



Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting

Borough Administration Building
148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, Alaska

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Joe Arness, President
Mr. Bill Holt, Vice President
Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk
Mr. Tim Navarre, Treasurer
Mr. Marty Anderson
Mr. Dan Castimore
Mrs. Liz Downing
Mrs. Sunni Hilts
Ms. Lynn Hohl
Mr. Brian Dusek, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Sean Dusek, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. John O'Brien, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ms. Joann Riener	Mr. David Brighton
Ms. Pegge Erkeneff	Mr. Conrad Woodhead
Mrs. Laurie Olson	Miss Martine Dikes
Mr. Tim Vlasak	Mrs. Chris Granger
Mrs. Jill DuFloth	Mrs. Margaret Gilman
Mr. Sarge Truesdell	Mrs. Colette Thompson
Mr. Doug Hayman	Ms. Debbie Harris
Mr. Eric Soderquist	Ms. Lindsay Wolter
Mr. John Pothast	

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Arness called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 3:59 p.m., Mr. Anderson moved the Board go into executive session to discuss matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the Borough. Specifically, the Board met to discuss contract negotiations. Mr. Navarre seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:59 p.m. Mr. Holt moved the Board adjourn the executive session. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

At 6:00 p.m., the Board continued in regular session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Arness invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE: Mrs. Debbie Tressler, notary public, administered the Oath of Office to newly elected School Board members Mr. Marty Anderson and Mr. Tim Navarre.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT: Ms. Hohl read the District's mission statement.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Marty Anderson	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Mr. Dan Castimore	Present
Mrs. Liz Downing	Present (<i>Participated telephonically</i>)
Mrs. Sunni Hilts	Present
Ms. Lynn Hohl	Present
Mr. Bill Holt	Present
Mr. Tim Navarre	Present
Mrs. Penny Vadla	Present
Mr. Brian Dusek	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was unanimously approved as written.

REORGANIZATION OF BOARD: Mr. Arness called for a reorganization of the Board.

PRESIDENT: Mrs. Vadla nominated Mr. Arness as president. Mrs. Hilts nominated Mr. Castimore as president. Mrs. Downing nominated Mr. Navarre as president. Nominations for president were closed. Mr. Arness instructed the Board members to vote using secret ballots. Mrs. Downing voted via an electronic mail to Mrs. Tressler.

OATH OF OFFICE: Mrs. Tressler administered the Oath of Office to newly elected School Board member Mrs. Liz Downing.

Mrs. Tressler counted the ballots. Mr. Arness was elected president.

VICE PRESIDENT: Mr. Anderson nominated Mr. Holt for vice president of the Board. Nominations for vice president were closed. Mr. Holt was elected vice president.

CLERK: Mrs. Vadla nominated Ms. Hohl for clerk of the Board. Ms. Hohl declined. Mr. Holt nominated Mrs. Vadla for clerk of the Board. Nominations for clerk were closed. Mrs. Vadla was elected clerk.

TREASURER: Mr. Anderson nominated Mr. Navarre as treasurer of the Board. Nominations for treasurer were closed. Mr. Navarre was elected treasurer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of October 5, 2015, were unanimously approved as corrected.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS: The Board presented Miss Lisa Green with the Golden Apple Award for her service to the District as a volunteer at Tustumena Elementary.

The Board presented Mr. Patrick Dwyer with the Golden Apple Award for his service to the District at Skyview Middle School.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Debbie Harris, president of Alaska Arts Education Consortium thanked the Board and District for their membership and support of arts education.

Mrs. Margaret Gilman, Nikiski North Star Elementary principal, discussed and showed the school's "Welcome to Nikiski North Star" gift bags to promote literacy and to be given to Nikiski North Star families with new babies.

Ms. Robyn Zinszer spoke regarding the value of arts in education.

Ms. Lindsay Wolter, attorney, discussed the Voznesenka School building lease agreement.

