

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Seward High School

Seward, Alaska 99664

May 3, 1999

SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS:

Mr. Joe Arness, President

Mrs. Debra Mullins, Vice President

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

Ms. Deborah Germano, Treasurer

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Member

Dr. Nels Anderson, Member

Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Member

Miss Charise Calvert, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. John Dahlgren, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Patrick Hickey, Assistant Superintendent,
Operations and Business Management

Mr. Ed McLain, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Malcolm Fleming

Mr. Dan Walker

Mr. Ralph Steeves

Mr. David Dieckgraeff

Mr. Bob Boyle

Ms. Erin Knotek

Others present not identified.

KPAA NEGOTIATIONS: Mr. Dan Walker, Seward Middle/High School teacher, asked the Board to favorably consider the salary for District administrators because they have an extremely tough job and have given up some of the rewarding aspects of education.

RECESS: At 7:06 p.m., Mr. Arness called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER RECESS: At 7:30 p.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Arness called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Arness invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:	Mr. Joe Arness	Present
	Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
	Mrs. Susan Larned	Present
	Ms. Deborah Germano	Present
	Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross	Present
	Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
	Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
	Miss Charise Calvert	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved with a revision to item Number 11c.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of April 19, 1999, were approved as printed.

SCHOOL REPORTS:

Mr. Malcolm Fleming, Seward Middle/High School principal, highlighted art, music and drama events occurring at the school. He complimented Melissa Olver, art teacher, for an exceptional job and announced that one of her student's work has been submitted to the National Ocean Science Bowl art contest and is now on display in Washington, D.C. He announced that Nancy Boyle and Nancy Tapsfield assisted in the drama production, "You Can't Take it With You." He stated that John Damberg, music teacher, has focused the music program towards providing a strong jazz and percussion group. Mr. Fleming stated that Mr. Walker's award as Alaska's Teacher of the Year has been an exciting and positive event for the community of Seward. He encouraged principals to recommend teachers who are deserving of such an award. He stated that the Alaska Teacher of the Year is not financially supported by any particular organization and suggested that the Association of Alaska School Boards dedicate some money to allow the chosen teacher to attend the recognition ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Dan Walker reported on his recent trip to Washington, D. C., to be recognized as Alaska's Teacher of the Year. He shared a draft list of educational priorities developed by the nation's 1999 Teachers of the Year. He read through categories of the list, which included strategies to provide for student needs, improvement of learning and teaching conditions, encouraging teacher professionalism, and promoting public understanding and involvement in educational issues.

Ms. Germano asked Mr. Walker to elaborate on the priority, "assuring effective teacher evaluation, including meaningful peer review." Mr. Walker stated that evaluations should be meaningful and assist teachers to be better. He suggested that fellow teachers be a part of the evaluation team.

Mrs. Crawford thanked Mr. Walker for his editorial in the newspaper regarding school safety. He replied that he would be submitting several more articles to the Peninsula Clarion.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: Mr. Paul Prebys, Seward Elementary School speech/ language specialist, read a letter outlining some of his concerns. In the letter, he asked the Board to suggest that parents demand that the legislature equitably fund education. He advised the Board not to simply follow mandates that are being issued by the state and federal government, particularly unfunded mandates. He asked the Board to truly listen to the needs of students and teachers.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS: Mr. Dahlgren called the Board's attention to a memorandum from Mr. Ron Drathman proposing that a technology work group be established to develop a comprehensive technology plan. He asked the Board for direction.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A.: Mr. Dave Dieckgraeff asked the Board to fence the track. He expressed disappointment that the Board is not soliciting the site council's viewpoints.

Ms. Germano asked whether there were parent groups at any of the Seward schools. Mr. Dieckgraeff replied that Seward schools also have PTSAs. He stated that there is a representative on the Seward site council who is also a PTSA member. Ms. Germano expressed concern that site councils communicate with their communities.

Dr. Anderson expressed concern regarding the site council involvement issue and asked Mr. Dieckgraeff for specific instances where councils have been left out of the decision-making process. He stated that the school nurse was hired without site council input. He stated that he did not realize the Board was not mailing hard copies of the packet. Mr. Dieckgraeff invited those present to the Seward site council meetings.

**AWARDS AND
PRESENTATIONS:**

Mr. Arness presented an award of appreciation to Erin Knotek, Moose Pass Community/Parent Volunteer, recognizing her for providing educational opportunities for the Moose Pass community.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:**

Mr. Dahlgren announced that he attended the Caring for the Kenai award ceremony sponsored by Unocal. He reported that contestants selected as finalists share \$5,000 in U.S. savings bonds.

