

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 N. Binkley Street  
Soldotna, AK 99669

October 1, 2001

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

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

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Melody Douglas, Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Gary Whiteley, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction  
Mr. Todd Syverson, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ralph Steeves	Mr. Steve Pautz
Mr. Marc Swanson	Mr. Sam Stewart
Ms. Carol Griswold	Ms. Terri Woodward
Ms. Leanne Marlow	Mr. David Kingsland
Mr. Rick Matiya	Mr. John Cote'
Mrs. Paula Christensen	Mr. Jim White
Ms. Martha Fleming	Ms. Katie Turnbull

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Germano called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Deborah Germano	Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Mrs. Sandra Wassilie	Present
Mr. Al Poindexter	Present
Miss Katie Lockwood	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved with revisions to Consent Agenda Item 10a. (4), Resignation, and Item 10a.(6), Outsourcing of Student Activity Programs and the deletion of Item 4a., BP Teacher of Excellence Program presentation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board Minutes of September 10, 2001, were approved as printed.

SCHOOL REPORTS:

Ms. Germano noted that Mr. Ralph Steeves, Moose Pass Elementary School principal/teacher, gave a school report prior to the start of the business meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Dr. Peterson reported that the October 2001 *Alaska Magazine* published an article concerning a Soldotna Middle School fishing project.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Peterson reported that the Borough Reapportionment Committee will meet on October 18 and noted that part of the committee discussion will concern districting of the School Board. She announced that the District administration has been conducting individual meetings with legislators and are tentatively planning to meet together in a large group on December 3. She announced that there will be a meeting with principals on October 2 regarding the status of student travel outside of the District in response to the September 11 tragedy. Dr. Peterson reported that on Friday, September 28 the administration interviewed six applicants for the Human Resources director position. She stated that the administration will conduct a second round of interviews and will have a decision by the end of October. She welcomed Miss Katie Lockwood, student representative to the Board. She reported that Miss Lockwood was elected during the recent Student Government Conference. Dr. Peterson welcomed Mrs. Douglas to her new position as the Chief Financial Officer. She noted that as part of the changes at Central Office, staff office space is being reorganized and asked the Board to be patient.

## Financial Report:

Mrs. Douglas presented the financial report of the District for the period ending August 31, 2001. She noted that the 2001-2002 general fund budget is \$1.2 million over the approved amount which is the amount given by the state legislature in Learning Opportunity grant money. She explained that the District is required to account for the grant money in the operating fund. She stated that after the twenty-day count period the budget will return to the Board for a formal revision and adoption.

Mrs. Wassilie asked where the public could access the District budget document. Mrs. Douglas responded that each school and public library has a copy and that copies are available at Central Office.

## BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Wassilie reported that she attended the Health Curriculum Review Committee meeting on September 25. She noted that the group agreed that the curriculum should be more specific and user friendly. Mrs. Wassilie stated that Ms. Germano is serving on the secondary education subcommittee and she is serving on the elementary education subcommittee. She reported that she attended the Spring Creek High School graduation ceremony and the Youth Offender Program graduation ceremony (the first in the state). Mrs. Wassilie stated that she was pleased to see so many families attend the ceremony. She reported that there are 55 youth offenders in the program.

Mrs. Crawford reported that she attended the Student Government Conference at Nikiski High School. She reported that she participated in the Alaska Democracy Project and announced that October 13-19 is Alaska Democracy Week. She added that the Lt. Governor has asked all elected public officials to visit schools and speak to students about the democratic process.

Mr. Poindexter reported that he attended the School-to-Career Advisory Committee and that during the meeting the committee tentatively approved grants for \$20,000 each to Homer High and Soldotna High and grants for \$5,000 each to Homer Middle, Ninilchik Elementary/High, and Port Graham Elementary/High. He noted that the group has expressed an interest in being a part of the vocational education worksession in March.

## BOARD REPORTS (continued):

Mr. Arness reported that he attended the Large District Forum meeting in Anchorage. He noted that a report of the meeting was included in the Board information packet. He stated that Mr. Hickey's letter to Senator Donley was presented to the group. He stated that he attended a KPSAA meeting Friday, September 28 and noted that the group spent the day reviewing the outsourcing contract. He reported that he attended another meeting of the ad hoc group investigating the feasibility of building an all-weather outdoor field for sporting events. He stated that the group will meet again on Wednesday, October 3. He stated that the response from schools regarding the facility has been negative.

Ms. Germano reported that she and Dr. Peterson attended the Advocates for Education meeting. She stated that the discussion centered on funding and addressing the issue with the legislature. She stated that those who attended the meeting will speak to their own education community and meet again in November to address the issue further.

## CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Homer Land Requests, Primary Sponsor of Gaming Permits, Long-Term Substitute, Resignation, New Teacher Assignments, Outsourcing of Student Activity Programs, Administrative Recommendation Regarding Leave of Absence Requests – Support, Approval of Budget Transfer.

## Homer Land Requests:

By memorandum, Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve a recommendation to declare the uppermost 30 feet of Homer Middle School property for the purpose of expanding the existing roadway and the Homer High School property necessary for connecting Fairview and Heath streets. He further requested the remaining campus property of Homer Middle School and Homer High School be retained for current or future School District purposes and use.

## Primary Sponsor of Gaming Permits:

Mrs. Douglas recommended the Board approve a list of primary and alternative members in charge of gaming for those schools applying for gaming permits for 2001-2002.

