

1511

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Borough Administration Building
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

July 20, 1992

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President
Mrs. Marilyn Dimmick, Vice President
Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk
Mr. Clifford Massie, Treasurer
Mr. Joe Arness, Member
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Member
Mr. Michael Wiley, Member

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Robert Holmes, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. John Dahlgren, Associate Superintendent, Planning,
Operations, and Technology

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs. Janie Lawley Mrs. Sharon Moock
Mr. Greg Williams Mrs. Melody Douglas
Mrs. Rita Lindow Mrs. Pam Lazenby
Mrs. Jacquie Imle Mrs. Karen Mahurin
Mrs. Rebecca Perry Mr. and Mrs. Tom Potton
Mrs. Eileen Becker Mrs. Pat Porter
Ms. Marji Campbell Mr. Lynn Davis
Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Obendorf called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mrs. Obendorf invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Betty Obendorf Present
Mrs. Marilyn Dimmick Present
Mr. Michael Tauriainen Present
Mr. Clifford Massie Present
Mr. Joe Arness Absent - Excused
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross Absent - Excused
Mr. Michael Wiley Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as written.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of June 15, 1992, were approved as written.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS: Mrs. Pat Porter addressed the Board concerning the vocational-project house on Deepwood Court in Kenai. She related that neighborhood residents are unhappy because the house is unfinished, its appearance has deteriorated, and little apparent effort has been made to sell the property. Mrs. Porter introduced Mr. Lynn Davis, a resident of the neighborhood, and they presented a picture of the house and a comparison picture of a neighboring property. She encouraged the administration to finish and sell the project.

HEARING OF
DELEGATIONS (cont.):

Mr. Dahlgren outlined the history of the house-building program and the district's attempts to sell the property. He stated that the property grounds would be cleaned, and he asked for direction from the Board on how to proceed with finishing and marketing the property. Mrs. Dimmick inquired about using a realtor to assist in selling the house, and Mr. Wiley asked about the value of the property. Mrs. Dimmick suggested the preparation of a report by the administration detailing possible solutions.

Mrs. Obendorf directed the administration to present a plan at the next meeting to finish and/or market the property on Deepwood Court.

Mrs. Rebecca Perry, Mr. Tom Potton, and Mrs. Eileen Becker addressed the Board concerning the sexuality component of the health curriculum. Mrs. Perry stated that students were not being protected from controversial subjects, and she felt the district was promoting instruction that was in conflict with policy. To illustrate her comments, she outlined several incidents that occurred this past year. She suggested that a letter be sent to parents explaining the health curriculum and opt-out choices. She also recommended that the letter and forms be included in each student's registration packet.

Mr. Tom Potton described the lesson given in his daughter's sixth grade class and stated that he believed such information violated district policy regarding the teaching of birth control and abstinence. He asked the Board to investigate and questioned how instructor accountability was enforced.

Mrs. Eileen Becker shared her concern with the Board about a set of resource books, Changing Bodies, Changing Lives, which were used at Homer High School this past year. She noted that the book had not been previewed or approved, and it contained objectionable subject matter as well as outdated or inaccurate information. She added that the book has since been removed from the classroom and steps have been taken to request a formal review. Mrs. Becker also apprised the Board that subject matter of controversial nature had not been cleared with parents. She suggested that the credibility of the health curriculum was damaged, and she encouraged the Board to take action to ensure that guidelines are followed and teachers are held accountable. Mrs. Becker volunteered to serve on the health curriculum committee when it is formed.

The group submitted a summation of incidents to Dr. Holmes and Mrs. Obendorf. They also submitted to the Board a list of pages from the book that they considered objectionable.

Mr. Wiley suggested that a representative from the parent group be part of the health committee review committee.

HEARING OF
DELEGATIONS (cont.):

Dr. Holmes noted the issue was not the curriculum itself but whether the guidelines were being followed. He encouraged parents to bring their concerns to the administration and school board. He observed that parent feedback was an important part of the accountability system.

