

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

December 2, 1991

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. Ryan Rogers, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Holmes, Superintendent of Schools
 Mr. John Dahlgren, Associate Superintendent, Planning,
 Operations, and Technology
 Mrs. Mary Rubadeau, Executive Director, Instructional Services
 Mrs. Sharon Radtke, Executive Director, Personnel

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Dorothy Besch	Mr. Henry Anderson
Mr. Jim Heim	Mr. Sam Bushon
Mr. John Kistler	Mrs. Sharon Moock
Ms. Nancy Watson	Mrs. Arlene Wiley
Mr. Curtis Burnham	Mr. Ross Kendall
Mrs. Cheryl Schweigert	Mr. Edward Seims
Mrs. Barbara Eastham	Mrs. Sheryl McMichael
Mrs. Sara Hepner	Mrs. Jane Teller
Mr. Sohail Marey	Mrs. Lora Taylor
Mrs. Donna Kime	Ms. Gayle Buben

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Obendorf called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mrs. Obendorf invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Betty Obendorf	Present
Mrs. Marilyn Dimmick	Present
Mr. Michael Tauriainen	Present
Mr. Clifford Massie	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross	Present
Mr. Michael Wiley	Present
Mr. Ryan Rogers	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board Minutes of November 18, 1991, were approved as corrected.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

Dr. Holmes stated erroneous information had been reported on a local radio station related to the number of teen pregnancies in the district. He stated there was a total of seven known pregnancies in the six high schools surveyed today.

Dr. Holmes reported the Borough Assembly and School Board would meet with peninsula legislators on Thursday, November 5, 1991, at 2:00 p.m. to discuss priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

Reports were heard from committee chairpersons. Dr. Holmes reported the Budget Committee met on November 25 to discuss budget procedures and ramifications of funding levels. Budget hearings will be conducted at 7:00 p.m. in Seward on December 9, Kenai on December 11 and Homer on December 12. Mr. Dahlgren reported a draft of the Housing Committee Report has been completed and is being reviewed. It will be presented to the School Board on December 16. The Activities Committee will meet with K.P.S.A.A. on December 4 to discuss finances for school activities.

STERLING ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL REPORT:

Mr. Sam Bushon, Principal, Sterling Elementary School, presented a visual report with slides on numerous activities at his school. In addition to creative projects and special attention to students and teaching, he commented the school is fortunate to have a supportive and involved parent group. Projects of special note were the Reading is Fundamental Program, collaborative model for special education, student/class recognitions, and an innovative intramural program. He extended appreciation to the PTA for their many fund raising activities which support student activities. A recent event earned the school \$11,000. He introduced staff in attendance at the meeting who were: Edward Seims, Grade 3; Gayle Buben, Grade 4; Sheryl McMichael, Grades 5-6; Jane Teller, Resource Teacher; Cheryl Schweigert, Kindergarten; Sara Hepner, Grade 1; Sohail Marey, Physical Education/Health; Barbara Eastham, Head Secretary; Lora Taylor, Grade 1 and Donna Kime, Grade 2.

COLD WEATHER GUIDE-
LINES REPORT:

Mrs. Rubadeau reported guidelines for cold weather recess have been established in the Elementary Activities Handbooks which recommends that students do not engage in prolonged activity when the temperature is below -10 degrees including wind chill factor. She noted recent discussion with principals indicated they felt the guidelines were appropriate as a "floor temperature" and could be adjusted accordingly to individual school/class situations. Principals also agreed special considerations would be given to students with chronic illness or who are recuperating from an illness. She commented the Anchorage School District has similar guidelines whereas the Fairbanks School District uses a "floor temperature" of -20 degrees. She noted that last year there were 50 days between

COLD WEATHER GUIDE-
LINES REPORT (cont.):

November 1 and April 15 with below 0 degrees. If the guidelines were changed to 0 degrees she estimated there could be as many as 75 days of indoor recess during winter. She recommended principals continue to work with parent groups and staff using the current guidelines of -10 degrees as established in the Elementary Activities Hand- books.

