

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

February 15, 1993

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  
 Mr. Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Troy Castimore	Mr. Ken Tarbox
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bell	Mrs. Brenda Cutsforth
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Stalker	Mr. Serve Wilson
Mr. John Kistler	Mrs. Kathy Scott
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Willard	Mr. Jamie Ballentine
Mrs. Janie Lawley	Mr. Mark Moldenhauer
Mrs. Jacquie Imle	Mr. Duane Anderson
Mr. Rick Matiya	Mrs. Mary Toutonghi
Mrs. Donna Austin	Mrs. Nancy Rollins
Mrs. Karen Mahurin	Mrs. Sharon Mook
Miss Deedra Grubb	
Others present not identified.	

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Dimmick called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mrs. Dimmick invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Miss Deedra Grubb, Skyview High School student, sang the "Star Spangled Banner".

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Betty Obendorf	Absent - Excused
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 February 1, 1993, were approved with a correction.

HEARING OF  
DELEGATIONS:

Mrs. Leonara Johnson, parent, told the Board that procedures should be developed whereby parents would be notified of all speakers in school classes. She commented that parents cannot use the opt out procedures when they are not informed of all speakers, whether it be in health or English literature classes. She objected to recent teaching by a Socratic speaker relating to the interpretation of a text based on personal values. She felt this paralleled the New Age philosophy. Her second concern related to applause at the last meeting being restricted to speakers under "Hearing of Delegations" and Nikiski Jr/Sr High School speakers, but a presentation by Homer Middle School students was applauded. She felt the Board should decide one way or another to make it fair to all who speak or have presentations at the meetings.

Mr. Wiley commented there was a difference when students' performances were part of an official report and students speaking under the "Hearing of Delegations" section on the agenda.

COMMUNICATIONS AND  
PETITIONS:

Mrs. Dimmick acknowledged receipt of a letter from a Seward parent who wrote in objection to the district's policy on drug testing, especially as it relates to rapid eye and urinalysis testing. The parent felt this was a privacy issue.

AWARDS AND  
PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Dimmick presented Plaques of Appreciation to Larry Willard, Special Services Aide, Sears Elementary; and Donna Austin, Kindergarten, Chapman Elementary School, for their outstanding contributions to their students and schools.

1993-94 BUDGET:

Dr. Holmes presented the 1993-94 school budget to the school board. The budget included state, local, grant and special revenues for a total amount of \$76,577,508. He stated this was a bare-bones budget, with no unallocated positions provided. He did not feel it was a viable budget to run the education program, and encouraged parent groups, staff and concerned individuals to contact the legislators about increased funding and changes in the cost differential. He noted the Board held a worksession prior to the meeting on the budget and will hold a joint worksession with the Borough Assembly on February 16 for a complete review of the document. Public hearings had previously been held in Kenai, Homer and Seward. He expressed appreciation to the Budget Review Committee for their time and efforts in preparation of the preliminary budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:

Dr. Holmes reported interviews for principals will be held in Anchor Point on February 22, Homer on February 24 and 27, and Nikolaevsk on March 2. He noted the Ninilchik principal vacancy has been advertised, and the Board would be apprised of progress there.



**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:**

Dr. Holmes noted the Board and administration had received criticism on the location for the Strategic Planning sessions. He commented there was misinformation on the amount of money to be spent on the sessions. He announced that in an effort to be responsive to the community, the planning sessions would be relocated to the Kenai Visitor's Center. The change of location would result in an insignificant difference in cost, and the sessions will remain as scheduled for March 8, 9, 10. He noted the July 1 through December, 1993 portion for strategic planning would be privately funded. He commented the decision to change the location was made concurrently with the school board during their afternoon worksession.

**LEGISLATIVE ISSUES:**

Mrs. Dimmick commented the Board will direct its attention mainly to seeking increases in the foundation formula during this legislative session. She noted the district would benefit from a change in the cost differential for Alaskan school districts, however, it did not appear that this legislation was receiving much attention in the legislature.

**RAZDOLNA ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL REPORT:**

Mr. Robert Bell, Razdolna Elementary Principal/Teacher, reported to the Board on his K-8 school located at the head of Kachemak Bay. He gave a slide presentation on the progression of the nine year educational program at this Russian village. He noted the first school opened on February 29, 1984 in a house basement, two years later moved to a partitioned one-room school built by the residents, and three years ago an addition was made to the school. He noted 35 students attend the school and are provided classes aligned with the district's curriculum.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Mr. Swarner presented the financial report of the district for the period ended January 30, 1993.