Mr. Jesse Bjorkman discussed his concerns regarding the Budget Development meeting held on October 15, 2015.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Mr. Dusek discussed Alaska Measures of Progress (AMP) testing result updates recently received from the State and announced that test information will be available to the public on November 9. He commented on resolutions adopted by the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB), Alaska Superintendents Association (ASA), and the Lake and Peninsula and Kodiak school districts regarding small school funding and remarked that the Board will consider adopting a similar resolution. He announced that the Board will hold a work session on November 3 to discuss the FY17 Budget and feedback from the budget development meeting. He stated that the next board meeting will be on December 7, followed by a budget work session on December 8, and invited the public 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:

Mr. David Brighton, KPEA president, offered condolences to the family of Ms. Chris Normandin, former Nikolaevsk school employee. He congratulated Miss Lisa Green and Mr. Patrick Dwyer on their Golden Apple awards. He noted the staff retirees up for approval during the meeting. He discussed the Anchorage School District's recent negotiation decisions and stated that he hopes for District negotiations to be concluded soon.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Dusek congratulated District Speech Language Pathologists Ms. Judy Gonsalves, Ms. Cindy Detrow, and Ms. Amy Hogue for the awards they received at the Alaska Speech-Language-Hearing Association Conference October 16-17, 2015 in Anchorage. He congratulated Mr. Cam Wyatt on his Alaska Career and Technical Education promising practices award. He thanked Mrs. Sara Moore, Mrs. Tiffany Eck, and district counselors and liaisons for their work on the recent College Fair. He expressed appreciation for the borough honor choir concert which was held at Soldotna High School on October 22 and thanked Mr. Kent Peterson and all choir teachers for their work. He thanked the Central Peninsula Hospital (CPH) Project SEARCH mentors, Ms. Liz Falk and the pupil services department for their excellent work through this program.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

(Continued)

He noted that the next administrator meeting will be held on November 18 at Skyview Middle School and invited the Board to attend. He will attend the AASB Annual Conference in Anchorage on November 5-8. He will attend the ASA new superintendent training on November 13-14. He noted that the All-State Music Festival will be held on November 21 at West High School, commented on the number of District students participating and encouraged the Board to attend.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Jones presented the financial report of the District for the period ending September 30, 2015.

QUARTERLY BUDGET TRANSFER REPORT:

Mr. Dave Jones reported on budget transfers Numbers 6 through 201 for various schools and departments within the District.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Downing reported that the Legislative Committee met earlier in the day to discuss developing a resolution regarding small school funding, legislator invitations, and community and advocacy efforts.

Ms. Hohl attended the Career and Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) meeting on October 15. She attended the Moose Pass site council meeting where they discussed the school's enrollment. She noted the importance of adopting a small school funding resolution. Ms. Hohl reported on her attendance to the AASB Fall Boardmanship Academy on September 12-13, 2015.

Mr. Navarre attended the October 15 budget development meeting, at the Kenai Central High School site, and expressed appreciation for the staff attendance and remote communications and noted several local dignitaries that also attended.

Mr. Holt attended the CTAC meeting where they discussed the Carl Perkins grant and other items including distance education.

BOARD WORK SESSION REPORT:

Mr. Arness reported that the Board held work sessions entitled Board Policy, 2016-17 Calendar Revision, Outsourcing and Facility Use Legal Review, and Voznesenka Lease Agreement and an executive session on negotiations. All members present at the meeting attended the work sessions including Mrs. Downing, who participated telephonically.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of 2015-16 New Teacher Contracts, Long Term Substitute Contracts, Budget Transfers, 2015-16 New Administrator Contracts, and Resignations.

2015-16 NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve new teacher contracts for Laurie Hebert, Special Education Resource Teacher; Christopher Jenness, Media/Interventionist/Facilitator Gifted Teacher (Multidisciplinary); Justine Pechuzal, K-8 Art/Generalist Teacher; and Douglas Remp, Generalist Teacher (6th-8th Grade) (.40 FTE).

CONSENT AGENDA:

(Continued)

**LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE
TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve long-term substitute teacher contracts for Heather Callen, Seward High School; Judy Cox, Mountain View Elementary; Justine Pechuzal, Seward Elementary School; Mickey Todd, Voznesenka School; and Amy Ware, Voznesenka School.

BUDGET TRANSFERS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve budget transfers 204 and 206 in the amounts of \$262,000 and \$60,000, on behalf of the Food Service department to move funds from central order kitchens to school locations for ordering food for the school lunch program.

**2015-16 NEW
ADMINISTRATOR
CONTRACT:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a new administrator contract for Eric Soderquist, director, information services.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve resignations from Susan Brass, Sixth Grade Teacher, West Homer Elementary School; Sally Burns, Special Education Resource Teacher, Paul Banks Elementary; Judy Gonsalves, Speech/Language Pathologist, West Homer Elementary; Daniel Harbison, Government/World History Teacher, Soldotna High School; and Barbara Veeck, Special Education Resource Teacher, West Homer Elementary.

