

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Homer High School
Homer, Alaska 99603

April 5, 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: Mrs. Mary Rubadeau, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services
Mrs. Sharon Radtke, Executive Director, Personnel
Mr. Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Serve Wilson Mr. Louis Gjoslund
Mrs. Mary Armstrong Mr. Don Heckert
Mrs. Jane Simmons Mrs. Diane Borgman
Mr. Mark Robinson Mr. Steve Gibson
Mr. Lewis McLin Mr. Rick Matiya
Mr. Mike Bundy Mrs. Sandra Holmes
Mr. Rick Ladd Mr. Robert Bell
Mr. Burt Anderson Mr. Drew Scalzi
Mr. Pat Case Mrs. Kim Duggar
Mrs. Angela McKinney Mrs. Guyline Rogers
Mrs. Sue Strutz Mrs. Barbara Hayes
Mrs. Susan Drathman Mrs. Dixie Armstrong
Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Obendorf called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mrs. Obendorf invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Homer High Show Choir sang the National Anthem.

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 | Absent - Excused |

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board Minutes of March 15, 1993, were approved as written.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

Ms. Dixie Armstrong, Laidlaw Transit special education bus driver, requested the Board make provisions in their transportation bids where special education drivers would receive raises after their fifth year of service. She also requested the school district coordinate vacation days with state holidays when highways are safely maintained.

HOMER PAC:

Mr. Don Heckert, Homer area PAC President, welcomed the Board to Homer. He expressed appreciation to the Board for their support of renovations to the Homer Junior High swimming pool area. He requested that the project continue as a multi-purpose room. He noted the governance advisory project is active in the Homer schools. He felt that strategic planning was off to a good start and the idea on redistricting appeared to be a good idea, but the public needed more information on the topic.

PAUL BANKS ELEMENTARY PTO:

Mrs. Barbara Hayes, PTO president at Paul Banks Elementary, requested the staffing for Paul Banks Elementary be re-examined based on the projected enrollment. She noted the Homer area is growing and enrollment is increasing daily. She requested that 1.5 of the three scheduled teachers for staff reduction remain at the school. She felt the increasing enrollment would account for this reallocation of staff.

Mrs. Sue Strutz, Paul Banks Elementary parent, expressed concern about Paul Banks Elementary losing three teachers next year. She commented there would be a great deal of stress on the students and staff in reducing and later returning teachers to the classroom. She requested the projections for the 1993-94 school year be reconsidered.

HOMER INTERMEDIATE PTO:

Mr. Pat Case, Homer Intermediate School PTO president and Legislative Vice President for the Kenai Peninsula Council of PTA's, commented it was good to have the Board tour their facility during the afternoon. He noted the transition to that school was a temporary measure eight years ago until a new facility would be built. No new facility has been built and he commended the staff for managing their classes in the old facility. He noted there are numerous overcrowding and maintenance problems which are threatening to the students.

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HOMER INTERMEDIATE PTO
 (continued):

Mr. Case commented it would be appreciated if two portable classrooms are moved to the site next year. He also expressed frustration with the projected enrollments and teachers needed when additional students arrive at the schools. He asked that funds be made available for unallocated positions for expanded enrollments. He commented that many private preschools in the area have students who enter the public school system which creates overcrowded classes.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Obendorf presented a Plaque of Appreciation to Deborah Poore, Paul Banks Elementary teacher, for her dedication to education in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District for the past 17 years. The Board also honored Jerry Hanson, Port Graham custodian, with a Plaque of Appreciation which will be awarded to him at his school.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mrs. Rubadeau reported formal principal interviews for Ninilchik Elem/High will be conducted on April 20, North Star Elementary on April 27 and English Bay Elem/High on May 6.

She announced HB 85 has gained support and expressed appreciation to the public in the Homer area for their participation in the legislative conferences. She noted this legislative bill will be beneficial to the KPBSD.

Mrs. Rubadeau extended appreciation to Steve Gibson, Lewis McLin and Louis Gjoslund for their work on the Site Based Decision Making Committee.

CHAPMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 REPORT:

Mr. Serve Wilson, Principal of Chapman Elementary School, reported to the Board on events at his school. He noted a brochure on Chapman Elementary School was recently completed which records the history of the school. He stated accreditation for the school should be complete by the end of the school year. He commented that students from Chapman Elementary have been champions at borough and state levels in both athletics and academics. The show choir under the direction of Bradley Twait entertained the Board and audience with "One Moment in Time" and "Tabloid Times". Mr. Wilson expressed appreciation for having the opportunity to serve the school for the past ten years.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Alaska 2000 Statement of Support, Resignations/Certified, Substitute Teacher Contract, Sick Leave Requests/Certified, Early Graduation Request, Grant Applications, and Extended Field Trip Request.