Mr. Tauriainen stated he felt parents should be the ultimate decision makers on whether their child goes outdoors, but the memorandum indicated the principals would make the decision. Mrs. Rubadeau responded that parents are to make arrangements with the classroom teacher and principals deal with the situation when there are constant requests with no grounds for the request. She felt it was in the child's best interest to provide a recess time. Mr. Tauriainen added he felt parents did not need a doctor's excuse, that it was the parent's prerogative to keep their child indoors. Mr. Wiley stated he concurred with Mr. Tauriainen's statement. Mr. Arness requested the administration send a letter to principals and parent groups explaining the Board's position on allowing them some latitude on a site-by-site basis.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Extended Field Trip Requests, In-Service Requests, Australian Teacher Exchange Application, and Resignation.

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP
REQUESTS:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve extended field trip requests for 35 Kenai Middle School eighth grade students to visit Washington, D.C., March 22-27, 1992; and for 10 Nikiski High School students to participate in Close-Up activities, April 26-May 2, 1992 in Washington, D.C.

IN-SERVICE RELEASE
REQUESTS:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve in-service release requests from Nikiski Jr/Sr High School for December 7, 1992 to be used for a self-evaluation for accreditation; and for Homer Junior High School on January 31, 1992, to develop courses for their cross-curricular program.

AUSTRALIAN TEACHER
EXCHANGE APPLICATION:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve an application to the Australian Teacher Exchange Program from Dorothy Besch, Grade 3, Mountain View Elementary School. The application would be forwarded to the Department of Education for final consideration.

RESIGNATION:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve the resignation of Robert Jones, Grade 8/Mathematics, Ninilchik Elem/High School effective January 17, 1992.

CONSENT AGENDA
(continued):

Mr. Tauriainen requested Consent Agenda Item 6a (2), Approval of In-Service Release Requests, be considered separately. Mr. Wiley asked that Consent Agenda Item 6a (3), Approval of Australian Teacher Exchange Application, be removed for separate consideration.

ACTION

Mrs. Dimmick moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items #1 and #4. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Mr. Tauriainen questioned the differences between the Close-Up Program and Lakeland Tours Program. Mr. Dahlgren explained the Close-Up Program was an in-depth fellowship program sponsored by the U.S. Congress. He added a free scholarship is allowed for one student, but additional students and a sponsor are permitted to attend if they provide their own funding. Lakeland tours is a tour program that any educational group can sign up for. He noted both programs are very educational.

Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board approve the In-Service Release Requests. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Mr. Tauriainen questioned whether the Saturday, December 7 in-service day for Nikiski Jr/Sr High as the make up day for a recent power outage would serve as a full day even though teachers would only be at school four hours. Mrs. Rubadeau responded the four hours would serve as a state approved in-service day. This would be considered a minimum day for these purposes and no students would be in attendance at school. Mr. Massie questioned whether this would be an additional in-service day for Nikiski Jr/Sr High School beyond what other schools would request. Mrs. Rubadeau stated the district has requested seven in-service days from the Department of Education. Each school would be allowed these days with requests for three additional days. The additional days could be requested for specific areas schools want to address.

VOTE:

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

Motion carried.

ACTION

Mrs. Dimmick moved the Board approve the Australian Teacher Exchange Application. Mrs. Gross seconded.

CONSENT AGENDA
(continued):

Mr. Wiley questioned whether the teacher exchange was part of the negotiated agreement. Mrs. Radtke responded this was not part of the negotiated agreement and board approval gives the applicant the opportunity to apply for the teacher exchange. If approved, this would be an equal exchange with another teacher from Australia. Mrs. Besch explained the various steps involved in the application process where the teachers would exchange jobs, classrooms, and homes; however, each teacher would retain their respective salary. She felt this was a wonderful opportunity for an Australian teacher to come to one of the best school districts in the state.

