Seward High School student, Mr. Ben Miranda, for the drama class production of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Coliseum*. Mr. Walker gave a computer presentation that highlighted Seward High's transition into a Hybrid High School whereby technology, distance education, goals for instruction, capital project improvements (including one that would create a mezzanine study area for students), and career guidance liaison development, combined with course offerings in a traditional school schedule, would increase their ability to individualize the educational experience for every student.

Mr. Jason Bickling, Seward Middle School principal, presented a PowerPoint presentation that began with a yearbook cover contest entry designed by a student. He discussed the school's staff, goals, rules and expectations, the importance of "inquiry," various programs offered, developing student character, the student of the month program and criteria, teachers nominated (and one chosen) as BP Teachers of Excellence, community service projects (including school clean-up and sending packages to military personnel serving overseas), teamwork, and extra-curricular activities/sports accomplishments and awards. Seward Middle School Debate Team members, Mr. Alden Hamilton, Miss Kaylee Brockman, Miss Creeanna Whitcome, Mr. Joel Williams, and Miss Ayla Lapinskas, discussed the program, its successes, and the personal benefits of participating.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:** Mrs. Erin Knotek spoke against the recently proposed Kenai Peninsula School Activities Association (KPSAA) regulation requiring all District schools to participate in the Borough Meets for cross-country running, cross-country skiing, and track and field.

Mr. Mark Fraad, Seward Elementary P.E. teacher, Region III National Education Association (NEA) director, and Kenai Peninsula Education Association (KPEA) executive board member, spoke against the proposal to move Seward 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the middle school, expressed dissatisfaction over the District's procedures regarding the reconfiguration and the effects on the community, and encouraged the Board to select a third party to mediate the process and the decision.

Mr. Steve Keifer, Kenai Peninsula Youth Facility superintendent, thanked the Board for the services provided to Marathon School, expressed appreciation for Ms. Beth Swaby, Marathon School teacher, and requested that the Board allow Ms. Swaby to remain as the teacher at Marathon School. He presented the Board with a letter from Ms. Allison Gottesman, district supervisor, requesting that the Board allow Ms. Swaby to remain at Marathon School.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

*(Continued)*

Ms. Maya Moriarty spoke in support of the reconfiguration of Seward schools to move the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the middle school, and expressed appreciation for the work of school and District administration during the process.

Mrs. Terri Tidwell, Skyview High School head custodian, noted that May 6-10, is Staff Appreciation Week, read the names of District support staff that were retiring or had retired this school year including their years of services, and expressed appreciation for their dedication and hard work.

Miss Josephine Braun, Seward High School student, spoke against the recently proposed Kenai Peninsula School Activities Association (KPSAA) regulation requiring all District schools to participate in the Borough Meets for cross-country running, cross-country skiing, and track and field.

Ms. Katy Journey Scrivo, Moose Pass teacher, thanked Dr. Atwater for providing additional funding to Moose Pass School and expressed appreciation for the continuing work of Mr. Jason Bickling, principal.

Mrs. Sarah Spanos stated that she is undecided on the issue of moving Seward 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the middle school. She discussed the possibility of adding an observation area for the Seward pool, similar to the one at Kenai Central High School.

Mrs. Celeste Lemme, parent, spoke in support of the reconfiguration of Seward schools to move the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the middle school and the importance of middle school electives.

Mrs. Stephanie Mullaly, parent and ELL tutor, spoke in support of the reconfiguration of Seward schools to move the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the middle school.

Mrs. Peggy Hamner expressed appreciation for Mr. Jason Bickling, Mr. Trevan Walker and Mr. Dave Kingsland (principals of Seward schools) and spoke in support of the reconfiguration of Seward schools to move the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the middle school.

Mr. Dave Hamner discussed the Seward High School and Seward Middle School presentations, the collaboration of the two school programs, and spoke in support of the reconfiguration of Seward schools to move the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the middle school.

Ms. Mica VanBuskirk spoke regarding the importance of music (including band) in middle school and in support of the reconfiguration of Seward schools to move the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the middle school.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

*(Continued)*

Mrs. Julie Lindquist spoke regarding proposed KPSAA regulation changes, the need for improved attitudes toward students that do not attend borough competitions, the lack of participation by other District schools invited to Seward hosted sporting events, and requested that the KPSAA Executive Board member composition be revised.

