

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

December 7, 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
 Mr. Martin Jackson, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Holmes, Superintendent of Schools
 Mr. John Dahlgren, Associate Superintendent, Planning,
 Operations, and Technology
 Mrs. Mary Rubadeau, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
 Mrs. Sharon Radtke, Executive Director, Personnel
 Mr. Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Kathy Godek	Mrs. Debra Horne
Mr. Bob Moore	Mr. Polikarp Kalugin
Mr. Joe Martushev	Mrs. Janie Lawley
Rev. James Pearson	Mrs. Sandra Ghormley
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sexton	Mr. Dennis Murray
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Moldenhauer	Mrs. Rebecca Perry
Rev. Joe Knox	Mrs. Catherine DeLacey
Mr. Duane Anderson	Mrs. Sharon Moock
Mr. Drew Scalzi	Mrs. Pam Lazenby
Ms. Kari Mohn	Mr. Steve Johnston
Mr. Pat Shields	Dr. Nels Anderson
Mrs. Eileen Becker	Mrs. LeAnn McCaughey
Mrs. Brenda Cutsforth	Mr. Vince Spady
Mrs. Mary Lil Spady	Mr. David Johnson
Mr. Tom Marok	Mrs. Capri Potton
Mrs. Kim Robinson	Mrs. Celeste Haakenson
Mrs. Mary Howarth	Mrs. Noreen Sullivan
Rev. Dean Nichols	Mr. Robert Boudreaux
Mrs. Lenoria Johnson	Mr. John Kistler
Mrs. Nancy Rollins	Mrs. Bobbie Jackson
Mr. Richard Harvey	Mr. Brent Johnson
Mr. Lawrence Golden	Mrs. Betty Hudson
Mrs. Debbie Tupper	Mrs. Beverly Berdahl
Rev. Alan Humphries	Mrs. Kristie Holdridge
Mr. Alan Baldwin	Rev. Bill Brown
Mr. Lawrence Sauer	Mr. James Jens
Mr. Drew Pesnell	Ms. Deven Martin
Mr. George Martin	Mr. Pisa Faumui
Mrs. Victoria Mitchell	Mrs. Barbara Plate
Others present not identified.	

- CALL TO ORDER:** Mrs. Obendorf called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 6:00 p.m., Mrs. Dimmick moved the Board go into executive session to discuss matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the Borough. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 6:55 p.m., Mrs. Gross moved the executive session be adjourned. Mrs. Dimmick seconded.
- Motion carried unanimously
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** At 7:30 p.m., 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 | Present |
| Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross | Present |
| Mr. Michael Wiley | Present |
| Mr. Martin Jackson | Present |
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda was approved as printed.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The School Board Minutes of November 16, 1992, were approved with a correction.
- HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:** Miss Renee Henderson, KCHS music teacher, requested the new guidelines related to staff permitted to travel on international trips be reevaluated. She commented it was necessary for nurses to accompany the group due to possible medical treatment needed in foreign countries, and requested the number of teaching staff be increased to serve as authoritative chaperones. As the guidelines are currently written one teacher would be in charge of eighty-eight students for similar international choir trips. She also noted that band and choir classes have been cut from \$6,000 to \$1,000 over the past years which makes it difficult to operate the programs.
- Mrs. Eileen Becker, Homer parent, presented a chronology of events leading to the school board request for removing the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" from Homer High School and other school libraries. She stated she presented 246 signed petitions from Homer residents who felt the book was inappropriate for students.

HEARING OF
DELEGATIONS (cont.):

Mrs. LeAnn McCaughey, North Kenai resident, stated she read the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" in its entirety and felt it was a how-to manual on sexual activities, flaunted a dangerously casual attitude towards sex, has an underlying contempt for parental input, and asserts political biases that are inappropriate with some community members' spiritual values. She felt the book gave "lip service" to numerous sexually transmitted diseases.

Mrs. Brenda Cutsforth, Soldotna parent, told the board that the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District has been an outstanding school district, and in an effort to maintain those standards she urged the board to reconsider its position and not retain the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" as part of the educational system. She felt accurate, truthful information should be presented to students which she felt was not the case with the book.

Mr. Vince Spady, Sterling Elementary School fifth grade teacher, commented he had examined the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives", and found it to be very offensive, warped, and morally degrading. He felt the book was totally inappropriate for students. He stated he had talked to other teachers who had read the book and they agreed they would not want the book placed in the public school system. He stated from a parent's perspective the book is not tolerable for children to read.

Mrs. Mary Lil Spady, parent and former teacher, stated that school board members are the guardians of the school district and urged they reconsider their vote in order that the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" be removed from the schools. She stated the book encouraged students to engage in promiscuous oral sexual activities which was not supported by accurate medical information. She read a letter from Seward High School teacher, Nate Davis, who wrote that the book should not be used in KPBSD schools.

Rev. Joe Knox, Kasilof minister and parent, commended the Board on having a good school system, but requested the Board reconsider not using of the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" in district schools. He felt the book promoted sexual activity which could be deadly. He stated that if a person read the book in its entirety it promoted homosexuality which is the main cause of AIDS. He added the school district could be responsible for a student's death if they contracted AIDS from activities promoted in the book.

