

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 N. Binkley Street

Soldotna, AK 99669

December 6, 1999

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Ms. Deborah Germano, President

Mrs. Debra Mullins, Vice President

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Treasurer

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Member

Dr. Nels Anderson, Member

Mr. Mike Chenault, Member

Miss Melinda Haring, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools

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

Mr. Ed McLain, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

Mr. Todd Syverson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ms. Sharon Young

Mr. John Pothast

Senator John Torgerson

Ms. Robin Williams

Mr. Jim White

Ms. Suzanne Little

Ms. Norma Holmgaard

Mr. Bill Popp

Mr. Larry Nauta

Mr. Ed Oberts

Mrs. Sherry Nauta

Mr. Tim Navarre

Mrs. Sue Liebner

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Germano called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Ms. Germano invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Deborah Germano	Present
Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
Mrs. Susan Larned	Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Absent/Excused
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross	Present
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Mr. Mike Chenault	Present
Miss Melinda Haring	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved with the deletion of Item 10c., Approval of Student Expulsion. Ms. Germano noted that there were revisions to Items 10a.(d) Approval of Resolution 99-00-07, Administrators Counted as Instructional Component and Item 10d., Approval of Kenai Elementary Memorandum of Agreement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board minutes of November 15, 1999, were approved with a change to Dr. Anderson's comments on the first paragraph of page 58, third sentence. The sentence was changed to read, "Dr. Anderson suggested that the student remove the statements concerning chondromalacia patella injuries caused by the current track from their brochure because it is very rare." A change was made to Mrs. Larned's comments on page 64, third paragraph, to replace the word "artwork" with the words "accomplishments and awards."

SCHOOL REPORTS:

Mr. John Pothast, Skyview High School principal, stated that he has been impressed with the school's willingness to adapt to change. He reported that one of the most significant undertakings this year was the school's approach in dealing with at-risk students. He noted that this year's highlights are the After the Bell Program, math tutoring program, PEP coordinators, I-Team Program, language class for at-risk 9th grade students, and block scheduling. He presented a video highlighting the "Stuck in the 60s" interdisciplinary dinner show. He explained that the show is an annual event that uses the help of half of the student body and most of the departments to create the script, props, food, and advertising.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Dr. Peterson reported that she received a letter from Mr. Jeff Sinz, Borough Finance Director, regarding the reappropriation of funds for the Soldotna Middle School addition.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Peterson informed the Board that she will be gone during the January 3, 2000, School Board meeting and noted that Mr. McLain will act in her absence.

Dr. Peterson announced that the next Technology Work Group meeting will be February 3, 2000, and that a joint School Board and Assembly budget hearing will be held on March 7, 2000. Dr. Peterson invited the Board to the Administrators and Central Office Christmas Party on December 13, 1999. She announced that Sylvia Reynolds was selected as the Region III Principal of the Year.

Lease Agreements Report:

Mr. Hickey presented the lease report which included agreements between the cities of Soldotna, Homer and Seward for the Community Schools Program; a lease for equipment and facilities with the North Peninsula Recreation Service area; facility leases for Kachemak Selo, Razdolna, Aurora Borealis Charter and Voznesenka Schools; a lease to the Boys and Girls Club for space in the Kenai Elementary School, and a storage lease with Henderlong Enterprises for the Seward bus fleet.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Larned reported that she attended the School-to-Careers Advisory Committee meeting. She noted that in the near future 30% of all jobs will be for college educated people and 70% of all jobs will be technology-based. She stated that technical training will become more important for students. She reported that Alaska is the only state without a state advisory vocational education representative and added that she would like to see a representative appointed. She reported that the building trades class will not be offered this year but hopefully in future years. She reported that Nikiski and Seward High Schools will receive \$20,000 in vocational education grant money next year and that a consortium of small schools will receive smaller amounts of money.

Ms. Germano reported that she attended the Technology Working Group Committee meeting and felt that the group had made progress. She stated that the administration has been addressing training needs and other issues with the schools that will be impacted by new computers next year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Technology Work Group Executive Overview; New Teacher Appointment; Leave of Absence Request/Support; Long Term Substitute Teacher Contract; Resolution 99-00-6, Challenger Learning Center of Alaska; AR 6141, Curriculum Development and Evaluation; AASB Board Standards; Leave of Absence Request/Certified; Resolution 99-00-7, Administrators Counted as Instructional Component; and Homer Flex School Renovation.

Technology Work Group Executive Overview:

Dr. Peterson recommended approval of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Technology plan. The cost of the six-year plan will be funded by a combination of District, Borough and federal E-rate money for a total of \$11,925,374. The goals of the plan are to provide equity in technology access and learning opportunities for all students in the District, build a standardized hardware and software platform within the next six years, provide a support system to help schools keep the technology running smoothly, train staff in the use of technology and continue to enhance the Wide Area Network to handle the business and instructional needs of the District.

New Teacher Appointment:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a teaching appointment for the 1999-2000 school year for Douglas Gordon, vocational education, Soldotna High.

