

KPBSD School Board

Legislative Committee Minutes 3/3/14

Conference Room C

**THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Sean Dusek, Assistant Superintendent  
Mrs. Liz Downing, Committee Chair  
Mr. Bill Holt, School Board Member  
Mrs. Penny Vadla, School Board Member  
Mrs. Sunni Hilts, School Board Member  
Ms. Pegge Erkeneff, Communications Specialist  
Mrs. Nancy Hamburg, Administrative Secretary, Planning & Operations

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting convened at 11:55 a.m.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** March 3, 2014 Legislative Committee Meeting Agenda was amended and approved by adding Community Engagement as another Agenda item.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** February 17, 2014 Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes were approved.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**

HJR1 Voucher – There are mixed feelings on where legislators stand. Some do not believe there are enough votes for it to pass, however, we should remain vigilant. Senator Dunleavy made a statement that seemed to indicate that the BSA should meet school district funding needs.

SB100 Digital Learning – One element is for “correspondence” funding to increase from 0.8 to 1.0 percent from BSA. This difference would amount to approximately \$844,000 back to the district with some possibly used for equipment and support for online learning. There may also be federal money tied in with E-Rate for distance learning.

NSBA – Their goal is for every state to stand up against Charter Schools and Home School programs. However, Alaska does not support this stance as we have embraced choice through public education.

SB 84 - CTE (Career & Tech Education) – There is a possibility the Youth First Grant, in the amount of \$85,000.00 will be cut. Even though this is not a lot of money, it will have a negative impact in many areas. John O’Brien urged everyone to advocate on their behalf. Pegge Erkeneff will put information out on communication page and Facebook.

HB 141 – Due to severe Workers’ Compensation cost increases, KPBSD is in support of this bill.

BSA – Bill Holt will speak to Legislators regarding BSA at the March 22-25<sup>th</sup> fly in to Juneau.

Charter School transportation – Dave Jones testified and attempted to clear up misunderstandings with regard to transporting students to charter schools.

- Soldotna Montessori –(Same building as Soldotna Elem), all students within attendance area of Soldotna Elem. are transported.
- Kaleidoscope – All students within Mt. View attendance area are transported.
- Fireweed Academy – All students in Paul Banks/West Homer attendance area are transported.
- Aurora Borealis – No bus transportation is wanted for this school.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:**

Raise Your Hand for Public Education is primarily led by NEA-Alaska. Currently, the mission and goals are unclear. While there was broad attendance to the first couple of meetings (PTA, Borough, District), the future is unclear.

Great Alaska School is gaining momentum with many driven parents in Anchorage involved with the Group. Where should KPBSD align?

Key Communicators: Dr. Atwater, Sean Dusek, Dave Jones, Pegge Erkeneff attended meetings in Homer, Central Peninsula and Seward. There were approximately 40 – 50 people in attendance. Two to three Key Communicators were chosen by each school's principal that totaled Approximately 100 but it is important to remember that this is an open group and members may self-select.

Pegge is planning to start a separate Facebook page intended for all grass roots communication, Questions and answers.

#### **COMMUNICATION PIECES FOR THE LEGISLATURE**

Streamline distributed information. Focus on 5 key elements for successful results. Updated information will be posted on the Legislative page. To access this page: Communications Tab, Communications Home Page, Legislature & KPBSD.

**ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

**Next meeting March 18, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room.**