Mrs. Sandra Ghormley, parent, stated she felt the school board did not clearly understand the consequences from the use of the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives", and she was outraged as a taxpayer that her tax dollars were used to

HEARING OF
DELEGATIONS (cont.):

purchase such a pornographic book. She reminded the board that their purpose was to serve the desires of the residents of the peninsula and those represented in the audience. She felt it was a contradiction to allow the book in the schools, even as reference material, and if approved the board would not be following the reason they were elected by the voters.

Mr. David Johnson, parent, stated he did not feel the issue was one of censorship, but rather of whether the material contained in the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" was suitable for the students having access to it. He expressed concern that the book promoted homosexuality, and suggested that parent authority and moral values are not important. He also felt the book was a radical departure from the approved health curriculum, and had no place in district schools, both for students and teachers. He felt the issue was one of trust between the school board and parents.

Reverend James Pearson, Sterling minister, stated the board was elected on the trust they would provide quality education for students. He stated he had reviewed the book and found it unacceptable for student use since it encouraged young people to experiment in sexual activities. He felt the book was a pitfall when being made available to students. He urged the board to reconsider their decision and remove the book from the schools since it was not educational material, but pornography.

Mr. Tom Marok, parent, stated he had reviewed the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" and felt it did not belong in the schools. He stated the book did not teach sex education from a clinical perspective, but was in the category of pornography. He stated that the young people should wait for the mystery that is contained in the act of marriage. He felt the book contained too many "how-to's" of sex which they are unable to understand.

Mrs. Capri Potton, Soldotna parent, urged the Board to reconsider their vote and vote against the book. She felt the book promoted immoral characteristics, and it belonged in the garbage because it encouraged homosexuality, promiscuity, and disregard for parents. She presented the Board with a garbage bag.

Mrs. Kim Robinson, Sterling parent, stated she was disturbed by the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" and stated it was unacceptable as teaching material. She stated she was shocked to think the day had come when she had to attend a school board meeting to discuss whether or not such obvious garbage should be allowed into the school system. She felt the material contained in the book was objectionable to all

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HEARING OF
DELEGATIONS (cont.):

groups of religions, race, and occupational status. She told the board that if they voted to keep the book in the schools, they had better be ready to face the consequences from their action.

Mrs. Celeste Haakenson, Sterling parent, told the Board use of the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" would effect the community and future generations. She commented if a person experimented with some of the suggestions in the book it could be unhealthy, and this was not a way to save our children's and grandchildren's lives.

Mrs. Mary Howarth, parent, reminded the Board that they told parents two years ago to watch what would occur with the health curriculum. She commented that parents had watched and were not happy with things that were happening, such as the illegal entry of the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" at Homer High School. She stated parents felt betrayed that the health curriculum guidelines had not been followed. She felt the open way the curriculum is written is still unacceptable because it allows total control by the instructors. She stated there should be "teeth" in the curriculum and accountability by the Board on what is presented. She felt the use of book in the library was appalling, and urged it be removed for this use.

Mrs. Noreen Sullivan, teacher and parent, stated she had questioned the librarian at her school, Soldotna High School, whether the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" was in the school library. The librarian chose not to place the book in the library because she chose books written by physicians with grammatically correct terminology, whereas, this book contained excerpts by children, ages 13-19. She commented this book was not what she would want in her classroom or as a teacher's reference book.

Reverend Dean Nichols, First Baptist Church in Kenai, stated approximately 130 people from his church told him they did not feel the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" was appropriate, and he felt that most of the school board members had not read the book prior to their vote at the previous meeting, but instead were "blind sided" by someone else's recommendation. He stated the comments were not a rebuke on the school board, but to encourage the Board to take a stand on the book. He felt the book taught recreation without responsibility. He questioned whether the book taught the morality the board members would want their children taught.

HEARING OF
DELEGATIONS (cont.):

Mr. Robert Boudreaux, Soldotna High School teacher, stated he felt the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" did not fit the standards of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District and would tear down the hearts of its students. He felt the book was "trash", and if anyone wanted the book it could be ordered from the local book store. He felt the Board should move on the more important educational issues which effect students.

Mrs. Lenoria Johnson, parent, stated she had an additional 143 petitions against the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives". She commented a recent news article indicated that approximately 40,000 teens are infected with AIDS each year, and asked the Board, knowing the statistics, whether they were willing to place a text in the schools that promoted sexual activity. She stated members of the audience came from the communities of Nikiski, Kenai, Soldotna, Sterling, Kasilof, and Homer to indicate their stand against the book.

COMMUNICATIONS AND
PETITIONS:

Mrs. Obendorf stated individual letters in opposition to the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" had been received from LeAnn McCaughey, John Evanson, W.C. Fletcher, Harold A. Jackson, Karen Encelewski, John Haakenson, Mark and Beverly Berdahl, Lucille Hadden, James and Terry Dunn, Ruth Rupp, Dennis Massey, Mark and Joyce Moldenhouer, Randy Sadler, Dan Sexton, Joan Sadler, and a combined letter from Delores Lindeman, Donna Schultz, Janis Baugh, Kathrine Kennedy, Lynn Kennedy, and Jean Wilkins. Mrs. Obendorf indicated there were a total of 779 signatures on petitions in opposition to the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives". Letters in support of the book were received from Karen Murdock, Heidi Goodrich, and Sarah Reinhart.