Leave of Absence Request/Support:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a one-year, unpaid leave of absence for the 2000-2001 school year for Susan Covich, Title I tutor, Nikiski Elementary.

Long-Term Substitute Teacher Contract:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a 19-day substitute teaching contract for Carol Boehmler, QUEST, Mt. View Elementary.

Resolution 99-00-6, Challenger Learning Center of Alaska:

Dr. Peterson recommended the Board approve a resolution continuing the partnership and support of the Challenger Learning Center which includes incorporation of the Center curriculum, where appropriate, in the areas of science, math and technology and utilization of a minimum of 15 "classroom missions" at the Center each year.

AR 6141, Curriculum Development and Evaluation:

Mr. Ed McLain recommended the Board approve revisions to AR 6141, Curriculum Development and Evaluation. The revisions to the cycle provide two years for appropriate training and support for the language arts curriculum. This will allow additional time to align and train staff in supportive instructional practice and align District curriculum and instructional practice with District certified diploma proficiency and foundational performance levels, state High School Graduation Qualifying Exam requirements, and the state Benchmark Test levels in Grades 3, 6 and 8.

AASB Board Standards:

Dr. Peterson recommended the Board approve the AASB Board Standards: A Framework for Alaska School Boards, which provides Board members with a guide to better boardsmanship.

Leave of Absence Request/Certified:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for Andrea Morris, special education/resource, Susan B. English (effective for the remainder of the 1999-2000 school year) and Troy Minogue, math, Homer High (effective for the 2000-2001 school year).

Resolution 99-00-7, Administrators Counted as Instructional Component:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve Resolution 99-00-7 supporting the recognition of school principals as instructional leaders and requesting that the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development allow administrative expenditures in school budgets to be included as a categorized instructional component.

Homer Flex School Renovation:

Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve the expenditure of an additional \$80,000 to meet fire and building codes as well as ADA accommodations at the Homer Flex facility.

CONSENT AGENDA (Continued):

Mrs. Mullins moved the Board approve Consent Agenda items Numbers 1 through 10. Mrs. Larned seconded.

ACTION

Motion carried unanimously.

School Calendar/Inservice Dates:

Mr. McLain recommended the Board approve the 2000-2001 school calendar and inservice dates and tentatively approve school calendars for 2001-2002 and 2002-2003. He thanked the Committee members for their work.

Ms. Germano asked why parent-teacher conferences were scheduled so late in the month of February.

Mr. McLain replied that the Committee wanted a second opportunity for conferences during the school year and scheduled them at a time when teachers would know the students during the second semester and be able to correct problems before the end of the year.

**ACTION**

Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve the 2000-2001 school calendar and inservice dates and tentatively approve school calendars for 2001-2002 and 2002-2003. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Kenai Elementary Memorandum of Agreement:**

Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve the transfer of the management and operations of the Kenai Elementary building to the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. He summarized the occupancy history of the facility and stated that Aurora Borealis Charter School has expressed an interest in moving into the building. He stated that approximately \$1 million has been spent to upgrade the facility and that it has been restored to a habitable condition. He stated that the Borough administration suggested that the District administration manage the facility since it will be used to house students.

Mrs. Suzanne Little, Boys and Girls Club Director, expressed concern regarding the authority over the scheduling of the building, especially the gymnasium. She stated that without a position of strength over the other tenants using the facility, the Boys and Girls Club programs will deteriorate and the Club will dissolve. She stated that as the schools grow, she fears that the Club will be squeezed out. She stated that she hoped to produce a workable agreement.

Mrs. Mullins asked whether there would be an overlap in the use of the gymnasium by the Club and the schools. Mrs. Little stated that there is approximately a one-half hour of overlap time in the use of the gym but felt that it could be worked out. She stated that after-school activities by either school would be detrimental to Club activities.

Ms. Germano asked Mrs. Little if she had met with administration to address her concerns. Mrs. Little replied that she met briefly with the District administration and that she would like to meet again.

Mr. Hickey told the Board that both the Borough and District administration has agreed in principal that upon successful passage of the recommended action, Aurora Borealis Charter School will be allowed to move into the facility.

Kenai Elementary Memorandum of Agreement (Continued):

Dr. Anderson asked what the cost will be to receive and maintain the building. Mr. Hickey stated that the District did not save any money by transferring the building to the Borough. He explained that money budgeted for utilities were offset by the decline in enrollment. He stated that if the District takes control of the Kenai Elementary facility, money has already been budgeted for utilities for the remainder of the year. He noted that if the school is returned, the District will have saved utility costs for the months of July through November.

Dr. Anderson asked what will happen to rent money Aurora Borealis Charter School is paying to Grace Brethren Church after the Charter School moves. Mr. Hickey stated that if the administration takes control of the Kenai Elementary facility, the Charter School will experience a windfall in the amount of rent payments for the remainder of the school year. He noted that the administration will have to decide what is an equitable solution to share the costs of the building and address that issue during the next budget cycle.

Mrs. Larned asked whether there was a plan to discuss the unresolved issues among all three interested parties. Mr. Hickey stated that it is advantageous to have the Boys and Girls Club in the building.