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- ALASKA 2000 STATEMENT OF SUPPORT: Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve a memorandum endorsing HB 84 and SB 61 which support the Alaska 2000 project.
- RESIGNATIONS/CERTIFIED: Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve resignations from Gayle Daugherty, Special Education/Speech, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary; Jan Hall, Principal, North Star Elementary; and Carolyn Cochran, Special Education/Resource, Kenai Central High, effective the end of the 1992-93 school year.
- SUBSTITUTE TEACHER CONTRACT: Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve a contract for 19-day substitute teacher Bev Stolen, Kindergarten, Paul Banks Elementary.
- SICK LEAVE REQUESTS/CERTIFIED: Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve draws from the KPEA Sick Leave Bank for Deborah Best, Grade 1, Redoubt Elementary, 60 days; and Lisa Schmitter, Counselor, Soldotna Junior High, 24 days.
- EARLY GRADUATION REQUEST: Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve an early graduation request for a Nikiski High School junior.
- GRANT APPLICATIONS: Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve grant applications for the following programs: Migrant Education/Parent Involvement Grant Amendment, \$4,000; Incentive Grant/School Based Intervention Teams, \$5,000; ESEA Chapter 2, Block Grants/The Instructional Center, \$98,223; ESEA Chapter 1/Tutor Project, \$857,558; ESEA Chapter 1 Neglected or Delinquent/Kenai Care Center, \$10,885; Migrant Education Program, \$334,109; Community Schools Program, \$42,515; and the Bilingual Plan of Service.
- EXTENDED FIELD TRIP REQUEST: Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve an extended field trip request for 2 Soldotna High DECA Club students to travel to Orlando, Florida, April 29-May 5, 1993 to compete at the National DECA Conference.
- Mr. Tauriainen requested item #1, Approval of Alaska 2000 Statement of Support, be considered separately.
- ACTION Mrs. Dimmick moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items #2 through #7. Mr. Massie seconded.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- ACTION Mr. Massie moved the Board approve the Statement of Support for Alaska 2000. Mrs. Gross seconded.

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ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved to amend the motion to delete the second paragraph related to increasing the school term and substitute "oppose an increase in number of days in the school year until such time as the learning time of students is increased not just the contact time". Motion died for lack of a second.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved to amend the motion to strike the first sentence and part of the second sentence on tenure and substitute, "Tenure no longer serves the public or student interests, however, until further restricted or eliminated the Kenai Peninsula Borough School Board recommends that this section also address the need for an additional year prior to granting tenure. We support increasing the probationary period prior to acquisition of tenure." Motion died for lack of a second.

Mrs. Obendorf stated the student representative called her to say he approved of the remarks about Alaska 2000 but felt that two or three more years should be required before tenure is granted.

ACTION

Mrs. Dimmick moved to amend the motion to send the statement of support in resolution form to the members of the House and Senate from this district as well as the Senate President, Speaker of the House, HESS Committee of each body, Commissioner of Education and Governor. Mrs. Gross seconded.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

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

Amendment carried.

Mr. Wiley spoke in favor of the amended motion noting he was previously critical of administrator's position which did not favor the Alaska 2000 program. However, changes have since been made in the final Alaska 2000 proposal which address concerns on charter schools and teacher tenure. He noted the Board had reviewed the proposal prior to their last meeting. Mrs. Obendorf also spoke in favor of the resolution since the process has allowed changes where she and other members of the school community and public expressed concern.

CONSENT AGENDA
 (continued):

VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION:

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

Amended motion carried.

1993-94 TENTATIVE TENURE
 TEACHER ASSIGNMENT:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the following tentative tenure teacher assignment for the 1993-94 school year be approved:

Homer High School
 Robert Macaulay

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board approve the tentative tenure teacher assignment. Mrs. Dimmick seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Angela McKinney, Anchor Point parent, requested the Board look into safer conditions for parking and loading and unloading of students at Chapman Elementary School.

Mrs. Kim Duggar, parent, expressed concern on the student-teacher ratio and enrollment projections. She requested projected enrollments be re-evaluated to relieve stress in planning for the proper amount of teachers.

Mrs. Guyline Rogers, parent, commented the lunch program at Homer Intermediate School served 205 students last week. She requested that hot lunch not be eliminated for the junior high school students.

Mrs. Mika Livingston, Laidlaw Transit school bus driver, commented that bus drivers are satisfied with the current contract with Laidlaw, but they were concerned that a revenue contract will be bid next year. Drivers were concerned they would be starting over on the wage scale with the bid going to the lowest bid. She suggested a wage proposal be included in the proposal as a guideline for all companies applying for the bid. She noted most companies would lose experienced drivers where safety is their prime concern. She felt the level of standards would be reduced with the lack of experienced drivers.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
(continued):

Mrs. Susan Drathman, parent, commented that it is disruptive to the school when the staff changes annually. She stated she works as a respite care coordinator for the Community Mental Health Center where she trains special education drivers to deal with student behavioral problems. She noted drivers are continually trained because they leave the special education buses for regular buses in order to gain pay raises.

Mrs. Debra Germano stated she agreed with the student representative that teacher tenure status should be extended for a longer period. She noted that if the price index bill is approved the budget should be reviewed by the communities in view of cocurricular travel, supplies and staffing. She asked that the strategic planning teams be relocated to other parts of the district other than the Kenai-Soldotna area.

