



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2014, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
(2nd Floor Conference Room)

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent
Mrs. Liz Downing, Committee Chair
Ms. Pegge Erkeneff, Communications Specialist
Mrs. Nancy Hamburg, Administrative Secretary, Planning & Operations

CALL TO ORDER: 2:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF 4/9/14 AGENDA: No Quorum

APPROVAL OF NOTES 4/1/14: No Quorum

DISCUSS CURRENT LEGISLATION:

- House Bill 151, A-F Public school and school district grading system for purposes of improving accountability and transparency.
It was felt by our committee that this would be detrimental to public education. We don't support branding our schools with one of the letters. Our district implemented DEED's star system last year which involved time and money to train. We prefer this system and it does not make any sense to change to an A-F grading system.
Dr. Atwater will communicate with Senate Finance via email as well as making a public note for Pegge in Communications.
- Teacher Tenure, HB 162. Dr. Atwater emphasized that districts should just have one tenure avenue per district as opposed to multiple years for various school enrollment numbers.
- Statewide Salary Schedule. There was a proposal for a salary and benefits schedule for school districts.
It was felt by our committee that there needs to be a study. Is there a cost differential for rural areas?
- HB 93 – Charter Schools & Transportation piece. Need to clarify that if we anticipate an influx of more students, are we allowed to deny the Charter schools or require that they find a new location?

- HB 278 – Section 2. Students testing out of courses. Commissioner Hanley emphasized burden to districts if every course offered needs a competency assessment. Our committee agrees with Hanley. There would be a variance across the state of people testing out. Does the Department of Education want a statewide standard or local control?
- SB 100 – Grant program to be administered by the Association of Alaska School Boards for the purchase of student equipment and technology services; establishing a grant program for innovative approaches to learning, relating to correspondence study programs and student allotments...
Additional funds for innovation would be necessary. It would be better if money was shifted into the BSA rather than change the current formula.

ADJOURNMENT: 3:23 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 8:30 a.m., 2nd floor conference room.