**RECESS:**

At 8:28 p.m., Mr. Arness called a recess.

**RECONVENE AFTER RECESS:**

At 8:40 p.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.

**HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:**

Mr. Matt Gray, Watershed Forum Program Coordinator for the Resurrection Bay area and overseer of the Seward School Yard Habitat Program, explained the program, its purpose, costs, and the integrating of student academics into the program. He stated that the program is designed to span two years, and described various projects including replacing non-native plants with native plants in school areas, and available local trail system design and maintenance.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:**

Dr. Atwater announced that Greatland Adventure Academy Charter School will delay opening for one year due to the inability to secure an adequate building. He stated that the merger of Soldotna High and Skyview High Schools will be effective August 2014 and District administration will present a recommendation for reconfiguring Soldotna grades 7-9 at the June Board meeting. He reported that the District will transfer \$268,000 to the Kenai Peninsula Borough Capital Projects Fund in order to upgrade classroom door locks, replace carpeting at the district office, and to pay for the design and development of capital improvement projects (which will help CIP applications to the state receive higher scoring). He noted that the annual Leadership Academy will be held on May 29 – 30, at Soldotna Middle School, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (which involves principals and one or two teachers from each site), discussed the agenda, stated that Dr. Susan McCauley from the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) will be the opening speaker, and invited the Board to attend.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SITE COUNCIL AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A, BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:**

Mrs. Margie Warner, KPESA president, thanked Mr. Bickling and Mr. Walker for the school presentations. She congratulated the District BP Teachers of Excellence and suggested a support staff recognition award be instituted. She thanked Mrs. Tidwell for acknowledging the number of years of service represented by this year's support staff retirees. She announced that this is her last school board meeting as KPESA president (the incoming president is Mrs. Patty Sirois).

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE,  
SITE COUNCIL AND/OR  
P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A.,  
K.P.E.S.A, BOROUGH  
ASSEMBLY:**

*(Continued)*

Mrs. LaDawn Druce, KPEA president, expressed appreciation for the non-tenured teacher contracts to be approved on the consent agenda. She stated that she will attend the Borough Assembly meeting on May 7, to speak regarding the District's budget. She reported that on April 25, she attended the District's Effective Instruction Committee meeting and discussed the success of the committee. On April 26, she attended the state Advisory Committee meeting with Dr. Atwater and Mr. Peterson regarding the teacher evaluation process. She announced that May 7, is National Teacher Appreciation Day, thanked Seward and all district teachers for their work, and shared a quote from John Steinbeck. She noted that Mr. Mike Druce is completing his 41st year of teaching and is retiring after 20 years with the District, and congratulated all retiring teachers. She announced that this is her last school board meeting as KPEA president; that she will be returning to school counseling; expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve as the KPEA president; and thanked the Board for their service. She announced that the incoming president is Mr. Neil Denny.

Mr. Al McCarty, president of Seward PTSA (recently changed to PTA), spoke regarding the Seward PTSA program and their recent decrease in membership, discussed a recent land trust law suit filed by the Seward PTSA, and thanked the Board for coming to Seward.

Ms. Mica VanBuskirk, Seward Site Council president, discussed the site council's recent actions regarding the reconfiguration of Seward schools to move the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to the middle school, studies regarding reconfiguration, and transition tips. She responded to Mr. Tropp's statements regarding the effects of the reconfiguration on the community.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:**

Dr. Atwater reported that the District has finalized a seven year contract with Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) to provide improved internet connectivity to Nanwalek and Port Graham schools. He announced that there were no exceptions noted during the recent review of District Title programs and thanked Ms. Sandy Miller for her efforts in preparing for the review. He reported that District nurses were chosen to develop a streamlined standard and procedure for Alaska's school districts to follow with regard to collecting body mass index (BMI) data, and thanked Ms. Naomi Walsworth and the District nurses for continuing to be leaders in Alaska. He stated that Mr. Sean Dusek, Ms. Pegge Erkeneff, and he met with American Productivity and Quality Center (APQC) representatives last week and chose the top four District priorities for improvement: aligning technology and instructional departments; refining processes to reduce workers compensation claims; creating a process to provide better overall governance of process management; and reviewing and, as needed, refining the budget review and revision process. He noted that May 6 - 10, is Staff Appreciation Week and thanked all District staff for their work and contributions. He thanked the Seward schools and community for their attendance and expressed appreciation for the evening's testimony.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

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

**QUARTERLY BUDGET  
TRANSFER REPORT:**

Mr. Jones reported on budget transfers Numbers 588 through 1010 for various schools and departments within the District.