Mrs. Obendorf expressed appreciation to Mr. Charlie Gibson who sent the Board information which he presented at the November 16 meeting.

She also read a letter to Mrs. Rubadeau from Linda Harris who commended the Health Committee for their procedural review of materials which enter the schools. She encouraged that the committee continue the use of positive, safe and healthy information for the health education of students.

Mrs. Obendorf reported an invitation was received from the Kenai Peninsula Caucus President, John Torgeson, inviting the Board to a reception on December 10, Tides Inn, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. The reception will be held following the school board's and borough assembly's meeting with the legislators beginning at 2:30 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS AND
PETITIONS (cont.):

Mrs. Obendorf reported a notice had been received from the Mat-Su Alternative School notifying the district of a conference for alternative schools, March 4-6. Those board members interested in attending are to notify Mrs. Obendorf.

She noted information was received from the Association of Alaska School Boards regarding their legal assistance fund. She suggested a worksession be held at the next meeting on this.

Mrs. Obendorf announced a notice had been received from the Department of Education regarding changes in teacher certification.

She noted a letter had been received from Dan and Colleen Pillon who expressed appreciation for the outstanding job that Colleen Pucgh and Nel Lashley are doing as driver and bus monitor for special education bus number 8.

MOUNTAIN VIEW
ELEMENTARY PTA:

Mrs. Kristie Holdridge, Co-president, Mountain View Elementary PTA, told the Board they coordinate with Sears Elementary to gather community donations for Christmas baskets. Recipient families are checked by Love, Inc. and the Salvation Army in order to avoid duplications. The PTA is also sponsoring Santa photo sessions at Carrs Store this year.

SEWARD ELEMENTARY
PTSA:

Mrs. Victoria Mitchell, Seward Elementary PTSA Co-president, stated she was pleased to see the parental support at the meeting. She quoted from the "Family Council" on the importance of parental involvement as the key factor in their children's educational achievement. She recommended the Board reconsider their position on the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives".

KENAI MIDDLE SCHOOL
PTA:

Mrs. Kathy Godek, Kenai Middle School PTA President, told the Board their breakfast program has started and the only problem with the program is inconsistent timing of the buses arriving at school where students sometimes do not have enough time to participate in the program. She stated the school continues to work on their earthquake preparedness program, and a building review will begin in January. She noted a career planning program has begun in Mr. Christian's eighth grade class.

Mr. Dennis Murray, Soldotna High School PTSA and Soldotna PTA representative, told the Board the Soldotna Elementary PTA would like the City of Soldotna to reconstruct Park Avenue for student safety. He requested the Board consider a resolution requesting the Borough Assembly to appropriate \$109,000 towards this project. He reminded the Board of Dr. Cannava's

SOLDOTNA ELEMENTARY
PTA (cont.):

request to reactivate the Facilities Committee to consider questions posed last year. Mrs. Obendorf requested a letter of support on the Park Avenue project for the next meeting.

KALIFORNSKY BEACH
ELEMENTARY PTA:

Mrs. Nancy Rollins, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary PTA chairperson, expressed appreciation to the Kenai River King Salmon Board for their \$250 donation to the school's Slikok Creek Project.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

Dr. Holmes expressed appreciation to the ARCO Foundation for a \$3,500 grant received last week. The grant will be used to continue the MegaSkills Program.

He announced three principal vacancies for the 1993-94 school year have been advertised locally and nationally. Closing date for applications is December 22 and interviews will be conducted in early February.

RECESS:

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

RECONVENE AFTER
RECESS:

At 9:17 p.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.

NIKOLAEVSK ELEM/HIGH
SCHOOL REPORT:

Mr. Bob Moore, Nikolaevsk Elem/High School Principal, reported to the Board on twenty-three successful years at the school which began in a trailer and is now housed in its modern facility. He gave the board and audience a tour of those years through a slide presentation. Students Joe Martushev and Polikarp Kalugin told the Board about their families and school experiences at the Old Believer village.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Extended Field Trip Request, Grant Application, Sick Leave Bank Requests/Support, Leave of Absence Requests/Support, Teacher Assignments, and Leave of Absence Request/Certified.

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP
REQUEST:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve an extended field trip request for 4-6 district students to travel to Magadan, Russia, February 22-March 24, 1993, for an Extended Stay Youth Summit to participate in a Russian Immersion Program.

GRANT APPLICATION:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve a grant application for the Migrant Education Instructional Assistant/Teacher Training Program in the amount of \$10,000.

SICK LEAVE REQUEST/
SUPPORT:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve draws from the KPESA Sick Leave Bank for Bonnie Clouston, Administrative Secretary, Central Office/Special Services, 11.5 days; and Cindy Koplin, Secretary III, McNeil Canyon Elementary, 4 days.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE
REQUEST/SUPPORT:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve unpaid leave of absence requests for Rita Rothgeb, Secretary I, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary, January 11-April 23, 1993; Sally Burns, Chapter I-Migrant Tutor, Paul Banks Elementary, January 15-December 31, 1993; and Nita Galloway, Head Custodian, Tustumena Elementary for the remainder of the 1992-93 school year.

