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# Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

## Board of Education Meeting Minutes

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August 10, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.  
Regular Meeting

Borough Administration Building  
148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, Alaska

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**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:**

Mrs. Sammy Crawford, President  
Mrs. Sunni Hilts, Vice President  
Mr. Marty Anderson, Clerk  
Ms. Lynn Hohl, Treasurer  
Mr. Joe Arness  
Mrs. Liz Downing  
Mr. Gregory Gabriel, Jr.  
Mr. Bill Holt  
Mrs. Penny Vadla

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent of Schools  
Mrs. Melody Douglas, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Sean Dusek, Assistant Superintendent

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

McKibben Jackinsky  
Mr. Tim Peterson  
Mrs. Margie Warner  
Others present not identified.

Bridget Smith  
LaDawn Druce

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mrs. Crawford called the meeting to order at 5:21 p.m. A quorum of School Board members, Mrs. Hilts, Mrs. Downing, Mr. Holt, Mr. Arness, Ms. Hohl, Mrs. Vadla, Mr. Anderson and Mrs. Crawford were in attendance.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 5:22 p.m. Mrs. Hilts 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 executive session was to discuss negotiations strategies and tactics. Ms. Hohl seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 6:03 p.m., Mrs. Hilts moved the executive session be adjourned. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

*(7:00:33 PM)*

Mrs. Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

*(7:00:45 PM)*

Mrs. Crawford invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:**

*(7:01:09 PM)*

Mr. Arness read the District's mission statement.

**ROLL CALL:**

*(7:01:55 PM)*

Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Mrs. Liz Downing	Present
Mr. Marty Anderson	Present
Mrs. Sunni Hilts	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Mr. Gregory Gabriel, Jr.	Absent/Excused
Ms. Lynn Hohl	Present
Mr. Bill Holt	Present
Mrs. Penny Vadla	Present

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

*(7:02:23 PM)*

The agenda was approved as written.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*(7:02:35 PM)*

The School Board Minutes of July 13, 2009, were approved as printed.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:**

*(7:03:14 PM)*

Dr. Atwater reported that in response to a Board request, a list of tech prep courses was included in the General Information Packet. He reported also in the packet is a response to student directory information questions, a memo explaining school volunteer background checks requirements, and a letter from City of Soldotna Mayor Micciche requesting the District support a school crosswalk on Redoubt Avenue.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SITE COUNCIL AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A, BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:**

*(7:04:31 PM)*

Mrs. Druce, KPEA president, reported that the Association is hopeful for a contract agreement within the next month. She reported that KPEA is sponsoring the new teacher luncheon on Wednesday, August 12, from 1130 to 1:30 for 70 teachers. She reported that KPEA will cosponsor a booth with KPESA and NEA-Alaska at the Kenai Peninsula State Fair in Ninilchik on August 21-23. She reported that a veteran teacher shared positive comments with her regarding the new world language curriculum meeting. She reported that she would like to encourage member engagement, which is one of KPEA's goals. She reported that she participated in the NEA national training in Chicago, Illinois and learned about teaching social justice and diversity in schools.

Mrs. Warner, KPESA president, reported that she was selected by NEA-Alaska to participate in the Leaders for Tomorrow training. She reported that the first training was in Minneapolis, Minnesota and that some of the classes included time management, assertiveness versus aggressiveness, and public speaking. She reported that the next training will be held in Washington D.C. in November. She reported that it is good to be back at school and she is looking forward to another great year of learning.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

*(7:10:53 PM)*

Dr. Atwater reported that the No Child Left Behind Act assessment results have been released and that 35 of 44 District schools made adequate yearly progress (AYP), an improvement over last year. He reported that Districtwide 88% of students are proficient in language arts and 78% are proficient in math, well above the state average. He noted that the district-level AYP results will be released soon. He announced that the Districtwide inservice will be held August 17 at KCHS and will include over 800 educators and invited the Board to attend. He reported that stimulus funds will be received soon but that only 67% of the total amount is currently eligible to the state from the federal government, and that the state must make a further application for the remaining 33%. He cautioned that if the money is not received, the District would need to revise the FY10 budget.

**BOARD REPORTS:**

*(7:12:52PM)*

Mrs. Crawford reported that she and Dr. Atwater met with KPEA and NEA representatives and learned about their support for National Board Certification. She stated that Mr. Keith Gregor, who is a member of the National Board for Teacher Certification, spoke to the group.

**BOARD WORKSESSION REPORT:**

*(7:13:51 PM)*

Mrs. Crawford reported that the Board conducted worksessions on the FY10 Budget revision, the 2010 AASB Resolutions, Board Talking Points, the Board Goals and Administrative Plan, and the AASB School Climate and Connectedness Survey.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*(7:15:10 PM)*

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Substitute and Temporary Pay Schedule; New Administrator Contracts; New Teacher Contracts; Resignation; Nontenure Teacher Contracts; Budget Transfers; and Administration's Recommendation Regarding Resignation.

**SUBSTITUTE AND TEMPORARY PAY SCHEDULE:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve the pay schedule for substitutes and temporary employees for the 2009-2010 school year.

**NEW ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve administrator contracts for Jennifer Dowd as K-Beach Elementary assistant principal, Teri Diamond as Mt. View Elementary assistant principal, and John Hersrud as Seward Middle principal/teacher.

**NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve teacher contracts for Emanuela Meriggi, foreign language/history teacher, districtwide Distance Education; Tina M. Gilman, special education intensive needs teacher, districtwide, Central Peninsula; David Brighton, (permanent .50 FTE/temporary .50 FTE) credit recovery/business education teacher, Homer High; Kristin E. Kuehl, (permanent .50 FTE/temporary .50 FTE) science teacher, Homer High; Erin T. Controneo, itinerant counselor, Homer Middle; Kimberly Fields, primary grade teacher, Kaleidoscope Charter; Patricia L. Haywood, intermediate grade teacher, K-Beach Elementary; Lourdes Link, special education, resource teacher, K-Beach Elementary; Oakley W. Cothran, .50 FTE physical education teacher, Kenai Central

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*(continued)*

High; Rochelle Horbacz, math/science teacher, Kenai Central High; Jesse J. Bjorkman, social studies teacher, Nikiski Middle/High; Jessie S. Sobey, language arts teacher, Nikiski Middle/High; Anna J. Widman, .75 FTE art teacher, Nikiski Middle/High; Tammy J. Farrell, .50 FTE computer and technology education teacher/librarian, Nikiski North Star Elementary; Kara Schreur, primary grades teacher, Redoubt Elementary; Bethany Waggoner, art teacher, Seward High; Jeffrey S. Wolf, Spanish teacher, Seward High; Eric Dahl, (temporary), intermediate grade teacher, Soldotna Elementary; Holly Boyle, (temporary .50 FTE) Title VII teacher, Soldotna Middle; Jonathan J. Horbacz, intermediate grades teacher, Sterling Elementary; Justin B. Gray, physical education teacher, Soldotna Middle; Christy L. Gomez, primary grade teacher, Tebughna Elementary/High; Garrett McMullen, permanent .50 FTE special education resource/temporary .50 FTE Title I teacher, Tebughna Elementary/High; and Amy Ware, (temporary) pre-kindergarten teacher, Voznesenka School.

**RESIGNATION:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a resignation, effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year, for Rosemary Owens, science, Kenai Central High School.

**NONTENURE TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve nontenure teacher contracts for Lisa Fellows, special education resource; and Megan O'Neill, (temporary), math/interventionist teacher.

**BUDGET TRANSFERS:**

Mrs. Douglas recommended the Board approve budget transfer Number 1339 for \$52,421 to pay for wellness program promotional items; and Number 1340 for \$483,450 to pay for the replacement of the aging districtwide copier fleet.

**ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION REGARDING RESIGNATION:**

Mr. Jones requested the Board approve the administration's recommendation to deny the resignation request from Diane J. Warner, social studies, Homer High.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Hilts moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 7. Mrs. Downing seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**FY10 BUDGET REVISION:**  
*(7:16:00 PM)*

Mrs. Douglas recommended the Board approve changes to the FY10 general fund revenue and expenditure budgets to reflect a revised FY10 general fund amount of \$125,306,531.

**MOTION**

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve changes to the FY10 general fund revenue and expenditure budgets to reflect a revised FY10 general fund amount of \$125,306,531. Mr. Holt seconded.

**MOTION**

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve an amendment to the FY10 Budget revisions to change the general fund amount to \$122,926,837 and to delete the estimated IBB costs from the expenditure budget (\$2,379.694). Mrs. Downing seconded.

**FY10 BUDGET REVISION:**

*(continued)*

Amendment approved unanimously.

Amended motion approved unanimously.

**POLICY REVISIONS:**

*(7:22:18 PM)*

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve revisions to BP 4156.2, Awards and Recognition and BP 6145.2, Interscholastic Competition.

**MOTION**

Mr. Anderson moved the Board approve revisions to BP 4156.2, Awards and Recognition and BP 6145.2, Interscholastic Competition. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

*(7:24:52 PM)*

Mr. Holt apologized for missing the July meeting and welcomed Dr. Atwater as the new superintendent.

Mr. Arness asked the Board for an explanation of the item "Future Business on the Board agenda and asked if it could be removed.

Mrs. Vadla reported that she assisted Soldotna High School with registration. She expressed appreciation for the AASB Resolutions information. She commented on Mr. Terry Martin's KPAA career development synopsis. She thanked Mrs. LaDawn Druce, Mrs. Margie Warner and Mrs. Bridget Smith for their presentations.

Ms. Hohl expressed condolences to Mrs. Ann Knofel's family and Mr. Marty Anderson's family for the recent deaths. She thanked the administration for revising District forms so that birthplace could be optional. She asked whether the District supports the Redoubt crosswalk because of the cost and added that the Seward PTSA applied and received grant money to start assessing routes within two miles of the schools. She spoke in support of background checks for volunteers. She reported that she recently attended the summer PTSA board meeting.

Mr. Anderson thanked Mrs. Druce for being his partner during the Board worksession role playing activity. He reminded those present that the Board must scrutinize all District expenditures, especially since the state is facing declining revenues from oil. He thanked the administration and Board for the expressions of sympathy for his father's death. He stated that he is excited that school is starting soon. He commended the teachers and curriculum.

Mrs. Downing commended the Board and administration for their hard work on behalf of students and added that it is wonderful to be connected with KPBSD. She stated that she is looking forward to the new year and reported that she met with Dr. Allan Gee, new principal at Homer High School.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**  
(continued)

Mrs. Hilts congratulated Mrs. Douglas for receiving another award. She expressed appreciation for Mrs. Warner's and Mrs. Druce's training reports. She stated that the new school year is a chance to make a lasting impact on students. She commended Mrs. Smith's report regarding the School Climate and Connectedness Survey. She reported that Susan B. English Elementary/High took part in an opportunity for community engagement along with the communities of Nanwalek and Port Graham. She stated that she would like to see the School Climate and Connectedness survey administered Districtwide.

Mrs. Crawford stated that she is looking forward to a new school year and enjoyed seeing enthusiastic students. She stated that she is proud to be a part of KPBSD.

**ADJOURN:**  
(7:37:55 PM)

At 7:37 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Holt seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mrs. Sammy Crawford, President

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Mr. Marty Anderson, Clerk

The Minutes of August 10, 2009  
were approved on September 14, 2009.  
as written.