**BOARD REPORTS:**

Mrs. Downing reported that the Legislative Committee met on April 2, discussing the active bills at the end of the State Legislative session. Committee members testified and advocated for District priorities throughout the session. The committee will meet tomorrow, (May 7) and monthly throughout the year. She reported that she attended the Homer Legislative Town Hall Meeting, attended by Senator Peter Micciche, on Friday, May 3; a presentation to Homer High School's leadership class; the BP Teachers of Excellence Awards; and the Homer High School and Homer Middle School principal interviews.

Mr. Holt reported that he attended the final Career and Technical Education Committee meeting of year (where they selected three scholarship recipients), and the National School Board Association (NSBA) National Conference in San Diego, CA and discussed the speakers and seminars he attended while there.

Mrs. Crawford reported that she attended the Social Studies Curriculum meeting, announced that the current curriculum will be revised, stated that the committee will meet this summer, and community input will be considered. She also attended the BP Teachers of Excellence Awards.

Mrs. Vadla reported that she attended the BP Teachers of Excellence Awards, the National School Board Association National Conference in San Diego, CA and discussed the speakers and seminars she attended while there, she visited Moose Pass and Seward schools before the meeting today, and expressed appreciation for the strength and involvement of the Seward community.

Mrs. Hilts reported that she attended the National School Board Association National Conference in San Diego, CA and discussed the speakers and seminars she attended while there. She stated that during the day's board policy committee meeting, among other items, the committee discussed the use of personal electronic devices in classrooms.

Mr. Navarre reported that he attended the BP Teachers of Excellence Awards and congratulated the nominees and winner, the Homer High School principal interviews, the principal selection community meeting at Nikiski North Star Elementary, and the Legislative Committee meeting, and reported on a recent trip to Juneau where he met with state legislators.

Ms. Hohl reported that she attended BP Teachers of Excellence Awards, and that she visited Cooper Landing School on her way to the meeting.

**BOARD WORKSESSION  
REPORT:**

Mr. Arness reported that the Board held worksessions prior to the formal business meeting on Board Policy, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Update, Project GRAD End of Year Report, Seward 6th Grade Reconfiguration, and a Public Hearing regarding the Kenai Peninsula School Activities Association (KPSAA) Revisions Regarding Borough Competitions. All members currently at the meeting attended the worksessions.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Revisions to AR 3515.5 Emergency Action Plan, Budget Transfers, 2012-13 Long Term Substitute Contracts, 2012-13 New Teacher Contract, 2013-14 New Administrator Contracts, 2013-14 Tentative Non-Tenured Teacher Contracts and Tenure, 2013-14 Tentative Non-Tenured Teacher Contracts, Resignations, and 2013-14 New Teacher Contracts, and Leave of Absence Requests/Certified.

**POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve Revisions to AR 3515.5 Emergency Action Plan.

**BUDGET TRANSFERS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve budget transfers #1089, in the amount of \$234,585 to align the electricity budgets to actual expenditures district wide; #1091, in the amount of \$71,000 to align the heating fuel budget to actual expenditures at Homer High School; #1076, in the amount of \$96,473 to purchase Aimsweb and Edperformance software for use district wide; and #1157, in the amount of \$96,800 for flooring replacement at Kaleidoscope Charter School.

**2012-13 LONG TERM  
SUBSTITUTE CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve long term substitute contracts for Laura Beck, Seward Elementary School; Jon Lillevik, Soldotna High School; and Shannon Ryan, Seward Elementary School.

**2012-13 NEW TEACHER  
CONTRACT:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a new teacher contract for Diane Olthuis, Temporary Generalist Teacher (Grades 7-12), Hope School.

**2013-14 NEW  
ADMINISTRATOR  
CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve new administrator contracts for Kari Dendurent, Principal, Homer Middle School, Nate Crabtree, Principal, K-Beach Elementary, and Margaret Gilman, Principal, Nikiski North Star Elementary.