1992-93 TEACHER
ASSIGNMENTS:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve teacher assignments for the 1992-93 school year for Auralie McCain, Grades K-8, Beluga School (Temporary); and Laura Beck, Grades 1-2, Nikiski Elementary (Temporary).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE
REQUEST/CERTIFIED:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence request for the 1993-94 school year for Brittany Nowak, Librarian, Nikiski Jr/Sr High.

ACTION

Mr. Massie moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items #1 through #6. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Mr. Wiley questioned whether the Russian Immersion Program was open to all students or those in the Alternative/Bilingual Program. Mrs. Rubadeau responded it is open to all students. Mr. Jackson asked whether the four questions on the questionnaire would provide adequate information to decide on the students. Mrs. Rubadeau responded an application form as well as a reference form are included for the committee to review.

Motion carried unanimously.

RECONSIDERATION
MOTION/RECONSIDER-
ATION OF INSTRUCT-
IONAL MATERIAL:

Mrs. Rubadeau presented a chronology of events leading to the reconsideration motion. She stated in the Spring of 1992, the administration had been requested to look at a book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives" which had been donated to the Homer High School health class. Because of the time of year, it was decided to wait to review the book when the Health Curriculum Committee reconvened. A subcommittee of the Health Curriculum Committee reviewed the book and recommended the book was not in alignment with the health curriculum. At that time, she was informed that the book was in three high school libraries, and the Reconsideration of Instructional Materials Committee reviewed the book and recommended it remain in secondary school libraries. The Board at its November 16 meeting voted to approve the committee's recommendation, however, a motion to reconsider that vote was served by Mr. Tauriainen.

Mrs. Obendorf explained procedures that members of the audience could speak to the reconsideration motion only.

RECONSIDERATION
(continued):

Mrs. Debra Horne, Cohoe parent, encouraged the Board reconsider their action on the book based on audience participation in opposition to it. She stated that since the book was not appropriate for the health curriculum, therefore, it should follow that the book not remain in school library collections. She felt use of the book did not follow the good example set by the district in the past.

Mr. Duane Anderson, parent, commented that in the past he had explained at the superintendency interviews that the Kenai Peninsula Borough was a different type of community. This had been expressed in deliberations on the health curriculum and again at the tonight's meeting. He urged the board to reconsider their vote based on the views of the people in attendance.

Mr. Pat Shields, Kasilof parent, stated he spoke to the Board a month ago voicing his objection to the book. He noted it was obvious then the Board had not reviewed the book. He commented he could not understand how the board members could vote for a book they had not reviewed, and urged them to reconsider their vote.

Mrs. Bobbie Jackson, parent, stated some people were opposed to sex education when it was introduced in the health curriculum several years ago because such things as this book could creep into the schools. She questioned what other similar books were in the school libraries. She stated she was opposed to sex education in the schools, and requested the board to reconsider the book as well as the health curriculum as it currently stands.

Mrs. Ruth Haring, stated she felt there were better books with more of a balance for use in teaching sex education to students. She commented it was important that sex education was taught, but a better resource could be used.

Mrs. Kathy Bower, Director of the Crisis Pregnancy Center, stated she sees teenagers daily who are scared they might be pregnant because of an error in judgement. She requested the Board to reconsider their action for use of the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives."

Mr. Richard Harvey, parent, stated children are the most important part of a person's life, and it was important that abstinence be taught to them in the areas of sexual activity, drug and alcohol abuse, and child abuse. He requested the Board reconsider their action on a book which could promote abuse.

RECONSIDERATION

(continued):

Mr. Brent Johnson, Clam Gulch parent, stated the Board should reconsider this book based on the American rule where the people have requested the Board to remove the book from the schools. He stated it was the overwhelming vote of the public in attendance that they were opposed to the book.

Mr. Pisa Faumui stated if the issue was not reconsidered there would be more private schools and home schools in existence. Public schools would be deleted because of the use of the book.

Rev. Pat Dempster stated he had four students on home school because of such issues being taught in public school. He stated the Pledge of Allegiance was given to a country under God and they should not bring "smut" into the schools about homosexuality, etc. He felt morality was important to be taught to children, and it was appalling that the issue was here.

Mr. Lawrence Golden, Nikiski parent, stated the book should be reconsidered on what redeeming factors it offers the community. He stated the public had made their point that the book teaches pornography and parental disobedience. He commented if the book was not reconsidered it would be placed in the schools because of these redeeming factors. He felt there were better books available to teach sex education.

Mrs. Betty Hudson, Homer parent, stated the Board would be giving the book a stamp of approval by placing it in the school libraries. She stated a teacher might use the book as a textbook in the future long after this issue is gone because it was an accepted library book.

Mrs. Debbie Tupper, Soldotna parent, stated the book should be reconsidered because if it were a book that the board would not read to their own children, it should not be in the schools.

Mrs. Beverly Berdahl, Nikiski parent, stated the book was pornographic which could lead to criminal behavior in students. She read information on a four-step process of sex offenders who became addicted to pornography.

The Pastor of the Kenai First Baptist Church encouraged the Board to reconsider the book based on their evidence of reading it, hearing the public outcry, and it would be politically expedient for them to do so.