Motion carried unanimously.

POLICY REVISIONS/
003.32R/003.321R/
003.34R:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve revisions to Policies 003.32R, Associate Superintendent - Planning, Operations and Technology; 003.321R, Director - Purchasing and Food Services; and 003.34R, Executive Director - Business Management. The revisions would transfer the purchasing and food service department supervision responsibilities to the Business Manager while cocurricular activities would become the responsibility of the Associate Superintendent - Planning, Operations and Technology.

Mr. Tauriainen questioned whether it was necessary for the Director of Purchasing Services to be on the central office administrative schedule. Dr. Holmes responded this is an administrative position at this point.

Mr. Henry Anderson, K.P.E.A. President, questioned whether the Associate Superintendent of Planning, Operations and Technology would have direct supervision over the K.P.S.A.A. Board on the regulations which were addressed two weeks ago. Dr. Holmes responded the Associate Superintendent would be the liaison with K.P.S.A.A. Mr. Anderson then questioned who would have the final say on the K.P.S.A.A. recommendations. Dr. Holmes stated K.P.S.A.A. is delegated by the Board to be responsible for activities and the Associate Superintendent would be a liaison working with the K.P.S.A.A. Board.

ACTION

Mr. Massie moved the Board approve the policy revisions as recommended. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

SCHOOL CALENDARS:

Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve the 1992-93 calendar and give tentative approval to calendars for the 1993-94 and 1994-95 school years. He noted the survey results indicated most people favored an early start and early ending of the school year with a two week Christmas vacation and one week spring break. The school calendar for 1992-93 would have

SCHOOL CALENDARS
(continued):

teachers beginning on August 19 and ending on May 27. Students would begin on August 26 and end on May 26. Christmas vacation would be scheduled for December 19 through January 3, and Spring Break would be March 20 through March 28.

Mr. Wiley stated he was a member of the calendar committee where the committee was not unanimous with the recommendation. The committee acknowledged criticism on the survey where it took two extremes to begin school, August 26 or September 9 and did not focus on the most likely time of August 31. For the future, he hoped the committee would look at a beginning date at the end of August.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, noted the calendar survey was difficult to complete with confusing language. He stated he was a bit confused on the survey subtotal results. Mr. Dahlgren responded the survey results were tallied at the schools and submitted to the central office for final tabulation.

ACTION

Mr. Wiley moved the Board approve the 1992-93 school calendar as presented by the calendar committee and tentatively approve the 1993-94 and 1994-95 calendars. Mrs. Dimmick seconded.

Mr. Tauriainen commented he had problems with the way the survey was written, and felt it was slanted to getting the results desired. He suggested the school day be lengthened by 15 minutes and begin the school year after Labor Day and end before the first of June. He stated he would vote for the 1992-93 calendar, but would like a change in the 1993-94 and 1994-95 calendars. Mr. Wiley stated other suggestions were offered in committee discussions to start early enough to make the semester break at the Christmas break, or add days to the calendar.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved to amend the motion to approve only the 1992-93 calendar and leave out the 1993-94 and 1994-95 calendars. Mr. Wiley seconded.

Mr. Arness questioned whether there was any significance in having tentative approval for following years' calendars. Mr. Dahlgren responded the Board would be questioned if they did not publish the calendars a year in advance. Many parents plan activities ahead for more than a year.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

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

Amendment failed.

SCHOOL CALENDARS
(continued):

Mrs. Gross apologized to parents on the survey form which she felt was a terrible form. She noted she had a difficult time filling the form out, but it was important that the calendar is planned in advance. Because the survey results greatly favored an early start, she stated she would approve the motion.

Mrs. Obendorf expressed appreciation to the Calendar Committee for their work. She commented that all calendar survey forms have not been liked by persons completing them.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

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

Motion carried.