Mrs. Kathy Holt, Kasilof parent, expressed concern about Section 7 of HB 85 related to Gifted/Talented education. She commented that she felt Gifted/Talented students needed special services and this section should be deleted in other legislation.

Mr. Rick Ladd, Homer Intermediate School principal, reported the school's Knowledge Master Team placed first in peninsula and state, and 50th of 823 in national competition.

Mr. Pat Chase, Homer Intermediate PTO chairperson, expressed concern that Homer Junior High School band students are automatically excluded from art, home ec., shop, and Project Adventure classes. He noted that students begin band training in Grades 4-5 with an expensive instrument purchased and then must make a choice between other subjects of interest or band at the junior high school level. Mrs. Gross commented this is a scheduling problem and suggested this be discussed at the school level.

Mrs. Obendorf commented a number of concerns had been expressed on the projected enrollments, and requested Mr. Swarner, Business Manager, to explain the process used in determining these figures. Mr. Swarner responded that the enrollment projections are modified from enrollment data received from each building administrator, a straight line projection, his projection and actual attendance. The administrative staff reviews this information, considers local economic trends and growth, five-year enrollments and then formulates the projected enrollment. He noted that Paul Banks Elementary is overstaffed according to the

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
(continued):

staffing formula and without funding relief no additional staff will be forthcoming. He commented the KPBSD has the highest PTR in the state and the lowest teacher average salaries. In addition, the supply formula is the same as for 1978-79. He stated he appreciated the concerns expressed, but there did not appear to be enough additional students to warrant a change in the enrollment projections. He noted, however, that the situation would be monitored. He stated that enrollment and staffing information are available from the building administrators.

Mrs. Dimmick commented the student enrollment count for April 5 indicated that Paul Banks Elementary School is 18.5 students under projection.

Mr. Wiley stated that a review of the projections for the past six years have been quite accurate overall.

Mr. Lewis McLin, Paul Banks Elementary principal, reported that his school opened the year with 312 students which was under projection. He noted since then the enrollment has grown to 347 students, still below the projected enrollment. The concern of parents was that the 1993-94 enrollment appeared low and the school would have three teachers. Parents were concerned that programs might be eliminated, but were important for the education of the students.

Mrs. Debra Germano commented that she hoped the Board would address legislation related to the gifted/talented issue.

An unidentified individual thanked that Board for holding their meeting in Homer. She expressed concern related to legislation on gifted/talented students. She commented she was pleased with the Homer Middle School swimming pool remodeled project.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Wiley expressed appreciation to the Board for allowing him to represent them at the NBSA Convention in Anaheim. He noted he received a great deal of information which he would share with board members at a future worksession.

He requested the Board hold a worksession to discuss a resolution to send to the legislature on the change of funding for smaller Alaskan school districts.

Mr. Wiley commented the school district operates the buses in Seward and both regular and special education drivers receive the same salaries. He felt guidelines could be put in a new contract.

BOARD COMMENTS
(continued):

Mr. Wiley reported the borough assembly will be considering redistricting school board seats which, if approved, would be presented on the October ballot. He urged the public to contact their assembly members regarding this issue.

Mr. Tauriainen urged the Board to continue the practice of approving early graduation requests when students present reasonable cases for this.

Mrs. Gross thanked the Board for sending her to the NSBA Convention which was an exciting, educational experience for her. She noted the conference featured excellent key note speakers such as Secretary of Education Richard Riley, Peter Ueberroth, and Margaret Thatcher. She noted that having completed strategic planning for the district, she was pleased to see that other schools in the nation are involved in programs and activities which the strategic planning committee would like to introduce in the KPBSD.

Mrs. Dimmick announced the basic funding bill has passed the legislature and is awaiting the governor's approval. She noted the most important legislation to the district now is the Alaska Price Index bill where the KPBSD would receive some additional funding. She noted the gifted/talented legislation is receiving attention statewide, and suggested parents write to the legislature on this. She commented the Board will hold a worksession at the next meeting and reminded the members to bring their materials from the last meeting.

Mrs. Obendorf expressed appreciation to Homer for hosting the school board meeting. She thanked Mr. Saito and Mr. Ladd for providing the Board with tours of their buildings prior to the meeting. She stated she was pleased to see the construction at the junior high pool area being completed.

She noted the Policy Review Committee will meet on Wednesday, April 7. The committee will review the policy on the school board meeting agenda.

She reported an AASB Fly-in will be held in Juneau later this month where she and Mrs. Dimmick will represent the Board.

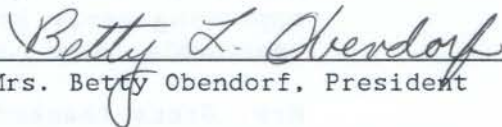
Mrs. Obendorf announced the next school board meeting will be held in Soldotna on Monday, April 19.

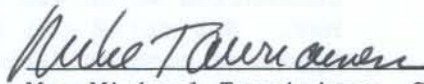
ADJOURN:

At 9:24 p.m., Mrs. Dimmick moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President


Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk

The Minutes of April 5, 1993,
were approved on April 19, 1993,
with a correction.