Mr. Tauriainen requested that opt-out information be readily available to parents, and inquired about disciplinary action when the curriculum was not followed. Dr. Holmes responded that disciplinary action is governed by personnel policies, and procedures have been established to notify parents about health curriculum content and options. He stated that the curriculum is sound and teachers are doing a conscientious job delivering the information. He added that parent cooperation is a necessary and important part of the curriculum, and he is relying on parents to give him specific information if they feel the curriculum is not being followed. He will then investigate the incidents.

Mrs. Obendorf asked to be notified when selection of the health committee begins.

Mrs. Dimmick suggested that a review of the health guidelines be held at the August administrators' meeting. Administrators could then review the guidelines with their staff.

With the Board's approval, Mrs. Obendorf directed the administration to report to the Board on how the health course information letter and opt-out forms are distributed to parents.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

Dr. Holmes presented the Superintendent's Annual Report for the 1991-92 school year. The report stressed accomplishments of students and staff during the school year and detailed the district's efforts to generate new programs with little change in staff or levels of funding.

Mr. Dahlgren answered questions from Mr. Wiley concerning the use of optical scanners in the schools.

Mrs. Dimmick commended Dr. Holmes for continuing the policy of parent involvement in school activities, and Mrs. Obendorf thanked Dr. Holmes for the report.

SIX-YEAR PLAN/
PROJECTED ENROLLMENT
AND SCHOOL
CONSTRUCTION NEEDS:

Mr. Dahlgren presented a draft of the Six-Year Enrollment Projections and Plan to the Board. He reviewed how he and Mr. Swarner compiled the enrollment projections and noted that the district will probably continue to experience steady growth. Mr. Dahlgren also reviewed district construction needs and reported that he had been notified by the Governor's office that the following major maintenance projects would be funded: reroofing sections of Paul Banks Elementary, Chapman

SIX YEAR PLAN/
PROJECTED ENROLLMENT
AND SCHOOL
CONSTRUCTION NEEDS
(continued):

School, and Seward Jr/Sr High; replacement of classroom heaters at Sterling Elementary, Homer Intermediate, and Paul Banks Elementary; replacement of boilers at Homer Intermediate and Ninilchik School; recarpeting of hallways at Soldotna High, and repaving of the parking lot at Tustumena Elementary. These projects will be removed from the district's project list, and the remaining projects will be advanced accordingly.

Mrs. Dimmick questioned the use of regular classrooms for special education programs. She wondered if alternative space could be leased, thereby freeing classrooms for regular education use. Mr. Dahlgren responded that the option of contracting community space is being explored; however, special education areas must have handicapped accessibility, and such facilities are difficult to find.

Mr. Wiley inquired about construction needs and plans for the Old Believer communities. Mr. Dahlgren responded that the growth rates for these communities are unpredictable because segments of the population periodically leave to form new villages. He added that the needs of such communities fall under the Frontier Schools Plan, which is administered by Mr. Rick Matiya of the Alternative Education and Bilingual Education Office.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items on the Consent Agenda were Approval of the Annual Agenda, Leave of Absence Request/Certified; Leave of Absence Request/Support, Resignations, Teacher Assignments/1992-1993, Tentative Nontenure Teacher Assignments/1992-1993, Cocurricular Staffing/1992-1993, and PL 874 Authorized Representative.