KENAI ELEMENTARY
ARCHITECT SELECTION:

Mr. Dahlgren noted proposals for architect services were opened on November 8, 1991 and evaluated in accordance with established school administration and professional services purchasing policies of the Borough. In addition, the Board heard from the top three architectural candidates on November 18, 1991. He reported the evaluation team recommended that Phase I for schematic design to remodel Kenai Elementary School be awarded to McGlothlin Balivet Co. He noted additional phases of the project would be contingent upon receipt of future funding and may be negotiated with McGlothlin Balivet Co. at a later date.

ACTION

Mr. Massie moved the Board approve the recommendation as presented by the administration. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Mrs. Dimmick questioned whether being the lowest bidder had significant impact on the project. Mr Dahlgren responded this was not a criteria used in the evaluation judgement. Several responses contained separate sealed bids with their proposal.

Mr. Arness commented he felt it would be a significant factor to have a local architect on the team. Mr. Burnham commented being a local firm was not considered on the criteria since all three firms had local subconsultants. He reviewed the criteria items and scores for them and noted five people rated the architectural firms individually. When questioned whether postponing a decision on architect selection would create problems, Mr. Burnham responded a decision needed to be made no later than December 16 in order to proceed with the schedule, allow the architectural team to complete their work, provide administrative review and complete the cost estimates. Mr. Wiley noted all candidates appeared satisfactory, but if the Board deviated from the recommend-

KENAI ELEMENTARY
ARCHITECT SELECTION
(continued):

ation more time would be needed to consider the other firms. Mr. Arness stated he was pleased with the local firm over the Anchorage firms despite the few percentage points separating them. He favored the local firm for hire.

Mr. Tauriainen asked to abstain from voting since he was affiliated with one of the architectural firms. Mrs. Obendorf granted the request.

VOTE:

YES - Dimmick, Gross, Massie, Wiley, Obendorf

NO - Arness

ABSTAIN - Tauriainen

Advisory Vote - YES

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mrs. Sharon Moock told the Board she was pleased with the Board's action on architect selection for Kenai Elementary School. She noted all firms were allowed equal time to present their information to the school board. She stated she was dismayed that the local architect had lobbied her by telephone. She added she considered this inappropriate and questioned whether school board members had also been lobbied by this firm. Mrs. Moock complimented Mr. Bushon and his staff at Sterling Elementary for their enthusiasm and dedication to the students at their school.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, suggested next years's calendar survey be a calendar where people can circle the beginning date, holidays, and ending date. He noted student responses should be separated from parent responses.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Board members expressed appreciation to the Calendar Committee for their work. Appreciation was also extended to Mr. Bushon for his excellent school presentation.

Mr. Arness stated he took exception to Mrs. Moock's comments. He reported he had not been contacted by the local architect and he was not lobbying on that firm's behalf. He noted his main concern was that of local hire.

Mr. Tauriainen echoed Mr. Arness' earlier request that a letter be sent from the administration to schools and parent groups related to the cold weather policy, and particularly emphasizing that parents' requests be honored. The Board concurred with the request.

Mr. Tauriainen requested a communication be sent from schools to parents informing them that baccalaureate programs will not be a school activity. The Board concurred with the request.

BOARD COMMENTS
(continued):

Mrs. Gross stated the Homer Junior High parent group had asked her to request the school board to have the swimming pool covered at that school in the least expensive manner possible. Mr. Dahlgren responded he will work on a recommendation and will see if funds are available for design work from a closed out construction project.

Mrs. Dimmick noted that neither the district nor borough have anyone in their employ with an architectural or engineering degree. She stated she hoped careful attention would be made during the design development phase on what is being presented by the architect for Kenai Elementary School. She also noted care should be taken in selecting a contractor and seeing the project completed.

Mrs. Obendorf reminded the Board of the December 5 meeting with the local legislators.

ADJOURN:

At 9:28 p.m., Mrs. Dimmick moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Wiley seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President



Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk

The Minutes of December 2, 1991,
were approved on December 16, 1991,
with corrections.