Rev. Ball, Immanuel Baptist Church, asked the Board to reconsider the book because they were public servants where the public has asked them to reconsider it, it was a

RECONSIDERATION
(continued):

conscience violation if students contacted AIDS, hepatitis, and sexually transmitted diseases, and there might be legal ramifications brought by the public.

Mr. Mark Moldenhauer, Sterling parent, requested reconsideration because the majority of the community did not know the book would remain in school libraries at the last meeting, some school board members had not read the book prior to the last meeting, many reputable community members had spoken in opposition to the book, and this was not a censorship issue but a democratic process where parents had a right to say what should be in the schools.

Rev. Alan Humphries, parent, requested the Board reconsider the book based on feelings communicated by the many people who had spoken in opposition to the book.

Mr. Alan Baldwin, parent, stated reconsideration should be made based on the public outcry made. He stated whether the Board agreed to the teachings of the book was not the reason they were elected, but instead elected to convey the concerns of the public. He stated there was concern from Village parents on what their children would be taught in the schools outside the Village, and lives could be ruined by the Board's decision.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, stated students should be able to make decisions on whether certain books are garbage or usable material. He commented that no citizen group should make that decision for the students, but instead their decisions should be based on parental information. He stated the book might be garbage but the decision should not be made by the school board or citizen groups, but instead is the young person's decision. He felt a one-sided group was in attendance at the meeting, where at another meeting another-sided group might present their opinions. Instead, he felt parents should teach their children their values and trust they had done their job sufficiently well.

Rev. Bill Brown, College Heights Baptist Church, urged the Board to reconsider their action. He stated his son had encountered the book in another school district and he had him removed from that classroom. He felt the book should have been more carefully screened so it had not entered the schools. From a counseling sense, he felt there were no redeemable factors in the book which portrays and sends wrong messages to children in their formative years. He stated reconsideration of the book would send a message to the committees who failed to properly screen the book. He felt other school books should also be checked. He did not feel the issue was censorship, but one of protection.

RECONSIDERATION
(continued):

Mrs. Daniel Inabnit, Soldotna resident, stated that as a young adult she understood the material in the book, but felt it would be detrimental to high school students. She felt the book should not be placed in a library where students would have access to the information. She felt the book would be more appropriate at another location where students could seek the information.

Mr. Lawrence Sauer, Soldotna High School student, stated he did not feel reconsideration was needed and instead saw it as an informative tool if students wanted to read it. He did not feel the book would change student morals, but was only information for students. He felt some people in the audience were only aware of excerpts from the book, and had not read the book entirely. He felt the material was relevant to current times.

Mrs. LeAnn McCaughey, Nikiski resident, stated she had read the book in its entirety and requested the Board reconsider the book on the grounds that it was pornography.

Mrs. Capri Potton, Soldotna parent, asked the Board to reconsider the book, and stated if people wanted the book it could be special ordered from the local book store. It was not needed in the public school system.

Mr. James Jens, Kenai resident, asked the board to reconsider the book because he felt the book was pornography. He stated that a recent serial murderer was known to get his start from reading pornography. He felt that perhaps other books should be reconsidered in the district.

Mr. Drew Pesnell, Kenai parent, requested the Board to reconsider the book based on testimony from the audience. He felt the book would break hearts and break the heart of God.

Ms. Devin Martin, parent, stated that as a former teacher of the district she had always been proud of the schools, but if such a book remained in the district she would not send her daughter to Kenai's public schools. She requested the book be reconsidered and removed from the schools.

Mr. George Martin, parent, stated children should have the freedom to attend public schools and parents should be responsible for their children not being around things that are harmful to their morality. He urged the school board to make a positive statement by reconsidering their action on the book.

RECONSIDERATION
(continued):

Mr. Pisa Faumui, Kenai resident, stated that what is taught in school is very powerful. He related an incident in another state in an economics class where it was taught that stealing was legal. Because of this, he felt this was acceptable and ended in jail. He felt the material in the book was wrong for students.

Mrs. Bobbie Jackson, parent, stated that children who are taught to be morally clean until marriage are given the feeling by attending health education classes that something is wrong with them. She felt the book, if read by students, would give them the impression that masturbation, oral sex, and homosexuality are normal.

Mrs. Obendorf explained the process; that Mr. Tauriainen changed his vote from the negative to the prevailing side and requested reconsideration of the motion at the last meeting. Therefore, Mr. Tauriainen would be the only member able to make the reconsideration motion.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board reconsider the action the Board took at their November 16 meeting to reconsider the Instructional Materials Committee Report for approval of the book for secondary libraries. Mrs. Dimmick seconded.

Mr. Tauriainen stated the two reasons the book should be reconsidered was the large number of parents, teachers principals, nurses, and community members throughout the district who contacted board members, wrote letters, and spoke in objection to the book. Also by this time, the Board members had opportunity to read the book themselves.

Mrs. Obendorf stated the process taken on the book was the proper process which all instructional materials are given review. She stated the board could have removed the book from the libraries, but instead the process was followed to give all sides equal opportunity.

Mrs. Dimmick stated she did not believe in suppressing information, however, she had listened to concerns from the community and also read the book. She felt the book contained worthwhile information, but was interspersed with information which the public found objectionable. Since other resources are available and the book had been used only a few times, she would support the reconsideration motion.