**AUDIT REPORT:**

Mr. Swarner presented the audit report for the 1991-92 school year. The report included sections on comments from the independent accountants, financial statements, specific funds, and statistical data.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Teacher Assignments, Extended Field Trip Request, Inservice Training Release Time, and 1993-94 Inservice Days.

**TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS:**

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve teaching assignments for Deborah Olson, Special Education/Severe Education, Seward Jr/Sr High, temporary; Tamara Smid, Grades K-8, Beluga Elementary, temporary; and Patrick Lamb, Grades 7-12, Mathematics/Social Studies/Business Education/Career Counseling, Susan B. English Elem/High, temporary.

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP  
REQUEST:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve an extended field trip request for eight Ninilchik Elem/High School students to travel to Washington, D.C., April 17-24, 1993, for Close-Up Program activities.

INSERVICE TRAINING  
RELEASE TIME:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve an inservice release day on April 19, 1993, for Soldotna Elementary School staff to work on Medic First Aid Training as part of the Earthquake Preparedness Program.

1993-94 INSERVICE  
DAYS:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve nine days during the 1993-94 school year as inservice release days. The days were August 18-20, September 27, October 11, November 15, January 17, February 21, and April 25. Wherever possible the days were combined with holidays so families could spend the time together.

ACTION

Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Wiley seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT EXPULSION:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board expel a Homer High School student for the 1993-94 school year for violation of Policy 007.21 related to threatening actions, and Policy 007.14 related to possession of firearms on school campus. She noted the Board conducted a hearing earlier in the day on this.

ACTION

Mrs. Gross moved the Board uphold the administration's recommendation on the expulsion of the Homer High School student with the condition that the student undergo a complete psychological evaluation and meet with the district team to set up an educational plan before re-admission. Mr. Massie seconded.

VOTE:

YES - Arness, Gross, Massie, Tauriainen, Wiley, Dimmick  
Advisory Vote - ABSTAIN

Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN KPAA  
NEGOTIATIONS:

Dr. Holmes requested the Board postpone action again on opening negotiations with KPAA since the administration and KPAA wish to address the topic informally until the advent of formal negotiations.

Mr. John Kistler told the Board that information should be available to the public on the discussions since they relate to salaries, based on language in the current negotiated agreement. He expressed concern that any increases in the foundation formula would go towards salary increases, and could possibly affect the number of teachers in the classroom.



OPEN KPAA  
NEGOTIATIONS (cont.)

Mr. Mark Moldenhauer questioned whether the public would be allowed to attend the informal sessions. Dr. Holmes responded these would not be on the format of negotiations and no ground rules would be set; instead, the talks would be in generalities. If the discussions came to formal negotiations, a determination would be made by legal counsel as to public attendance. Nothing would be finalized without the knowledge of the Board and public.

ACTION

Mr. Wiley moved to postpone action until March 15. Mr. Arness seconded.

Mr. Tauriainen questioned if it had been determined whether terms of the negotiations precluded open negotiations. Dr. Holmes responded an inquiry has been made, but local legal counsel had not had an opportunity to review the contract.

Mrs. Gross questioned whether this was a request from KPAA for negotiations. Dr. Holmes responded this was a formality to open the contract which is required by a certain date set in the negotiated agreement.

Mr. Wiley questioned where the Board stood with a cap on insurance for the administrators. Dr. Holmes stated currently the insurance is not capped and will not be discussed until the contract is reopened in 1994. Mr. Wiley stated he understood that when the teachers accepted a cap on insurance the administrators would follow suit. Dr. Holmes responded the administrators settled their contract beforehand.

Mrs. Dimmick questioned whether teams of board members and administrators would be formed when formal negotiations open. Dr. Holmes stated he would check with legal counsel on this.

Motion carried unanimously.

1993-94 ADMINISTRATOR  
CONTRACTS:

Dr. Holmes recommended the following administrator assignments be made for the 1993-94 school year: Kathy Clark, Principal/Teacher, Bartlett Elem/High; (vacant), Chapman Elementary; Pat Dye, Lead Teacher, Cooper Landing Elementary; (vacant), Principal, Homer High; Mike Bundy, Assistant Principal, Homer High; Rick Ladd, Principal, Homer Intermediate; Lincoln Saito, Principal, Homer Junior High; Paul Kubena, Principal/Teacher, Hope Elementary; Gary Jackson, Principal, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary; Dave Spence, Principal, Kenai Central High; William Overturf, Assistant Principal, Kenai Central High; Paul Sorenson, Principal, Kenai Middle; (vacant), Assistant Principal (half-time), Kenai Middle; Sara Peterson, Principal, McNeil Canyon Elementary; Glen Szymoniak, Principal/Teacher, Moose Pass Elementary; Thomas Thorpe, Principal, Mountain View Elementary; Betty