ANNUAL AGENDA:

The 1992-93 Annual Agenda was presented for approval. The agenda schedules items for school board review during the period of July 20, 1992, through June 21, 1993.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE
REQUEST/CERTIFIED:

Mrs. Radtke recommended Board approval of an unpaid leave of absence for the 1992-1993 school year for Judy (Jo) Olson, Grade 4, Mt. View Elementary. Also, recommended for approval was an unpaid leave of absence, fall semester 1992, for Leslie Bell, Language Arts, Homer Junior High.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE
REQUEST/SUPPORT:

Mrs. Radtke recommended Board approval of an unpaid leave of absence for the 1992-1993 school year for Chob Labnongsang, Custodian, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mrs. Radtke recommended approval of the following resignations: Megan O'Neill, Math, Chapman School; Katherine Lucky, Spanish/Language Arts, Kenai Central High; Stephen Cathers, Spanish/English, Homer High; Colleen Smith, Grade 5,

CONSENT AGENDA
(continued):

Tustumena School; Kim Killion, Physical Education/Pool Director, Seward Jr/Sr High; Diane Haigh, Special Education/Deaf Education, Paul Banks Elementary; and Jennifer Carlson, Special Education/Educationally Handicapped/Resource, Homer Jr. High and Homer High.

TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS/
1992-1993:

Mrs. Radtke recommended Board approval of the following teacher assignments for the 1992-93 school year: Brad Twait, full-time Music, Chapman and Ninilchik Schools; Roberta Darling, temporary, full-time, Speech Pathology, Sterling Elementary; John Mills, full-time, Grade 1, Sears Elementary; Sandra Miller, half-time, Grade 4, North Star Elementary; David Fischer, full-time, Grade 6, Kenai Middle, Gayle Daugherty, full-time, Speech Pathologist; Judy Downs, temporary, full-time, Drug-Free Schools Specialist; Barbara DeLorenzo, full-time, Middle Grades, Port Graham School; Ann Ghicadus, full-time, Grade 1, Seward Elementary; Sheryl Sotelo, full-time, Special Education Resource, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary; Ed Sotelo, full-time, Special Education Resource, Soldotna Junior High; Marc Swanson, full-time, Grade 5, Seward Elementary; Terri Carter, full-time, Intermediate Grades, Moose Pass School; Janet Shepard, temporary, full-time Deaf Education, Paul Banks Elementary.

TENTATIVE NONTENURE
TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS/
1992-1993:

Mrs. Radtke recommended Board approval of the following tentative nontenure teacher assignments: Michelle Robbins, Chapman School; Steve Smith, Cooper Landing School; Peter Thielke, Homer Jr. High; Laura Sievert, Kenai Central High; Dave Knudsen, Mountain View Elementary; LaVona Smith, Nikiski Elementary.

COCURRICULAR
STAFFING/1992-1993:

Mrs. Radtke recommended Board approval of the 1992-93 cocurricular staffing contracts.

PL 874 AUTHORIZED
REPRESENTATIVE:

Dr. Holmes recommended Board approval of the appointment of Mr. Richard M. Swarner as the authorized representative for Public Law 874 for the 1993 fiscal year.

ACTION:

Mr. Massie moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Mrs. Dimmick seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
LEASE AGREEMENT
ADDENDUM:

Mr. Dahlgren presented for approval a lease agreement addendum with the Boys and Girls Club for the use of two additional rooms at Kenai Elementary School. The original lease was approved at the June 1 meeting. Mr. Dahlgren noted that the addendum increases the monthly rent by \$100 per classroom per month and also stipulates safety, security, and supervision requirements.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
LEASE AGREEMENT
ADDENDUM (cont.):

Mr. Wiley asked if the lease could be broken if the district needs to use Kenai Elementary. Mr. Dahlgren responded that any of the parties (Boys and Girls Club, People Count, or the district) could break the lease with a 30-day notice.

Mrs. Sharon Moock, board member for the Boys and Girls Club, thanked the district for allowing the club to use Kenai Elementary. She detailed the need for the extra rooms and noted that the club is looking for a permanent facility.

Mr. Greg Williams, executive director of the Boys and Girls Club, thanked Mr. Dahlgren for his assistance and the Board for their consideration. He noted that many of the club's programs are educationally based and the extra classrooms will help with their instructional activities.