An at ease was called at 10:43 p.m. to review protocol on no discussion prior to the reconsideration motion vote.

VOTE ON RECONSIDERATION:

Motion carried unanimously.

RECONSIDERATION
(continued):

Student Representative Jackson stated he would again vote against the book. He stated it was his responsibility to vote for the students not the audience, but he urged the Board to vote as the people had requested them. From speaking with the students, he stated approximately half the students favored removing the book, while the other half of students did not want it removed for the sake of "book banning".

Mr. Tauriainen stated the book on its own merit needed to be removed because it was not well written, was in pursuit of sexual pleasure, contained outdated material, striped sexual modesty, had no moral bounds, appealed to personal pleasure and self-centeredness, and was sexually arousing. He stated of most concern was that of morals and values, and it was the board's responsibility to see these high standards should be set. He felt a book approved by the board would gain value and if given a place anywhere in the school district the book would become accepted by students and staff.

Mrs. Gross stated she felt the book contained no lasting values, would be a book she would not have in her home, and she would support its removal from the libraries.

Mr. Massie stated he would change his vote and be against the book in the library.

Mr. Wiley stated he would vote to remove the book from the libraries. He commented on the size of the audience and stated he wished more people would be interested in other school board issues as well.

Mr. Arness stated it needed to be realized that the district has a process for review of instructional materials in school libraries that people deem to be objectionable. He noted the process is established by policy, carried out by a committee appointed by the school board who read the instructional materials, discuss their opinions and make recommendations to the school board. He is currently the board's representative to the committee. He noted comments had been made that the board was blind sided by taking someone else's council, and since he was that representative he took responsibility for that. However, he did not feel the board was blind sided. He stated that although everyone wanted what was best for their children, not everyone agreed on the method to do this. He stated political and legal threats had been made towards board members, but he would stand behind the book not because it was a valuable book, but because school board process needed to be protected. He stated the nine-member committee made the decision to retain the book, and in good conscience he would not turn his back on the committee and the process. He expressed appreciation to the audience for their attendance and comments.

RECONSIDERATION

(continued):

Mrs. Obendorf stated she would not reiterate her comments made at the last meeting. She apologized to those people she was unable to reach because she had been out of state between meetings. She thanked the people who gave careful, thoughtful input to their comments and admonished those people who did not control their emotions where it would have been easier to listen to them. She challenged the audience to give as much time to the schools this year as they gave to this issue.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

YES - Arness

NO - Dimmick, Gross, Massie, Tauriainen, Wiley, Obendorf
Advisory Vote - NO

Motion failed.

Mr. Tauriainen commented that now the book had been removed from school libraries, and requested the book be removed from the district. Mrs. Rubadeau explained that her report stated the committee review of the book was that it did not meet the health curriculum guidelines for student instruction and they recommended the books be distributed to the health teachers as a professional resource. Mr. Tauriainen requested the book be placed on the January 4 agenda for removal as a professional resource to teachers in the district. He noted personal purchase of the book would be outside the purview of the district. Mr. Arness voiced objection to this item being placed on the agenda.

ADDENDUM TO HOMER
FLEX SCHOOL LEASE
AGREEMENT:

Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve an addendum to the Homer Flex School Agreement lease for 648 additional square feet at the cost of \$500 per month. The additional space would serve as office space for the Kachemak Selo School and be paid from the Kachemk Selo School budget.

ACTION

Mrs. Dimmick moved the Board approve Mr. Dahlgren's recommendations to the Homer Flex School Lease Agreement addendum. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHOOL CALENDARS:

Mr. Dahlgren reported the calendar committee met on November 12, 1992, to establish the 1993-94 school calendar and two subsequent school calendars. He suggested the same parent representatives serve again next year to give continuity to community concerns on the calendars. He noted considerable thought and discussion was given to the placement of spring break, third quarter end with parent conferences, a day off in February for President's Day and intermittent placement of

**SCHOOL CALENDARS
(continued):**

inservice/planning days on Mondays or Fridays to give students and their families a three-day weekend. He recommended the 1993-94 calendar be approved and tentative approval be given to the 1994-95 and 1995-96 school years.

Mr. Jackson questioned how Kathy Henderson, the high school representative, felt about the shortened third quarter. Mr. Dahlgren responded she was a high school parent to the committee and after a great deal of discussion the committee concurred with the recommendation.

Mr. Tauriainen questioned whether the calendar committee considered extending the school day to shorten the school year, and full semester attendance by seniors. Mr. Dahlgren responded extending the school day was not an assignment of the committee, although starting and ending dates were discussed. Mr. Dahlgren stated senior attendance usually concludes a week prior to school ending to complete grades for these students.

Dr. Nels Anderson, parent, expressed concern on starting school in August. He noted that Good Friday could not officially be a religious holiday. Mr. Dahlgren stated it is a vacation day.

Mr. Duane Anderson, parent, stated he felt the beginning and end of the school year were loaded with important and critical activities and if for some reason students are unable to be in attendance on those days it could drastically effect their grades. He related an incident where his daughter was unable to attend the last day of school due to illness and where the teacher had waited to have important testing completed which was necessary to pass the course. Because the student was unable to attend school that day and no time was allowed to make up the work the student's grade was dropped. This also happened to other students whose parents made other plans for them. He stated this was educationally irresponsible and punitive for the school staff to do this. He requested that the students and families be considered when constructing the calendar. He also requested the spring vacation be eliminated in place of a later fall start.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, requested the inservice days be established when the calendar is approved so parents will know the exact number of days of school attendance. He suggested school start in September and the number of days be arranged around those dates.