1993-94 ADMINISTRATOR  
CONTRACTS (cont.):

Leonard, Principal, Nikiski Elementary; Robert Bellmore, Principal, Nikiski Jr/Sr High; Don Glaze, Assistant Principal, Nikiski Jr/Sr High; (vacant), Principal, Nikolaevsk Elem/High; (vacant), Ninilchik Elem/High; Jan Hall, Principal, North Star Elementary; Lewis McLin, Principal, Paul Banks Elementary; Richard DeLorenzo, Lead Teacher, Port Graham Elem/High; Robert Bell, Principal/Teacher, Razdolna Elementary; Larry Nauta, Principal, Redoubt Elementary; Jacquie Imle, Principal, Sears Elementary; Roger Sampson, Principal, Seward Elementary; Malcolm Fleming, Principal, Seward Jr/Sr High; Stephen Wilcox, Assistant Principal (half-time), Seward Jr/Sr High; Marlene Byerly, Principal, Skyview High; Todd Syverson, Assistant Principal, Skyview High; Carolyn Cannava, Principal, Soldotna Elementary; Ken Meacham, Principal, Soldotna High; Mark Norgren, Assistant Principal, Soldotna High; Daryl Kellum, Principal, Soldotna Junior High; Carl Miller, Assistant Principal, Soldotna Junior High; Sam Bushon, Principal, Sterling Elementary; Michael Smith, Principal, Susan B. English Elem/High; Mick Wykis, Principal, Tustumena Elementary; Dave Evans, Lead Teacher, Voznesenka Elementary; John Dahlgren, Associate Superintendent, Planning, Operations and Technology; Mary Rubadeau, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction; Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management; Sharon Radtke, Executive Director, Personnel; Rick Matiya, Director, Alternative Schooling/Bilingual Program; Jim White, Director, Data Processing; Diane Borgman, Director, Elementary Education; Paul Epperson, Director, Secondary Education; Don Boehmer, Director, Special Services; Mary Armstrong, Director, Staff Development and Grants Administration; Sandra Watson, Coordinator, Federal Programs; Mo Scott, Coordinator, Grants/Parent Involvement; and Fred Esposito, Coordinator, Vocational Education. Assignments for English Bay and Kachemak Selo will be presented at a later date.

ACTION

Mr. Massie moved the Board approve the 1993-94 Administrator Assignments. Mr. Wiley seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING/POLICY  
REVISIONS:

Mrs. Rubadeau presented the first reading on revisions to policies 003.121R, Field Trips, and 007.11R, Student Handbook. She noted the Board held a worksession on the field trip policy and a section had been added at the request of the Board for field trips. She noted a small change was made to the student handbook policy to clarify that parents and students receive the information in the handbooks.

Mrs. Jacquie Imle, Sears Elementary Principal, stated she was pleased specific guidelines for field trips abroad were being considered by the Board. She questioned how funding for chaperone substitutes would be covered. Mrs. Rubadeau responded substitutes for required certified chaperones on a trip could be covered from various accounts such as extra-



FIRST READING/POLICY  
REVISIONS (cont.):

curricular, 30 funds or other funding sources. The building principals initiate the requests and substitute funding is to be verified prior to travel. Mrs. Imle also questioned whether there was a PTR formula for the number of chaperones on field trips abroad. Mrs. Rubadeau responded these are outlined in KPSAA extracurricular guidelines and is somewhat flexible given the age of the students. If the chaperone is a school district employee, the type of leave would vary from extracurricular leave, professional leave, instructional leave or personal leave, depending on the funding sources.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, suggested a minor revision be made to the student handbook policy by adding the word "and" following #1, to assure the student handbooks have been read. Mr. Tauriainen concurred with Mr. Kistler's suggestion. Mrs. Rubadeau responded administrators are unable to follow up on all parents/guardians returning the signed forms.

PUBLIC  
PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Mark Moldenhauer, Sterling parent, offered copies of a recent insert to the Peninsula Clarion on "In Defense of Virginity" to the Board. He felt the article contained excellent information which focuses on the family, and teen sexuality for the past twenty years.

