
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

December 2, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent

Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley
Soldotna, Alaska

WORKSESSION REPORT: The Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included Board Policy, Kaleidoscope Charter School, Strategic Plan Update, and Legislative Priorities. All members that attended the meeting also attended the worksessions.

SCHOOL REPORT: Mrs. Norma Holmgaard, principal of Mountain View Elementary School, introduced Mrs. Renee Christensen, 5th grade teacher, who discussed the school's collaboration program and its effects on student learning. Mrs. Holmgaard discussed the priority of school climate, safety, and the school climate committee. She introduced Mr. Karl Kircher, Assistant Principal, and a group of students who (with the assistance of Board member, Mr. Dan Castimore) performed a school bus safety demonstration. Using bus behavior as an example, Mr. Kircher presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the school's climate; strategic plan; student responsibility; and behavior rules, expectations, and plan success. He thanked First Student and the bus drivers for their work. His final slide displayed the committee's next planned project of student learning targets. Mr. Alex Martin, student, introduced the school's after-school 4-5 grade choir, led by music teacher Mr. Jonathan Dillon, which sang three songs: *Yuki*; *Alaska's Flag*, and the Mt. View school song. Mrs. Holmgaard invited those present to attend the school's band and choir concert on December 5, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. at the school.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Atwater noted the annual class size report in the Board general information packet and reported that most District schools have small classes when compared to some of the larger districts around the state and country. He reported that, due to unforeseen issues, the scheduled Alaska Communications (A.C.S.) equipment upgrades to increase connectivity at Port Graham and Nanwalek schools will not be completed this winter as planned. He noted the Budget Development Committee memo in the general information packet, stated that no specific ideas were offered to make changes or additions to the Board's recommended budget cuts, and stated that the meeting was advertised appropriately and that media reports that the District did not properly advertise were in error.

KALEIDOSCOPE REAUTHORIZATION: The Board unanimously approved the Kaleidoscope School of Arts & Science reapplication.

SOLDOTNA SECONDARY SCHOOLS RECONFIGURATION: The Board approved the administration recommendation for school mascots for the Soldotna 7-8 grade school (Panther), the 9th grade school (Star), and the 10-12 grade high school (Star).

The Board approved the administration recommendation for school colors for the Soldotna 7-8 grade school (Blue, Purple, Black and White), the 9th grade school (Blue, Purple, Black and White), and the 10-12 grade high school (Blue, Purple, Black and White).

The Board approved an amended motion to approve the administration recommendation for school names for the Soldotna 7-8 grade school (Skyview Middle School), and the 9th grade school (Soldotna Prep School).

The Board approved an amended motion to approve the school name for the Soldotna 10-12 grade high school (Soldotna High School).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/SUPPORT: The Board unanimously approved a leave of absence for Jill Evans, Library Aide, Kenai Central High School/Kenai Middle School, effective January 13, 2014 to January 12, 2015.

BUDGET TRANSFERS: The Board unanimously approved budget transfer 304 to adjust salary and benefit account budgets for actual employees hired this school year at Aurora Borealis Charter School.

RESIGNATIONS: The Board unanimously approved resignations from David Larson, Language Arts Teacher, Homer High School, effective at the end of the 2013-14 school year; and Ann Stone, Language Arts Teacher, Kenai Central High School, effective November 13, 2013.

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER CONTRACT: The Board unanimously approved a long-term substitute teacher contract for Deborah Michael, Redoubt Elementary School.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved new teacher contracts for Steven Fink, Robotics/Technology Instructor (.25 FTE), Seward Middle School; Lisa Miller, Title I Teacher, Seward Elementary School; RaeAnn Nye, Special Education Intensive Needs Teacher, K-Beach Elementary School; and Helen Rizzo, Title I Teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary.

SCIENCE CURRICULUM/SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM: The Board unanimously approved a motion to postpone action on the Science Curriculum and the Social Studies Curriculum until the January 13, 2014 regular meeting.

BUDGET REVISION: The Board unanimously approved an FY14 Budget Revision.

POLICY REVISION: The Board unanimously approved a revision to BP 6145.2 Interscholastic Competition.

CHARTER SCHOOL RECOMMENDATION: The Board unanimously approved a motion to direct the superintendent to report to the Charter School Committee with Ms. Hohl's November 25, 2013 Board Information Request form (regarding superintendent and board roles in charter school building use requests) and any recommendations to changes in policy, if needed.

FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS: The Board heard a first reading of revisions to BP 6145.22 Concussion in Student Athletes.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, January 13, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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