MOTION:

Mr. Navarre moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 5. Ms. Hohl seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**2016-2017 CALENDAR
REVISION:**

Mr. O'Brien recommended the Board approve a revision to the 2016-2017 Calendar.

MOTION:

Ms. Hohl moved the Board approve a revision to the 2016-2017 Calendar. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**2015-16 SUBSTITUTE AND
TEMPORARY PAY
SCHEDULE:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a revision to the 2015-16 Substitute and Temporary Pay Schedule.

MOTION:

Mr. Holt moved the Board approve a revision to the 2015-16 Substitute and Temporary Pay Schedule. Ms. Hohl seconded.

MOTION:

Ms. Hohl moved the Board approve an amendment to raise the wages of Aide/Instructional Assistant and Tutor/Bilingual Assistant to \$11.00 per hour. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

VOTE ON HOHL AMENDMENT:

ADVISORY VOTE: No

YES –Castimore, Hohl, Holt, Vadla

NO – Anderson, Downing, Hilts, Navarre, Arness

Amendment failed.

**2015-16 SUBSTITUTE AND
TEMPORARY PAY
SCHEDULE:**
(Continued)

VOTE ON 11c. 2015-16 Substitute And Temporary Pay Schedule:

ADVISORY VOTE: No

YES – Anderson, Castimore, Downing, Hilts, Hohl, Holt, Vadla,
Arness

NO – Navarre

Motion carried.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Anderson stated that he is looking forward to three more years of school board service and thanked voters for electing him. He expressed appreciation for Mrs. Gilman and her programs.

Mrs. Hilts discussed the importance of listening to presentations. She discussed the importance and value of the Board of Education and reminded board members that they swear an oath to support the constitutions of Alaska and the United States.

Ms. Hohl reported on her participation in the National Christmas Tree festivities in Seward. She stated that she will attend the Alaska PTA Legislative Issues Conference the weekend of November 14, 2015. She commented on Miss Allie Ostrander's, former student, college running successes. She was present at the well-attended October 15 budget development meeting at the Seward site and thanked Mr. Tim Vlasak for representing the District there. She asked the administration, as time allows, to determine the cost of increasing the aide/instructional assistant and tutor/bilingual assistant substitute wages to \$11.00 per hour. She stated that on October 31, a Seward alumni returned from New York to be the master of ceremonies for the Port City Players' presentation of Prose and Poetry for the Night of the Dead. Ms. Hohl told Mrs. Hilts that she will be missed.

Mr. Navarre congratulated Miss Lisa Green and Mr. Patrick Dwyer for their Golden Apple Awards. He thanked Mrs. Gilman for her presentation and her work for the district. He congratulated Mr. Arness on his election as president of the Board.

Mr. Holt congratulated Mr. Eric Soderquist on his new position as director of information services. He thanked those that gave testimony regarding arts in education and stated he would like the District to continue to maintain a strong arts program.

Mrs. Vadla congratulated Mr. Soderquist on his new position and expressed appreciation for his work and expertise. She commented on Mrs. Hilts' leaving. She thanked those that had offered public testimony during the meeting.

Mr. Castimore reported that he visited Mt. View Elementary and expressed appreciation for the school's programs. He will attend the AASB Annual Conference in Anchorage on November 5-8.

Mrs. Downing discussed the day's meetings and challenging decisions to be made. She observed that she gained a perspective by participating in the meeting via teleconference.

BOARD COMMENTS:

(Continued)

Mr. Brian Dusek attended the October 15 budget development meeting at the Soldotna High School site and will work to obtain students' perspective on plans for the budget. He expressed appreciation for those that gave testimony regarding arts in education and for Mrs. Gilman's gift bags. He congratulated Miss Lisa Green and Mr. Patrick Dwyer for their Golden Apple Awards. He noted Mr. Harbison's and other teacher retirements and congratulated them. He is looking forward to attending the AASB Youth Leadership Institute in Anchorage on November 5-8.

Mr. Arness expressed appreciation for the Board members. He confirmed that the November 3 Board work session will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Borough Assembly Chambers.

ADJOURN:

At 7:29 p.m., Mr. Arness adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Joe Arness, President

Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk

Approved 12-5-15

Submitted by Mrs. Debbie Tressler
Administrative Secretary to the Board of Education