ACTION:

Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board approve the addendum to the June 1 lease with the Boys and Girls Club for two additional classrooms at Kenai Elementary School. Mrs. Dimmick seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITION TO 1992 BOND
PROPOSAL:

Mr. Dahlgren explained the need to increase the 1992 bond proposal to include full funding of Phase I for Kenai Elementary. He noted that the total bond package (with the increase) would amount to \$8,286,261 (\$5,260,268 for Tustumena Elementary, \$3,025,993 for Kenai Elementary Phase I).

Mrs. Pam Lazenby, a Mountain View Elementary School parent, encouraged the Board to vote for the extra amount of the bond package.

Mrs. Moock asked if the Tustumena Elementary and Kenai Elementary bond issues would be listed separately or linked together on the ballot. Mr. Dahlgren responded that the Assembly would decide on the presentation. Based on feedback from participants of the Borough Assembly worksession, Mrs. Moock suggested adding Phase II of the Kenai Elementary project to the bond request. She reported that other Assembly members felt the "Phase I only concept" was neither cost effective nor positive from a public relations viewpoint. In response to a question from Mrs. Obendorf, Mrs. Moock added that the Assembly would not amend the district's project choices once they were submitted.

Mrs. Jacquie Imle, principal of Sears Elementary, concurred with Mrs. Moock to fund Phase I and Phase II at the same time.

ACTION:

Mrs. Dimmick moved to approve the request to the Assembly to include in the bond proposition full funding for Phase I of Kenai Elementary School. Mr. Wiley seconded.

ADDITION TO 1992 BOND
PROPOSAL (cont.):

Mrs. Dimmick commented that school building projects used to be presented together; now they are listed separately, and the public seems to favor this method. She discussed the pros and cons of phasing the project and detailed her reasons for supporting the increase to fully fund Phase I of the Kenai Elementary bond package. She also noted that she could not forecast the public's reaction to the bond issue.

Mr. Wiley spoke in favor of funding the increase for Phase I of the Kenai Elementary project. He commented that although linking Phase I and Phase II might save money, it was important to begin the job soon because an early start could result in additional dollars from the state.

Mr. Massie asked for the combined amount of Kenai Elementary Phase I and Phase II and for the combined amount of Kenai Elementary Phase I, Phase II, and the Tustumena project. Mr. Dahlgren responded that the cost of Phase I and II is \$3,841,643 and the cost of Phase I, Phase II, and Tustumena is \$9,301,911.

ACTION:

Mr. Massie moved to amend the motion to increase the total amount of the bond request to \$9,301,911, thereby fully funding the Tustumena project, and Phase I and Phase II of the Kenai Elementary project. Mrs. Dimmick seconded.

Mrs. Obendorf spoke in favor of the amendment on the condition that Phase I and II are linked together on the ballot. This arrangement would eliminate the possibility of Phase II passing but not Phase I.

Mr. Tauriainen stated that he had mixed feelings about the project. He was concerned about the cost of the Kenai renovation as well as the additional cost of operating the school.

Mrs. Dimmick supported putting all the projects on the ballot and letting the voters decide.

Mr. Tauriainen suggested increasing the amount to \$9,302,000.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

- YES - Massie, Dimmick, Obendorf
- NO - Wiley, Tauriainen

Amendment failed.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

- YES - Dimmick, Massie, Wiley, Obendorf
- NO - Tauriainen

Motion carried.

RECESS: At 8:59 p.m. Mrs. Obendorf called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER RECESS: At 9:14 p.m. the Board reconvened in regular session.

DIRECTOR/COORDINATOR POSITIONS: Dr. Holmes presented for approval the following position and title changes: Supervisor, Alternative Schooling/Bilingual Program to Director of Alternative Schooling/Bilingual Program; Director, Grants Administration to Director of Staff Development and Grants Administration; Coordinator, Grants, to Coordinator of Grants/Parent Involvement; Coordinator, Instructional Center to Coordinator of Federal Programs; and Coordinator, Vocational Education (half-time) to Coordinator of Vocational Education.