Rev. Alan Humphries, parent, stated his family discussed the school calendar survey, and noted that Alaska is a difficult place to live where summers are short. He encouraged the Board to consider the longer day factor as an alternative to the school calendar.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board adopt the 1993-94 recommended calendar and give tentative approval to the 1994-95 and 1995-96 school calendars. Mrs. Dimmick seconded.

Mr. Arness explained the 1993-94 calendar was based on the basic tenets as the current calendar although the committee would like to have changed the Christmas break, which eventually evened out in about three years.

Mr. Tauriainen requested the Board discuss lengthening the school day in an effort to shorten the school year, and consider it for the 1994-95 school calendar. He also suggested that full inservice days be taken rather than half days where full benefit can be given to students. Mrs. Obendorf stated this was not a committee responsibility, but the board could hold a worksession on the topic of lengthening the school day. Mr. Dahlgren clarified that the legislature approved the lengthened school day legislation due to subsistence concerns, not for regular school education, and the Department of Education has not written regulations concerning the statutes. Mr. Wiley stated the Board needed to address the inservice concern for calendars in the near future. He also noted he would like to see the Christmas break correlate with the semester break.

Mr. Jackson questioned whether there were conflicts with ASAA activities during the vacation dates. Mr. Dahlgren stated there were no state contests scheduled during the holiday breaks. Mr. Jackson expressed concern that a high school teacher was not included on the committee.

Mr. Tauriainen requested the 1993-94 and tentative calendars be voted on separately.

VOTE ON 1993-94 CALENDAR:

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Tauriainen stated he would like to see the board consider lengthening the school days to shorten the school year, see the half day inservice days become full days, and senior attendance prior to the end of the school year addressed before approval of the two succeeding calendars.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved to postpone action on the 1994-95 and 1995-96 calendars until a worksession is held to receive administrative recommendations on the three items. Mr. Wiley seconded.

SCHOOL CALENDARS
(continued):

VOTE TO POSTPONE:

YES - Tauriainen, Wiley
NO - Arness, Dimmick, Gross, Massie, Obendorf
Advisory Vote - YES

Motion to postpone failed.

VOTE ON TENTATIVE 1994-95 AND 1995-96 CALENDARS:

YES - Arness, Dimmick, Gross, Massie, Obendorf
NO - Tauriainen, Wiley
Advisory Vote - YES

Motion carried.

RECESS:

At 11:50 p.m., Mrs. Obendorf called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER

At 12:01 a.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.

RECESS:

1993-94 PROFESSIONAL
ALLOCATIONS:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve the staffing allocations for regular education and special education for the 1993-94 school year. She noted the board approved the staffing formulas on November 7, 1992, and the professional allocation resulted from the approved formulas. She recommended the Board approve 540 FTE regular staffing and 169.25 FTE for special education.

ACTION

Mrs. Dimmick moved the Board approve Mrs. Radtke's recommended regular and special education staffing for the 1993-94 school year. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Mr. Tauriainen stated there was rapid growth and additions due to regulations in the special education program. He requested there be a review of modifications in the formula for next year in order to make adjustments.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING/POLICY
REVISIONS:

Mrs. Rubadeau presented revisions to policies 003.115, Fundraising; 004.44, Loan of School Property; 007.1, Student Conduct; and 007.1R, Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Mr. Wiley questioned whether the policy on loan of school property included home schooling students. Mrs. Rubadeau responded this is left to the discretion of the principal to loan materials and media to anyone other than district correspondence study or regular students. Mr. Wiley stated he felt stronger language should be included in the policy for home school students, which might keep the district from building new schools. He felt anyone should be eligible for

FIRST READING/POLICY

REVISIONS (cont.):

this whether they be state or district home schooled. Mrs. Dimmick commented the district does not receive funding for students not enrolled in the district, whether regular or correspondence study, and this distinction should be made. Mr. Tauriainen questioned whether there was any intent to consider pull-tabs in the fundraising policy. Mrs. Rubadeau stated a phrase to the fundraising policy designates that the use of gaming permits must be approved by the superintendent or his designee which would prohibit such use. Mr. Tauriainen noted that district property is loaned from the media center and central office. Mrs. Rubadeau stated the word "principal" could be changed to "district administrator". He also suggested the phrase on expected student conduct be returned to the policy on student conduct. Mrs. Rubadeau stated this was a duplication of terminology already included in the policy. Mr. Tauriainen requested the policies be reviewed by the attorney before the second reading. Mrs. Rubadeau stated all policies are reviewed by the attorney prior to presentation to the board. Mrs. Rubadeau requested clarification on the fundraising policy and received suggestions that the policy begin in a positive nature. Mrs. Rubadeau stated the policies had been sent to student and parent groups to receive input from them on the changes.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Duane Anderson, parent, commented an anticipated major timber harvest on the Kenai Peninsula will impact education within the district schools as well as impacting the economy of the area. He thanked the Board for their statesmanship demonstrated at the meeting. He felt enough issue had been brought by the audience for valid vote changes by board members. He commented that he felt the chair was unfair by mentioning emotionalism when discussing an important issue that effected students.