Mr. Dahlgren reported that school safety legislation is receiving a considerable amount of attention. He stated that the District critical incident template has been made available on the web site and that Mr. Hickey has also posted it on the ALASBO web site.

Mr. Dahlgren announced that the District retirement ceremony will be held prior to the Board meeting on May 17 at Skyview High School.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Crawford stated that she and Mrs. Gross recently attended the AASB fly-in in Juneau. She stated that they had time to lobby legislators regarding educational issues. She stated that during their conversations she felt as if legislators wanted to micro-manage schools. She expressed frustration over legislation with no fiscal note attached.

BOARD REPORTS (Continued):	Mrs. Gross reported that full funding is expected for SB65. She stated that proposed charter school legislation would eliminate the maximum number of charter schools and extend the time limit from 5 years to 10 years. She reported that she was assured that any legislation with a fiscal note would not be passed. Mrs. Gross stated that emergency preparedness legislation is moving very quickly and that HB210, the safe schools bill, is very detailed and provides for intervention programs. She stated that the large district forum met and discussed similar concerns. She stated that she heard an interesting presentation on statewide assessment.
CONSENT AGENDA:	Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Teacher Assignments 1999-2000, Substitute Teacher Contract and Resignations.
Teacher Assignments 1999-2000:	By memorandum, Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve teacher assignments for the 1999-2000 school year for Robert DeMeulemeester, special education/resource, Skyview High; Steven Ratzlaff, Districtwide vocational education; Robert Carson, Soldotna Middle; and Linda Thompson, Districtwide intensive needs.
Substitute Teacher Contract:	By memorandum, Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve a 19-day substitute teaching contract for Bob Ramponi, music, Nikiski Middle/High.
Resignations:	By memorandum, Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve resignations effective the end of the 1998-99 school year for Kersten Christianson, language arts, Soldotna Middle; Christine VanBuskirk, music, Nikiski Middle/High; Michael Lanegan, vocational education, Skyview High; and Bruce Christianson, special education/Resource, Soldotna High
ACTION	Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 2 and 3, and to approve Item Number 1 separately. Ms. Germano seconded.

	<p>Ms. Crawford expressed concern that teachers be assigned in the area of their certification.</p>
	<p>Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Consent Agenda Item 10a.(1) carried unanimously.</p>
<p>1999-2000 Non-tenure Teachers for Tenure:</p>	<p>Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve a list of non-tenure teachers for tenure for the 1999-2000 school year.</p>

1999-2000 Non-tenure Teachers for Tenure (Continued):

Mrs. Larned moved the Board approve a list of non-tenure teachers for tenure for the 1999-2000 school year.
Mrs. Mullins seconded.

ACTION

Motion carried unanimously.

1999-2000 Tentative Non-tenure Teacher Assignments:

Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve a listing of tentative non-tenure teacher assignments for the 1999-2000 school year. Mr. Dahlgren corrected the assignment of Mr. Pat Shields to a .75 assignment.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve a listing of tentative non-tenure teacher assignments for the 1999-2000 school year. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Ms. Germano asked whether there are any teaching certificates that are limited. Mr. Dahlgren stated that only Type C certificates in the area of vocational education are limited. Ms. Germano stated that she would like to see a complete list of limited certificates.

Motion carried unanimously.

Cocurricular Activities and Handbooks:

Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve changes to the Cocurricular Activities Guidelines as proposed by the KPSAA Executive Board. Mr. Hickey noted that the most significant change requires students to enroll in four classes in a District school or the Connections Program. Mr. Dahlgren explained that the change brings the District in line with Alaska Student Activities Association (AASA) standards. He noted that waivers have been granted through the end of the school year for those students who do not qualify.

Ms. Germano asked Mrs. Gross why AASA changed their requirements. Mrs. Gross stated that AASA was adamant that they wanted students to be enrolled in four classes to be eligible to participate.

Mr. Dahlgren further clarified that a student must also have passed four classes during the preceding semester and be currently enrolled in four classes leading towards graduation in a school or the district in which they are participating.

Mrs. Crawford asked why music festivals were scheduled on Mondays and Tuesdays instead of Fridays and Saturdays so that students would only miss one day. Mr. Dahlgren stated that Renée Henderson coordinates the dates around adjudicators. He suggested that Ms. Germano speak to the KPSAA Board about Friday and Saturday music festivals.

Cocurricular Activities and Handbooks (continued):

Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve changes to the Cocurricular Activities Guidelines as presented. Mrs. Larned seconded.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson asked whether the Connections program would meet the requirements for student eligibility. Mr. Dahlgren stated that the District currently has students taking District correspondence study courses who are participating in high school cocurricular activities.