**2013-14 TENTATIVE NON-TENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS AND TENURE:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve tentative non-tenured teacher contracts and Tenure for Maretta Taylor, Teacher/Regular, Chapman School; Darcy Mueller, Teacher/Regular, Homer Middle School; Shawna Vlasak, Teacher/Regular (.50 FTE), K-Beach Elementary School; Laura Fournier, Guidance Counselor, Kenai Central High School; Corise Story, Teacher/Regular, McNeil Canyon Elementary School; Shannon Hoffbeck, Teacher/Regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Michelle Green, Teacher/Regular, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Katy Settlemyer, Teacher/Regular (.50 FTE), Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Sarah Cooper, Teacher/Regular, Ninilchik School; Michelle Fournier, Teacher/Regular (Perm .50 FTE/Temp .50 FTE), Razdolna School; Stephanie Belger, Teacher/Regular, Redoubt Elementary School; Bethany Epplin, Teacher/Regular, Redoubt Elementary School; Carol Hutto, Teacher/Regular, River City Academy; Deanne Pearson, Teacher/Regular, River City Academy; Wesley Andrews, Guidance Counselor, Skyview High School; Bristol Whitmore, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna High School; Brian Dandliker, Teacher/Voc Ed, Soldotna Middle School; Jeffrey Vincent, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna Middle School; Thomas Cavanaugh, Teacher/Regular, Sterling Elementary School; Christina Granger, Teacher/Regular, Tustumena Elementary School; Amanda Painter, Teacher/Regular, Tustumena Elementary School; and Amanda Miller, Teacher/Special Education, Unassigned.

**2013-14 TENTATIVE NON-TENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve tentative non-tenured teacher contracts for Jacob Parrett, Teacher/Regular, Connections program; Lucas Oliver, Teacher/Regular, Aurora Borealis Charter School; Jennifer Riddall, Teacher/Regular, Aurora Borealis Charter School; Jonathan Crocker, Teacher/Regular, Chapman School; Jonathan Sharp, Teacher/Regular, Chapman School; Jon Kulhanek, Teacher/Regular, Fireweed Academy; Natali Jones, Guidance Counselor, Homer High School; Mark Putney, Teacher/Regular, Homer High School; Alayne Tetor, Teacher/Regular, Homer High School; Shoshannah Brasher, Teacher/Regular (Perm .50 FTE/Temp .25 FTE), Homer Middle School; Hannah Toporek, Teacher/Federal, K-12/Assessment; Anna White, Teacher/Regular (Temporary), Kachemak Selo School; Jason Leslie, Teacher/Regular, Kaleidoscope Charter School; Amy Maguire, Teacher/Regular, Kaleidoscope Charter School; Tracie Beck, Teacher/Regular, K-Beach Elementary School; Jeanne Duhan, Teacher/Regular, K-Beach Elementary School; Darcy Marcou, Teacher/Regular, K-Beach Elementary School; Theresa Salzetti, Teacher/Regular (Temporary), K-Beach Elementary School; Susan Smith, Teacher/Special Education, K-Beach Elementary School; John Marquez, Teacher/Regular, Kenai Central High School; Meredith McCullough, Teacher/Regular, Kenai Central High School; John Morton, Teacher/Regular, Kenai Central High School; Matthew Widaman, Teacher/Voc Ed, Kenai Central High School; James Creel, Librarian, Kenai Middle School; Mayme Grant, Teacher/Regular, Kenai Middle School; Chelsea Newton, Teacher/Regular, Kenai Middle School; Natalie Tews, Teacher/Regular (.50 FTE), Kenai Middle School; Lacey Wisniewski, Teacher/Regular, Kenai Middle School; Kathrine Abraham, Teacher/Regular (Temporary), Moose Pass School;