Mrs. Dimmick and Mr. Wiley asked Dr. Holmes to clarify position responsibilities. Dr. Holmes responded that the number of positions remains the same; however, job responsibilities have been shifted to take advantage of each person's expertise.

Mr. Tauriainen inquired about salary increases associated with the changes. Dr. Holmes reported that an increase of approximately \$14,000 would result because of additional contract days and the change from a teacher pay schedule to an administrator pay schedule.

ACTION: Mr. Massie moved to approve the recommended position and title changes. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

POSITION TITLE CHANGE/CENTRAL OFFICE: Dr. Holmes presented for approval the following position and central office title change: Executive Director, Instruction to Assistant Superintendent, Instruction. He noted that the title change was warranted because of increased job responsibilities.

Mr. Tauriainen asked if a salary change accompanied the title change. Dr. Holmes replied that the salary remained the same.

ACTION: Mrs. Dimmick moved to approve the recommended title change. Mr. Massie seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR: Dr. Holmes recommended the appointment of Mary Starrs Armstrong to the position of Director of Staff Development and Grants Administration for the 1992-93 school year. He commented that parents were involved in the selection process.

ACTION: Mr. Wiley moved to approve Mary Starrs Armstrong as the Director of Staff Development and Grants Administration for the 1992-93 school year. Mrs. Dimmick seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENTS: Dr. Holmes recommended the appointment of the following administrators for the 1992-93 school year: William H. Overturf, Assistant Principal, Kenai Central High; Robert Macaulay, Assistant Principal, Homer High (temporary); Robert DeLorenzo, Lead Teacher, Port Graham School; and Sandra Watson, Coordinator, Federal Grants. Dr. Holmes remarked that parents were involved in the selection of the assistant principals at Homer High and Kenai Central High.

Mr. Tauriainen requested additional information about the selection process and the position duties of the grant office coordinators. Dr. Holmes explained the interview process and reviewed position responsibilities.

ACTION: Mr. Massie moved to approve the appointment of the recommended administrators. Mr. Wiley seconded.

Mrs. Dimmick spoke in favor of the appointments because the talents and skills of each could be utilized to the benefit of the department and the district.

Motion carried unanimously.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTRACTS: Dr. Holmes recommended for approval the following salary schedule and list of central office positions for the 1992-93 school year: Associate Superintendent, Planning, Operations and Technology, \$79,000; Executive Director, Business Management, \$79,000; Executive Director, Personnel, \$74,500; Assistant Superintendent, Instruction, \$74,500; Director, Staff Development and Grants Administration, \$64,000; Director, Secondary Education, \$64,000; Director, Elementary Education, \$64,000; Director, Special Services, \$64,000; Director, Alternative Education and Bilingual Program, \$64,000; Director, Computer Services, \$64,000.

ACTION: Mrs. Dimmick moved to approve the list of central office positions and the associated salary schedule. Mr. Massie seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: Mrs. Pam Lazenby commented that the staff at Sears Elementary and Mountain View Elementary schools have communicated with parents regarding the health curriculum and notices were sent home.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Wiley voiced his approval of the one-meeting-a-month format. He suggested having only one meeting in June as well as July and August.

Mrs. Dimmick asked to be excused from the August 10, 1992, meeting.

Mrs. Obendorf announced there would be only one meeting in August. The meeting will be held August 10, 1992, at 7:30 p.m. in the Borough Assembly Room.

Mrs. Obendorf thanked Mr. Dahlgren for the report on the old post office building, and announced that she had addressed the Soldotna Chamber of Commerce concerning the facility needs of the district and that of Soldotna in particular. She noted that the community appears to be aware of the district's needs.

Mrs. Obendorf also commented on her visit with the protocol delegation from Akita, Japan. She noted they are interested in future student exchanges.

ADJOURN:

At 9:42 p.m., Mrs. Dimmick moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Massie seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President


Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk

The Minutes of July 20, 1992,
were approved on August 10, 1992,
as written.