

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 N. Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

February 5, 2001

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Ms. Deborah Germano, President
Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Vice President
Mrs. Debra Mullins, Clerk
Mr. Joe Arness, Treasurer
Dr. Nels Anderson, Member
Mrs. Sandra Wassilie, Member
Mr. Al Poindexter, Member
Miss Sara Hart, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Patrick Hickey, Assistant Superintendent, Operations and Business Management
Mr. Todd Syverson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Tina Stamer	Mrs. Linda Zimmerman
Mrs. Sue Liebner	Mr. Lee Young
Mrs. Mary Kennedy	Mrs. Sandy Miller
Miss Emily Kennedy	Mr. Tim Peterson
Mrs. Beth Kellie	Mr. Pete Sprague
Mrs. Mary Stenga	Mr. Rick Ladd
Miss Jennifer Stenga	Mr. Jim White
Mr. John Kistler	Mrs. Terri Woodward
Mrs. Diane McBee	Mr. Elliott Gauthier
Rosemary Pilatti	Miss Hannah Thompson
Miss Kara Bethune	Miss Julia Baker
Mr. Chris Moss	

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Germano called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Deborah Germano	Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Mrs. Sandra Wassilie	Present
Mr. Al Poindexter	Present
Miss Sara Hart	Absent/Excused

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved as written.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board Minutes of January 22, 2001, were approved as printed.

SCHOOL REPORTS:

Mrs. Sue Liebner, North Star Elementary principal, presented a computer generated slide show highlighting students, staff, activities and the school facility. Some of the activities featured were the News Bowl, Pizza Night, Christmas Program, Safety Seal, a visit to the Challenger Learning Center, Fun Fest, Family Fun Night, Science Club for Girls, and the Inaugural Ball. Miss Emily Kennedy, Miss Hannah Thompson, Miss Kara Bethune and Miss Julia Baker reported on a project titled Mars City Alpha, which required the students to research and develop a city that could sustain human life on Mars. Miss Emily Kennedy recited a forensics piece titled, *My Big Brother*. Mrs. Pilatti directed kindergarten and first grade students in a song and oral presentation that gave information regarding past presidents of the United States.

RECESS:

At 7:53 p.m., Mrs. Germano called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER RECESS:

At 8:05 p.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. John Kistler spoke in support of the state High School Qualifying Exam. He congratulated the District administration for their efforts to better the High School Qualifying Exam by adding a science and social studies/history exam. He stated that a quality control check for students in all areas of education is sorely needed. He stated that if diplomas are to mean something, a quality control check is necessary to ensure that standards are actually being met. He added that the District has come a long way and added that there is no reason to go backward.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Peterson reported that Dr. McLain is serving on the Content Review Committee, which is charged with the task of solving problems with the High School Qualifying Exam. She invited the Board to attend the Administrator Meeting on February 13 at 9:00 a.m. featuring media training with consultant Mr. Tom DeLapp. She announced that Miss Jennifer McCard, Soldotna High School student, was selected as the first place statewide winner in the Voice of Democracy competition and earned a \$5,000 scholarship and a trip to Washington, D.C. She reported that the Borough Assembly's Education Funding Committee has requested School Board representation on the committee.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:

In recognition of School Board Appreciation Month, Miss Jennifer Stenga from Soldotna Elementary, Mr. Elliott Gauthier from Soldotna Middle, Miss Linzy Mullican from Soldotna High and Miss Ailis Vann from Skyview High presented certificates of appreciation to each of the Board members. Miss Lucy Kriner presented each member with a gift bag from Soldotna High School.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Wassilie noted that she visited Soldotna Middle School and thanked Mr. Young, principal, for his time. She reported that she also visited Sterling Elementary and added that she was impressed by the school's warm environment, use of the arts in the curriculum and the number of volunteers. She stated that she attended the Technology Committee meeting, Budget Review Committee meeting, and the Title IX Parent Committee meeting. She reported that the Title IX Committee is changing their priority on how funds are spent and is considering reallocating the money for Grades K-8. Mrs. Wassilie stated that she attended another meeting of the Seward Community Leaders Education Intervention and Assistance Forum. She reported that the group's focus is to encourage community involvement in promoting a positive school climate. She noted that one of the issues before the committee is the reduction of supervision of students in schools and associated behavior problems. She reported that she attended the Alaska Vocational Technical Center Statewide Advisory Board meeting. She thanked Senator Torgerson for funds from the legislature and noted that this might be the time for articulation with AVTEC.