**2013-14 TENTATIVE NON-  
TENURED TEACHER  
CONTRACTS:**

*(Continued)*

Katy Journey Scrivo, Teacher/Regular, Moose Pass School; Tracy Brown, School Psychologist, Mountain View Elementary School; Jonathan Dillon, Teacher/Regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Merci Jusmable, Librarian, Mountain View Elementary School; Jeremy McKibben, Teacher/Regular (Perm .50 FTE/Temp .50 FTE), Mountain View Elementary School; Valerie McLeod, Teacher/Regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Monica Mullet, Teacher/Regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Mandi Young, Teacher/Regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Jeremy Anderson, Teacher/Regular, Nikiski Middle/High School; Jacob Doth, Teacher/Regular, Nikiski Middle/High School; Holly Jones, Guidance Counselor, Nikiski Middle/High School; Clyde Swaby, Teacher/Regular (Temporary), Nikiski Middle/High School; Anna Widman, Teacher/Regular, Nikiski Middle/High School; Christina Beahm, Teacher/Regular, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Emily Mayberry, Teacher/Regular, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Brianna Redfern, Teacher/Regular, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Jennifer Olson, Teacher/Regular, Paul Banks Elementary School; Anne Buckbee, Teacher/Regular (Temporary .50 FTE), Redoubt Elementary School; Carmen Hayes, Teacher/Regular (Perm .50 FTE/Temp .50 FTE), Redoubt Elementary School; Chelsea Van Vickle, Teacher/Regular, Redoubt Elementary School; Anna Karron, Teacher/Regular, River City Academy; Jenna Fabian, Teacher/Regular, Seward Elementary School; Alexis Kaferstein, Teacher/Regular (Temporary), Seward Elementary School; Carrie Lunardi, Teacher/Regular, Seward Elementary School; Leigh Ray, Teacher/Regular, Seward Elementary School; Andrew Scrivo, Teacher/Regular, Seward Elementary School; Nicole Stover, Teacher/Regular (.50 FTE), Seward Elementary School; Sami King, Teacher/Regular (.80 FTE), Seward High School; Albert Plan, Teacher/Regular, Seward High School; Breighley Sexton, Teacher/Regular, Seward High School; Joseph Cudd, Teacher/Regular, Skyview High School; Lindsay Fagrelus, Teacher/Regular, Skyview High School; Karen Hamlow, Librarian (.50 FTE), Skyview High School; Kyle McFall, Teacher/Regular, Skyview High School; Jeremy Nettleton, Teacher/Regular, Skyview High School; Sarah Burris, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna Elementary School; Peter Dahl, Teacher/Regular (Perm .85 FTE/Temp .15 FTE), Soldotna Elementary School; Elizabeth Edwards, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna Elementary School; Emily Smith, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna Elementary School; Isaac Erhardt, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna High School; James Harris, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna High School; Phillip Leck, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna High School; Amy Angleton, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna Middle School; Jill DuFloth, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna Middle School; Wendy Potton, Teacher/Regular, Soldotna Middle School; Nick Gilbertson, Teacher/Regular, Sterling Elementary School; Tiffany Gray, Teacher/Regular, Sterling Elementary School; Kristen Meadows, Teacher/Regular, Sterling Elementary School; Serina Montgomery, Teacher/Regular (Temporary), Sterling Elementary School; Isaiah White, Teacher/Regular, Voznesenka School; Justin Zank, Teacher/Regular (Temporary), Voznesenka School; and Emily Putney, Teacher/Regular, West Homer Elementary School.

**RESIGNATIONS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve resignations for Catherine Bethune, Interventionist Teacher, Mountain View Elementary School; Robert Bird, Government/World History Teacher, Nikiski Middle/High School; Krista Christensen, Language Arts Teacher, Kenai Central High School; Johnnie Cotton, Assistant Principal, Skyview High School; Michael Druce, Language Arts/Drama Teacher, Soldotna High School; Jennifer Gilbertson, Pre-Kindergarten Teacher, Mountain View Elementary School; Kevin Hilton, 1st Grade Teacher, Mountain View Elementary School; Thor Jones, Intermediate Grade Teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Marianne Kasch, 5th - 6th Grade Teacher, Kaleidoscope Charter School; Nathan Kiel, Government/US History Teacher, Kenai Central High School; Elaine Larson, Music Teacher, Kaleidoscope Charter School; Jamie Meyers, Technology Integration Specialist, Elementary Ed/Curriculum; Bethany Nyboer, Special Education Resource Teacher, Sterling Elementary School; Liviu Rizea, Math/Science Teacher, Razdolna School; April Tougas, 4th Grade Teacher, Seward Elementary School; and Tracey Withrow, 4th Grade Teacher, Redoubt Elementary School, all effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year, and Timothy Peterson, Director, Human Resources Department, effective June 30, 2013.