Ms. Germano expressed concern regarding the change to add the language, "Training rules are in effect 24 hours a day..."

Motion carried unanimously.

Bay View Charter School
Contract Termination:

Mr. Arness reminded those present that the recommendation to terminate the contract between Bay View Charter School and the School Board had been tabled to the current meeting.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board remove the Bay View Charter School contract termination from the table. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board amend the motion to terminate the contract between Bay View Charter School and the School Board and that the charter be made available only in the Seward area through January 1, 2000. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Mr. Arness stated that the intent of his amendment is to allow the Seward community the opportunity to reapply for a charter until January 1, 2000. He added that if there is no interest, then the charter will be made available to the entire District.

Ms. Germano clarified that the Bay View charter would be terminated and therefore they would have to submit an entirely new proposal.

Mr. Dahlgren asked whether the new charter school proposal would be approved by the Board and then by the State Board of Education. He stated that he did not know the ramifications of charter school terminations. Mr. Arness stated that he assumed that the application process would start over.

ACTION

Mr. McLain asked when other locations would be eligible to apply, either in the Seward area or outside the Seward area. Mr. Arness stated that another Seward charter school can apply any time and others may apply after January 1, 2000.

**Bay View Charter School
Contract Termination -
ACTION (continued):**

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YES - Anderson, Crawford, Germano, Gross, Mullins,
Arness

NO - Larned

Advisory Vote - YES

Amendment carried.

VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION:

YES - Anderson, Crawford, Germano, Gross, Mullins,
Arness

NO - Larned

Advisory Vote - YES

Amended motion carried.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mrs. Crawford thanked the Seward community for hosting the Board meeting. She reported that she attended the K-Beach mural dedication, which was funded by the artists-in-the-school program. She thanked Mr. Fleming and Mr. Walker for their presentations.

Miss Calvert thanked the Seward community for hosting the Board meeting. She stated that she enjoyed Mr. Walker's presentation, which included the educational priorities list.

Mrs. Gross thanked the Seward community for hosting the Board meeting.

Ms. Germano thanked the Seward community for hosting the Board meeting. She thanked Mr. Fleming and Mr. Walker for their presentations. She stated that she was curious about how specials are being served and why there are 30 students in a classroom at Seward Elementary. She stated that she attended the Middle School Mass Band concert and reported that students gave a wonderful performance.

Dr. Anderson reported that he attended the Soldotna High School spring band concert. He congratulated Miss Calvert for being awarded the John Phillips Souza award as outstanding band member for Soldotna High School for the year. He stated that he feels that Mr. Schneider conducts one of the finest music programs he has ever seen. He stated that the Soldotna High School band surpassed the NSBA student music presentations in San Francisco.

BOARD COMMENTS

(continued):

Mrs. Larned stated that she also attended the Soldotna High band concert and congratulated Miss Calvert on her award. Mrs. Larned stated that she was pleased to hear that the arts program is strong in Seward. She stated that she appreciated hearing from Mr. Walker. She thanked all District teachers for their hard work and stated that the District has a lot of talented teachers. She thanked the Bay View staff and parents for their presentation at the Board worksession and encouraged them to reapply for another charter school.

Mrs. Mullins thanked the Seward community for hosting the Board meeting. She stated that she was impressed with Mr. Walker's draft list of educational priorities, especially the peer review. She thanked Mr. Prebys for his letter to the Board and assured those present that the Board does read their mail. She stated that the Bay View Charter School termination decision was difficult to make. She stated that she hopes the amendment will give Bay View Charter School time to reorganize. She thanked Miss Calvert for representing District students and added that student representatives play a large part on the Board.

Mrs. Gross announced that the Pacific Region of the National School Boards Association will meet in Alaska in June, and she has asked Soldotna High School to provide music.

Mr. Dahlgren announced that the Finance Committee meeting would be held Tuesday, May 4, at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Arness noted that Dr. Peterson and another District administrator will represent the administration on the joint Technology Committee. He appointed Ms. Germano and Mrs. Crawford to serve as Board representatives on the Committee. He appointed Mrs. Larned as an alternate for Mrs. Crawford. Mr. Arness stated that he hoped the amendment would allow Bay View Charter School staff and parents time to reorganize and reapply. He stated that it was his intent to allow Bay View Charter School storage space for their furniture and supplies, even though this provision was not included in his amendment.

ADJOURN: At 9:03 p.m.,
Mrs. Crawford
moved the
School Board
Meeting be
adjourned.
Mrs. Larned
seconded.

Motion
carried
unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Joe Arness, President

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

The Minutes of May 3, 1999,
were approved on May 17, 1999
as written.