Mrs. Mullins asked whether the Assembly has taken action to transfer the Kenai Elementary facility back to the District.

Mr. Popp, Assembly president, stated that the Assembly will take action on a resolution during the December 14 meeting. Ms. Germano recommended that the Board make a request to the Assembly to transfer the Kenai Elementary facility back to the District.

Mr. Tim Navarre, Assembly member, suggested that many things could happen before the Assembly votes on the resolution. He cautioned the District administration on entering into a lease with Aurora Borealis Charter School since the District does not own the building. He reported that there is a motion to be voted on during the December 14 Assembly meeting which will allow the Charter School to take occupancy of the Kenai Elementary facility while the agreement is finalized.

Mrs. Mullins clarified that the Board should take action on the Kenai Elementary recommendation prior to action by the Assembly. Mr. Navarre asked the Board to understand that School Board action does not limit the Assembly's ability to make a final decision on the ownership and use of the Kenai Elementary building.

Mr. Hickey stated that it is the administration's responsibility to house all District students and ensure that the needs are known to the Assembly. He stated that he has met with the Borough administration and the Borough mayor and informally agreed that throughout the process the goal was to find an opportunity for the Charter School to occupy the building.

Mr. Navarre stated that the Board should not assume by their action that they have ownership of the building. He stated that he did not object to an agreement to temporarily allow the Charter School to occupy the building until the Assembly takes action on December 14.

Ms. Germano stated that she was bothered by the fact the building could be given back with "strings attached." She stated that she hopes all parties can keep focused on what is best for the kids.

Kenai Elementary Memorandum of Agreement (Continued):

Mr. Navarre suggested that the School District may have limitations on what they can or cannot do with a long-term lease to a nonprofit organization. He explained that in that case, the Assembly might have to act first. He also noted that he has asked that the issue of subleasing school building space be investigated.

ACTION

Mrs. Larned moved the Board approve the Kenai Elementary memorandum of agreement. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Risograph Services:

Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve a request to proceed with final negotiations with Risograph for duplicating services. Mr. Hickey explained that Frontier Business Machines loaned the District some equipment to try. He reported that at the end of the November administrators' meeting, Frontier Business Machines was allowed to demonstrate their equipment and that the machine was well received. He stated that he was able to negotiate an agreement similar to that with Xerox.

Mr. Hickey stated that the Risograph is not capable of stapling and collating copies and will not replace the Xerox copier. He stated that the Risograph can be set to run no less than 20 copies so that it will be impossible to make single copies. He stated that the Risograph is well suited for copying the Student Nutrition Services menu calendars and single page school newsletters. He stated that the Risograph is capable of printing in more than one color and many schools have chosen their school color for the second drum.

Dr. Anderson stated that he had the opportunity to operate a Risograph machine during the demonstration and was impressed. He noted that thick paper can be used in the machine.

**ACTION**

Mrs. Mullins moved the Board approve a request to proceed with final negotiations with Risograph for duplicating services. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

Dr. Anderson stated that he was interested in the announcement made by the news media about the new football conference and the District's inclusion with Ketchikan. He asked what process was used to arrive at the change and who was involved in the discussions. Mr. Hickey stated that he would find out the information and report back.

Miss Haring reported that certificates honoring student achievements have been ordered. She stated that she will be receiving student achievement nominee recommendations from student councils and will report student accomplishments to the Board.

Mrs. Gross stated that she appreciated the worksessions held prior to the Board meeting and thanked Senator Torgerson and Representative Smalley for their time. She also thanked the administration and added that she is looking forward to conducting the budget process a little differently this year.

Mrs. Larned thanked the legislators for their time. She stated that it was interesting to hear their comments and noted that they work hard for the students on the Peninsula. She stated that it was nice to have Ms. Sharon Young present to work with the Board on board standards.

**BOARD COMMENTS (Continued):**

Mr. Chenault thanked Mr. Pothast and his staff for the school report. He noted that he attended the "Stuck in the 60s" show at Skyview High School and thought it was a great show and that the students did an excellent job. He thanked Senator Torgerson and Representative Smalley for their insights during the worksession.

Mrs. Mullins thanked Senator Torgerson and Representative Smalley for their hard work. She thanked Mr. Pothast for the Skyview High School "Stuck in the 60s" video report. She thanked the Borough for the work and money spent on the Kenai Elementary building renovations. Mrs. Mullins reported on the Board standards worksession held prior to the Board meeting and read the list of five areas encompassed by the standards. She stated that she would like to have a framed copy of the standards on the back wall of the Assembly room so that the public could view them. She wished everyone a happy holiday.

Ms. Germano extended thanks to Senator Torgerson and Representative Smalley for attending the Board worksession. She thanked Ms. Young for conducting the Board standards worksession. She thanked Skyview High School for their presentation. She thanked the Borough Assembly and District Administration for their hard work and wished those present a happy holiday.

ADJOURN: At 8:45 p.m., Dr. Anderson moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ms. Deborah Germano, President

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Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

The Minutes of December 6, 1999,  
were approved on January 3, 2000  
as written.