**2013-14 NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve new teacher contracts for Catherine Lavine, Intermediate Grade Teacher, Sterling Elementary School; Kimberly Leslie, Science Teacher, Distance Education/Districtwide; and Michael Tozzo, Special Education Resource Teacher, Ninilchik School.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS/CERTIFIED:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve leave of absence requests/certified for Mindy Hunter, 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Fireweed Academy, and Toni Steward, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Kenai Middle School, both effective the 2013-14 school year.

**MOTION:**

Mr. Navarre moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 10. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Mr. Holt removed Number 8 Approval of Resignations.

Motion carried unanimously for Number 1-7 and 9-10.

Motion carried unanimously for Number 8.

**CONTINUED STUDY OF SEWARD MIDDLE SCHOOL RECONFIGURATION:**

Dr. Atwater recommended the Board approve continued study to allow for a decision on whether to reconfigure the Seward Middle School to grades 6-8 by October, 2013.

Ms. Maya Moriarty spoke regarding the Seward Site Council vote on the reconfiguration and stated that one person dissented. She shared two quotes and offered her encouragement to the Board during the decision making process.

**MOTION:**

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve continued study to allow for a decision on whether to reconfigure the Seward Middle School to grades 6-8 by October, 2013. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

Mrs. Vadla thanked Mrs. Margie Warner and Mrs. LaDawn Druce for their service as the union presidents, all District teachers for their work, the Seward principals for their presentations (including the debate team and choir students), and the parents that attended and offered testimony on the KPSAA regulations.

Mrs. Hilts stated that she agreed with Mrs. Vadla's "thank yous," thanked the Seward Food's Class for dinner, and the public for their testimony. She said goodbye to Mrs. Margie Warner and Mrs. LaDawn Druce. She stated that many golden apple awards have been presented by the Board to District support staff and that the support staff are appreciated. She discussed the NSBA national conference, the importance of serving children, of school boards, and of public involvement.

Mr. Navarre thanked Mrs. Margie Warner and Mrs. LaDawn Druce for their service, Mrs. Terri Tidwell for the information regarding support staff retirees, the Seward principals for their hospitality, the Seward Food's Class for dinner, and the public for their attendance and testimony.

Mrs. Downing thanked the Seward community and echoed the previous appreciations offered. She thanked Mr. Walker for his vision and work for Seward High School. She discussed a recent Alaska Society for Technology and Education (ASTE) retreat that she attended in Juneau as a member of the board of directors. She expressed appreciation for the Project GRAD presentation and program. She reported that she attended a recent "Green Dot" training (a program designed to work with bystanders/witnesses) and discussed the program's purpose. She stated that she is looking forward to the upcoming high school graduations.

Mr. Holt thanked the Seward community for their hospitality and the Seward Food's Class for dinner. He responded to a conversation held earlier in the meeting regarding "Moby Dick" and Mr. Mike Druce.

Mrs. Crawford thanked the Seward community for their attendance and testimony. She expressed appreciation for the CTE report and program (including the Seward Food's Class), and the Project GRAD report. She thanked Mr. Walker and Mr. Bickling for their presentations and work. She commented on the number of years of service of both support and certified staff retirees. She suggested that future KPSAA meetings not be held in the middle of the school week.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**  
(Continued)

Ms. Hohl discussed a conversation she had with Ms. Tahmeta Stroh, Hope School PTA President, and Mr. Jim Skogstad regarding the differing roles of PTA and Site Councils. She reported that she attended the Alaska PTA annual convention in Anchorage where four Kenai Peninsula parents were elected to the board. She stated that several Kenai Peninsula students were recognized at the state level for their entries in the Reflections Art Program, announced the students' names, and stated that the finalists will represent Alaska in the national Reflections competition. She noted that student art is currently on display at the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Gallery Walk in Seward.

Mr. Beard expressed appreciation for all Seward High School staff. He stated that he is excited and ready to graduate. He thanked the Seward Food's Class for dinner, Project GRAD for mentioning him in their presentation, and the Board for allowing him to be a member, and assured the Seward community that he strives to represent them.

Mr. Arness stated that he agreed with all appreciation offered during the meeting.

**ADJOURN:**

At 9:55 p.m., Mr. Arness adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. Joe Arness, President

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Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk

The Minutes of May 6, 2013,  
have been approved as of  
June 3, 2013.