## Long-Term Substitute:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve long-term substitute teaching contracts for Dawn Brighton, English, Kenai Central High and for Raquel Pisa, special education/preschool, Sears Elementary.

## ResignationS:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve the resignation of Cathie Schmelzenbach, QUEST, Pupil Services districtwide (effective October 26, 2001) and Susan Bunting, speech pathologist, West Homer Elementary.

## New Teacher Assignments:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a teacher assignment for the 2001-2002 school year for Gail Frasher, (temporary), special education/resource, Skyview High.

## Approval of Budget TransferS:

Mrs. Melody Douglas recommended the Board approve budget transfer Numbers 38 and 40 that respectively transfers \$60,210 and \$37,222 to cover the cost of an additional teacher and an administrator for Aurora Borealis Charter School.

Mr. Syverson asked the Board to remove Consent Agenda Item Number 10a.(7), Leave of Absence – Support.

## ACTION

Mr. Poindexter moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 5 and 8. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Approval of Budget TransferS (continued):

Motion carried unanimously.

Administrative Recommendation

Regarding Leave of Absence Requests – Support:

Mr. Todd Syverson recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence request for Mary-Ellen Johnson, special education assistant/resource, Redoubt Elementary (effective 10/16/01) and to remove Michelle Waldren’s request.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence request for Mary-Ellen Johnson, special education assistant/resource, Redoubt Elementary (effective 10/16/01). Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Outsourcing of Student Activity Programs:

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve the substitute Outsourcing Contract. Mr. Pondexter seconded.

Mr. Arness reviewed changes to the Outsourcing of Student Activities Contract.

Mr. Poindexter expressed concern regarding activity scheduling and conflicts with other school events. Mr. Arness noted that the Outsourcing Contract does not state that activity groups must do their own scheduling and added that schools can assist them.

Ms. Germano expressed concern for the lack of communication between the outsourcing agencies and the schools. Dr. Peterson suggested that the words “in cooperation with the school” be added at the end of Section 8, Transportation, Travel and Scheduling.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve an amendment to add the words, “in cooperation with the District designee” at the end of Section 8, Transportation, Travel and Scheduling. Mr. Poindexter seconded.

Amendment carried unanimously.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Peterson asked the Board for clarification about whether the process for a request for outsourcing of an additional activity is halted if the site council does not support the request. Mr. Arness replied that the answer is no, and that he would consider the council’s disapproval as one item in a list of criteria as opposed to a veto. Ms. Germano and Ms. Wassilie agreed.

BP 5141.31, Students - Immunizations

Dr. Whiteley recommended the Board approve revisions to BP 5141.31, Students – Immunizations, to comply with updates to AS 4 AAC 06.055.

Ms. Wassilie moved the Board approve revisions to BP 5141.31, Students - Immunizations. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mrs. Mullins thanked the audience for attending. She thanked the students of Moose Pass Elementary for their school presentation. She welcomed Miss Lockwood to the Board and added that the Board values the student representative's opinion. She congratulated Mrs. Douglas on her new position.

Mrs. Crawford stated that she appreciated the Moose Pass Elementary presentation. She stated that she was pleased to see that a former student of hers Ms. Leanne Marlow, was hired as a teacher at Moose Pass Elementary. She congratulated Mrs. Douglas on her new position. Mrs. Crawford welcomed Miss Lockwood and added that she appreciated her comments in an earlier worksession regarding the social studies curriculum.

Mr. Arness welcomed Miss Lockwood.

Dr. Anderson welcomed Miss Lockwood. He stated that he appreciated the Dine and Discuss session. He stated that he appreciated the collegial atmosphere between the Board members during the Social Studies Curriculum review. He urged those present to vote on October 2.

Mrs. Wassilie congratulated Mrs. Douglas and welcomed Miss Lockwood. She stated that she appreciated Miss Lockwood's opinion from the student body. She reported that she attended Open House Receptions at Homer Flex and Aurora Borealis and added that she now has a much keener knowledge of what the two schools are doing. She stated that she especially likes the volunteer form used by Sterling Elementary because it outlines the events that the school offers throughout the year, and the particular tasks in which parents can be involved. She noted that she received an invitation from the Alaskans Foundation to attend the First Alaska Native Education Summit and added that she would be interested in attending.

Mr. Poindexter welcomed Miss Lockwood. Mr. Poindexter encouraged the Board and administration to continue with normal activities including student travel outside the District and added that the goal of the terrorists responsible for the September 11 tragedy is to interrupt the American way of life. He stated that it is good to be cautious but not to be intimidated and that parents can decide whether they want their child to participate in activities outside of the District. He concluded by saying that public schools are one of the biggest things that holds the nation together.

Miss Lockwood stated that she is excited to be serving as the student representative and has waited many years for the opportunity. She stated that she is excited to vote for the first time in the October 2 election.

Ms. Germano welcomed Miss Lockwood, student representative, and Mrs. Douglas, chief financial officer. She stated that she appreciated the Dine and Discuss session. Ms. Germano announced that Mrs. Crawford will serve on the Social Studies Curriculum Committee.

ADJOURN:

At 8:10 p.m., Mrs. Mullins moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Poindexter seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Ms. Deborah Germano, President

---

Mrs. Debra Mullins, Clerk

The Minutes of October 1, 2001,  
were approved on October 15, 2001  
as written.