Mr. Richard Harvey stated the Board deserved commendations for their decisions made at the meeting. He offered assistance to the board if he could help in the community and schools in any way possible. He stated he works as a referral counselor.

Mr. Richard Dover, Soldotna parent, thanked the Board for keeping the book out of the school libraries. He stated he opposed the book and felt there was some deception about the book because the book was defended after it was found inappropriate for the health curriculum. He felt it was important that abstinence be taught for sexual activities just as it is taught for use of drugs. He questioned why anything different from the health curriculum should be available to students or teachers. He stated district funds should not be made available for purchase of the book, but if teachers desired the book they could purchase it themselves.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
(continued):

Mrs. Mary Horwath, parent, thanked the Board for their change of vote and listening to the people who spoke. She felt the board process was not a bad process, but the process was not more important than the students. She complimented the audience for their presentations and felt the emotions shown were not out of hand.

Mr. Mark Moldenhouer, Sterling parent, thanked the Board for the process and their change of vote, and it was apparent that Mr. Arness' vote was a conscience vote, and that other members' conscience were against the book. He felt reasoning had taken place and was appreciative for the democratic process. He questioned if the book was not found unsuitable for the health curriculum or for classroom use, what ways could it legally be used in the district. Mrs. Rubadeau responded it would not be used as instructional material for use by students, but could be given to health teachers as professional resource material.

Mrs. Sharon Moock, Borough Assembly Member, introduced Drew Scalzi, a newly elected assembly member from Homer. She told the Board the borough assembly has a new philosophy whereby selected members will attend different meetings for a two-month block of time. She felt this was a positive move on the part of the assembly. She suggested the school board set a cap to conclude their business by midnight.

Mr. Dennis Wank, Nikiski resident, stated he felt the book was not a suitable book for students, and felt it is not suitable for the district's professionals. In relation to the policy on loan of equipment, he stated that people on home schooling should be allowed the use of school equipment and materials because they are taxpayers and bear part of the burden for these materials. He felt there should be more language in the policy on what is allowed to be worn in schools such as prohibition of profanity on shirts.

Mr. John Kistler suggested the fundraising policy should have a clause which states that use of gaming permits will be restricted to raffles, and no other use will be approved. Otherwise, he felt the district would be encouraging gambling in the schools with bingo games, lotteries, etc. Anything else would not be a good example for students to follow.

Mr. Pisa Faumui, Kenai, thanked the Board for their decision. He commented that he worked for a private school in the area which receives calls about decisions made by the school board, particularly on the book reconsidered at the meeting.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Tauriainen requested that the Facilities Committee meet in the near future.

He requested the Board evaluate special education staffing in a worksession. Mrs. Gross commented that the board held a worksession on this last spring and she saw no need to do this again.

Mr. Tauriainen requested the administration prepare a response to the City of Soldotna for paving Park Avenue.

He expressed appreciation to the people who spoke on the book "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives". He also expressed disappointment that the issue will still be before the board at the next meeting.

Mr. Jackson thanked the audience for their view points expressed, as well as staying for the end of the meeting.

Mr. Wiley commented that he liked the borough assembly's new approach to have different members attend school board meetings. He felt the school board should reciprocate with similar action.

He stated he was pleased with the democratic process at the meeting and pleased with the results. He also extended appreciation to those who spoke in opposition to the majority vote, which was an expression of individual rights.

Mrs. Dimmick reported she is an AASB representative to the ASAA Board which recently appointed Mr. Gary Matthews as the executive director for that organization. She further noted the issue of home schooled student's participation in a special school's activities came before the ASAA Board at a recent meeting. The ASAA Board was requested to grant a variance to its rules which was denied. She commented the committee felt this would result in an open ended situation. She felt any school district's first obligation is to its enrolled students. Also, by considering home schooling children the regularly enrolled students could be eliminated from participation.

She commented on attending enjoyable concerts at Nikiski and Kenai Central High School.

She felt the Board should review the out of state field trip policy within the near future. She also requested the Board hold a worksession at their next meeting to discuss purchasing the AASB policy document for use as a reference book.

Mrs. Dimmick stated she had visited several parent groups about earthquake preparation. She felt districtwide drills now need to be considered.

BOARD COMMENTS
(continued):

Mrs. Dimmick stated she felt that the public comments section of the agenda should address educational issues only. She commented this should be announced or the policy should be changed to reflect this.

Mrs. Obendorf commented that she and Dr. Holmes had discussed plans for the Facilities Committee.

She noted the number of petitions will be counted and recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Mrs. Obendorf reminded the Board of a meeting with the local legislators beginning at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, December 10. A reception will follow at 5:00 p.m. at the Tides Inn.

She announced there will be no meeting on December 21, and the next meeting will be held on January 4, 1993.

ADJOURN:

At 1:10 a.m., Mr. Massie moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Arness seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty L. Obendorf
Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President

Mike Tauriainen
Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk

The Minutes of December 7, 1992, were approved on January 4, 1993, with corrections.