Mrs. Sharon Mook, Borough Assembly Member, told the Board the Assembly would be awarding resolutions to Nikiski High School, Kenai Central High, and Soldotna High commending their students on recent basketball accomplishments at state tournaments. She also apprised the Board of the ongoing Junior Achievement Program at Kenai Central High and Soldotna High. She noted the Kenai Central High group assembled first aide kits which are available for \$7.00.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, told the Board his children attend Kenai Central High and Kenai Middle School where both schools mailed complete information packets to all parents on the district's opt out procedures and class information on the health curriculum. He further commented that all adults should understand the difference between testimony and student performance where applause is appropriate at meetings. He concluded his comments that parents have previously gone to the legislature to secure additional school funding, but the funds went to increased salaries. He felt parents should not continue this procedure unless it effects the PTR.

Mrs. Leonra Johnson, parent, stated she received a copy of the health curriculum information from Skyview High School, but no mention was made when special speakers like Planned Parenthood would visit the class. She stated she was not informed of the Socratic speaker, and felt the opt out procedure was an aversion to finding out what is wrong with the curriculum. Mr. Wiley questioned what she found objection-



**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**  
(continued):

able about the speakers. Mrs. Johnson stated she felt this was part of the New Age philosophy, a combination of sexual humanism and medieval Middle East religions. She stated she contacted several school district administrator's who were unable to give her specific information on the speaker.

Dr. Holmes stated there was a misconception on the information by a speaker and commented the district received \$900,000 additional funding on the unit value last year. Approximately 97% of those funds were allocated to educational programs and 3% went to salary increases.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

Mr. Jackson reported Skyview High School was holding their second Senior Citizens Ball of the year tonight at the school.

Mr. Tauriainen stated he appreciated Mrs. Johnson's comments and felt parents should be informed of speakers on topics which could affect a student's emotional or physical health.

He stated he had the privilege of accompany the Soldotna Junior High School band to the National Music Educators Meeting in Portland recently.

Mrs. Gross requested Mrs. Rubadeau to explain about the speaker, Mike Strong, and the problem of screening all outside people that participate in the classroom. She noted the district has been encouraging parents to help in the classrooms, which would mean that notification of any classroom volunteer would be mailed to parents. The Board had agreed on sending notices of speakers for the health education curriculum and anything else would not be a practical working system. Mrs. Rubadeau agreed with Mrs. Gross' comments on volunteers to the classroom, and added that speakers are approved through the principal. She reported that Mr. Strong is hired through the Alaska Humanities Project from Anchorage and the district feels fortunate to have the benefit of this person in the district. He works on a seminar approach to learning based on research at John Hopkins University. The program is widely used in the Anchorage School District and those schools which use the Paideia instructional method. Mr. Strong has worked in the Homer area for the past year and a half as part of the Ready to Work grants and matching grant through the Alaska Humanities Program. In addition, he is a co-presenter in the classroom for those teachers taking the college courses in this teaching methodology. She felt this was an ideal staff development initiative. Parents, students and teachers in the Homer area have been extremely pleased with the results of this effort and have written testimonials on it. She noted all area principals have received information



BOARD COMMENTS  
(continued):

on the program and speaker. Mrs. Gross stated the method has been successful in drawing students who are hesitant into class discussions. This is a method whereby the individuals must defend their personal positions on an issue in a discussion format.

Mr. Massie complimented Mrs. Moock for her work with the Junior Achievement Class. He commented he felt this was a worthwhile class.

Mr. Wiley stated openings for teaching positions should be advertised in the local newspapers. He commended the local basketball teams on their recent success at the state tournaments. He felt the district was well represented in all state tournaments. He stated parents should be informed of speakers on sensitive subjects. He noted the drug testing policy has been a big issue in Seward, and requested a report on how the policy has effected the district since it was instituted.

Mrs. Dimmick stated she attended the North Star PTA meeting recently where the Strategic Planning video was shown. Parents and staff were in support of the process.

She commented she was impressed with Soldotna High School's Renaissance Assembly and Swing Choir banquet and concert held recently.

Mrs. Dimmick requested the Board's policy on agenda format be reviewed. She noted the Board had received criticism on misuse of the term for "Hearing of Delegations". The Board concurred with the request. Mr. Tauriainen noted the policy had been reviewed last year.

She stated that applause at school board meetings is not addressed in policy, but is a distracting factor at meetings. She felt applause should be withheld except in cases of school or student presentations.

Mrs. Dimmick reminded the Board of the joint worksession with the Borough Assembly at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16.

She announced the next School Board Meeting would be held on March 1.



MINUTES  
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ADJOURN: At 9:44 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty L. Obendorf  
Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President

Michael Tauriainen  
Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk

The Minutes of February 15, 1993,  
were approved on March 1, 1993,  
with a correction.