

KPBSD School Board
Legislative Committee Meeting Notes
December 2, 2013
Second Floor Conference Room

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Liz Downing, Committee Chair
Mr. Tim Navarre, Committee Member
Mrs. Lynn Hohl, School Board Member
Mrs. Penny Vadla, School Board Member
Ms. Pegge Erkeneff, Communications Specialist
Mrs. Nancy Hamburg, Administrative Secretary, Planning & Operations

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting convened at 2:00 p.m.

AGENDA APPROVAL: December 2, 2013 Legislative Committee Meeting Agenda was approved.

MINUTES APPROVAL: October 14, 2013 Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes were approved with the removal of "Be careful who you select to represent".

IDENTIFY TOP PRIORITIES: KPBSD State and Federal Priorities
<http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/board.aspx?id=376>
AASB Approved Resolutions
<http://aasb.org/content/wherewestand-2014>

- It was suggested to set up a spreadsheet listing KPBSD Priorities, AASB and House/Senate Bills.
- Educational Funding: Governor Budget to be publicized December 15, 2013. Base Student Allocation (BSA) increasing?
- 3.5 million dollars needed to meet our financial needs. Increase in BSA will close financial gap. KPBSD has cut 1.2 million in expenses so can present argument that we've done our part as we ask for more money. HB 95 is held in House Education Committee (Did not receive a hearing in 2013 session). The Board will discuss this at the January meeting.
- Explore health care options for school districts and their employees. SB90 mandates that all school district employees be placed in the State of Alaska health plan. If districts can opt out, we can maintain local control/set our own policies. Approach: We want to bring down cost of health care so find out where our legislators stand on this. SB90 is currently in the Senate Finance Committee.
- Supporting digital learning – Create an ongoing funding plan that equips ourselves to do on-line learning and testing? Some of our computers are not suitable for tests.
- Addressing increasing energy costs to school districts
- Create one new high school exit exam that serves both HSGQE and the Work Keys exam
- Flyers need clear direction/information, i.e. why we need to increase BSA.
- Review local AASB Resolutions so that they align with KPBSD Legislative Priorities.

WORK SESSION WITH LEGISLATORS:

(House Speaker and Rep Mike Chenault, State House Rep Paul Seaton, State House Rep Kurt Olson, State Senator Cathy Gissel, State Senator Peter Micciche)

- Bring up what we would like to discuss – since there is not a specific time slot.
- Next year, this should be discussed at an earlier meeting so we are prepared in time for their arrival.

STRATEGIES FOR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- Committee Roles – Tabled until January meeting.
- Board Roles – Tabled until January meeting. Hopefully will have 3rd member at that time. Waiting to hear back from Joe Arness.
- Community Engagement
 - Foundation: Should we put out information on Facebook, site councils? Public Education needs local KPBSD coalition of people to lobby in favor of schools.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.