

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
148 N. Binkley Street  
Soldotna, AK 99669

John Dahlgren, Superintendent

December 1, 1997

NEWS IN BRIEF

K-BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT - Mr. Jackson, principal, K-Beach Elementary stated that the 1997-98 academic goals for his school were in the areas of math, writing and art. He thanked the many parent volunteers and the PTA, and he listed the Student in Good Standing, Caribou Kid Award, Random Acts of Kindness and Spirit Days as activities sponsored by the school PTA. He stated that the school is involved with the Slikok Creek Project, cross-age activities and Critical Incident Planning. Ms. Carter reported on K-Beach Elementary's campaign to select a state land mammal to represent Alaska. Seven sixth grade students told the Board about some of their memories while attending all of their elementary grades at K-Beach Elementary School.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS - Mrs. Bekkie Jackson, nurse, Sears Elementary spoke on behalf of the Health Services Program in support of continued funding for school nurses.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS - Mr. Arness presented an Award of Recognition to Mr. Todd Syverson, principal, Soldotna Middle School for his recent 1997 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award; and to Ms. Carolyn Cannava, principal, Soldotna Elementary for her recent Alaska Distinguished Principal Award.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Mr. Dahlgren reported that he attended the All-State Music Festival, Saturday, November 22 at KCHS. He stated that he was quite impressed with the caliber of the talented young musicians. He thanked Ms. Renée Henderson for her efforts in coordinating the festival. Mr. Dahlgren stated that the Homer Charter School had recently been awarded a grant from the state in the amount of \$144,995. Mr. Dahlgren announced that there will be a meeting with the administration, Board and local legislators on December 8 at 3:00 p.m. to discuss educational issues. Mr. Dahlgren reported that he had invited the Borough Assembly to meet with the Board and administration on December 16 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss the District financial situation and the budget process.

NURSING SERVICES REPORT - Mrs. Radtke presented a report to the Board concerning the District Health Services Program. She presented a listing of top priority items and state or federal mandated items for which school nurses are responsible. She explained that the idea of offering no health service program and relying on Public Health Nursing is not a workable option. Federal mandates, including Special Services IEPs and ADA 504 Plans, make it impossible not to offer some health services support. Mrs. Radtke described a day in the life of a school nurse, which included administering medicines, conducting rapid eye exams, tending to ill students, conducting student health screenings and providing consultation with school staff. She presented a comparison of nursing services in the Anchorage, Kenai, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kodiak and Mat-Su School Districts. She listed several options for consideration but stated that the best option is to reinstate the program as it has existed in the past.

FALL LEVEL TEST RESULTS - Mr. Ed McLain presented a comparison of District scores to the average, or mean, scores of the Northwest Evaluation Association Consortium group for Grades 3-9 in language, math and reading.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/SUPPORT - The Board unanimously approved a leave of absence request/support for Lisa Bismark, Special Services Assistant, Bartlett School.

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP REQUESTS - The Board unanimously approved extended field trip requests for 20 Homer High School students to travel to Paris, France, to experience first-hand the language and culture of the country; and for 50 Homer Middle School students to travel to Washington, D.C., and New York City, N.Y., to participate in the American Student Travel Program.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER CONTRACT - The Board unanimously approved a substitute teaching contract for Bev Wellborn, Grade 5, North Star Elementary.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST EXTENSION/SUPPORT - The Board unanimously approved a leave of absence request extension/support for Cheryl Samples, Personnel Specialist, effective January 3, 1998, through January 2, 1999.

1998-99 SCHOOL CALENDAR/INSERVICE DATES - The Board unanimously approved the 1998-99 school calendar and tentatively approved school calendars for 1999-2000 and 2000-2001. The calendars were approved with beginning and ending dates, but the inservice dates will be approved at a later meeting.

SOLDOTNA MIDDLE SCHOOL FACILITY RECOMMENDATION - The Board directed the administration to initiate the planning phase for an addition to Soldotna Middle School.

HOPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECONFIGURATION - The Board unanimously approved an administrative and site council recommendation to reconfigure Hope Elementary from Grades K-10 to K-12. The staffing would remain the same based on student enrollment, and the high school program would be more self-directed.

FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS - The Board heard a first reading of BP 1321 Solicitation of Funds From and By Students and AR 5123 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING - The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, January 5, 1998, 7:30 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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