Mrs. Crawford reported that she, Dr. Anderson and Mr. Poindexter attended the two-day Long Range Planning meeting. She stated that she was impressed by the amount of community involvement and site council representation and added that she felt that it was a very worthwhile meeting. She reported that she attended that Kenai Alternative High School art show, was a guest on KBBI's Coffee Table along with Dr. Peterson, and attended the Technology Plan presentation to the Borough Assembly.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Resignation and Facility Recommendations-Seward, Voznesenka, Soldotna, and Nikiski

Resignation

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a resignation effective the end of the 2000-01 school year for Jane Davis, special education/resource, Soldotna Middle.

Facility Recommendations

Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve a list of facility recommendations that include cost estimates for rehabilitating the facility of Seward Middle School; that federal, state, and local funding options be examined and pursued to complete paving of East End Road in the Homer area; that cost estimates be developed for reconfiguring the existing facility of Soldotna Middle School; and that no immediate action be taken regarding the Nikiski Middle School plan.

ACTION

Mrs. Mullins moved the Board approve Consent Agenda item Numbers 1 and 2. Mr. Poindexter seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS:

The Board heard a first reading of BP 5030, School Discipline and Safety and BP 5040, AR 5040, Student Handbook and BP 5144, Discipline - Corporal Punishment.

Mr. John Kistler asked whether AR 5040, Student Handbook, was the correct version. Mr. Arness requested that Mrs. Tachick, superintendent/school board administrative secretary, research the regulation to see whether the wording is correct.

FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS (continued):

Dr. Peterson announced that there will be several policy revisions at the next meeting and asked whether the Board would like to have a worksession prior to the meeting. Consensus from the Board was that a worksession was not necessary.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. John Kistler suggested the Board provide webcast coverage of School Board meetings and school activities other than sports. He pointed out that it is an inexpensive method of distributing information as it occurs. He asked the Board to adopt a policy to webcast board meetings and student academic competitions.

Mr. Sprague, Assembly Member, thanked the Board for approving the District facility recommendations action. He stated that reconfiguring Soldotna Middle School is a positive step.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mrs. Wassilie reported that Seward, Skyview and Ninilchik High Schools participated in the National Ocean Sciences Bowl and that Seward won third place. She noted that a consortium of agencies with the University of Alaska sponsors the National Ocean Sciences Bowl. She stated that the purpose of the annual nationwide event is to get children interested in marine sciences.

Mrs. Crawford thanked North Star Elementary staff and students for a wonderful presentation. She thanked Mr. Kistler for his comments regarding webcasts and pointed out that the District has featured graduations, concerts and many other school activities via the internet.

Mr. Poindexter congratulated Mr. Jerry Covey and Dr. Peterson for a fine job facilitating the Long Range Planning meeting. He commended Mr. Hickey for an excellent job of presenting the budget to the Budget Review Committee and noted that there is no "fat" left to cut. He invited those present to attend the borough mass choir performance at Kenai Central High on February 6. He announced that there will be a districtwide Career Technical Student Organization Conference on Friday, February 23 featuring local speakers. He noted that the conference will include public speaking, job interviews and skills competitions, and he invited Board members to contact Mr. Ben Eveland if they would like to assist with judging the events.

Mrs. Mullins thanked North Star Elementary staff and students for their report. She reported that she attended two Space Allocations Committee meetings and that there is another meeting Wednesday, February 7 at 9:00 a.m. She noted that the committee is considering several sites for increased space for the borough and School District offices. She warned the Board that the Borough wants the School District space and added that the District offices might be moving in the future. She offered to give the committee any feedback from the Board. She reported on the outstanding senior government projects produced by Soldotna High School students. She stated that she was amazed at the caliber and time commitments that the students put into their projects. She urged the school to solicit more business and community members to assist with judging so they could see the wonderful projects submitted by the students. She stated that she would also like the news media to see the time and energy that is given back to the community by students. She thanked the District administration for the Board recognition.

Mrs. Germano extended her thanks to Soldotna High for the gift bags, to the District administration for the certificates of recognition and to North Star Elementary for the school report. She thanked those present for the cards and letters of support for the recent loss of her mother.

ADJOURN: At 8:37 p.m., Mrs. Mullins moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned.
Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Deborah Germano, President

Mrs. Debra Mullins, Clerk

The Minutes of February 5, 2001,
were approved on February 19, 2001
with a correction.