

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2003 – 7:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting

Seward High School - 2100 Swetmann
Seward, Alaska

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Joe Arness, President
Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Vice President
Ms. Deborah Germano, Clerk
Mrs. Margaret Gilman, Treasurer
Mrs. Debra Mullins, Member
Dr. Nels Anderson, Member
Mr. Al Poindexter, Member
Mr. Patrick Tilbury, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Melody Douglas, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Sam Stewart, Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Wayne Young
Mrs. Terri Woodward
Ms. Sandra Wassilie
Mrs. Cathy Carrow
Mrs. Patty Linville

Mr. David Kingsland
Mr. John Cote
Mr. Steve Pautz
Ms. Lynn Hohl

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Arness called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Arness invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Ms. Deborah Germano	Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
Mrs. Margaret Gilman	Absent/Excused
Mr. Al Poindexter	Present
Mr. Patrick Tilbury	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved with the removal of Item 10a.(2), Approval of AR 6183, Alternative High Schools, from the Consent Agenda (renumbered as 10c.), and the addition of Item 10a.(8), Approval of Appointment of the Student Representative to the Board of Education.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board Minutes of September 8, 2003 were approved with a correction. The words "over the next two years" was inserted after the word "teachers" in the fifth paragraph of page 200.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Ms. Debbie Bond, Seward Boys and Girls Club Unit Director, explained the mission of the programs offered by the Club and thanked Dr. Peterson, Board Members and Mr. Kingsland for allowing the Club to be housed at Seward Elementary.

Advisory Committee, Site Council and/or P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A, Borough Assembly:

Mrs. Terri Woodward, KPESA president, asked whether Association meetings could be included on the District calendar. She told Mr. Arness that she will miss his humor and wished him good luck in his future plans. She wished good luck to those members who have filed for reelection.

Mrs. Cathy Carrow, KPEA president, reported that six NCLB presentations were conducted. She invited the Board to another presentation (at Senator Wagoner's request) to be held at the Kenai Legislative Information Office on Wednesday, October 8, at 8:00 a.m. She stated that securing adequate funding for education will be difficult this legislative session and suggested that the Board, administration and staff work together for the best interest of the children. She announced that American Education week is November 17-21. She thanked Mr. Arness and Mr. Poindexter for their service to the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Peterson noted that Dr. Whiteley is on leave. Dr. Peterson noted that trainings were recently held for Site Councils and PTA/PTO/PTSA groups and asked the Board to forward to the administration any feedback from constituents. On behalf of the administration, she thanked outgoing School Board members Mr. Arness and Mr. Poindexter for their service on the Board.

BOARD REPORTS:

Dr. Anderson thanked Mr. Arness for facilitating the Cocurricular Task Force. He noted that even though the Task Force reached consensus quickly, more work is necessary. Mr. Arness added that Assembly Member Long and Assembly Member Fischer were especially helpful to the group.

Mrs. Crawford reported that she, Mr. Arness, Mrs. Carrow, Mrs. Woodward, and Mr. Larson met to begin work on the Board goal of opening communication. She reported that progress is being made and thanked Mrs. Carrow for inviting her to the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Primary Sponsor of Gaming; Nontenured Teacher Assignments; Long-Term Substitute Teacher Contracts; Resignation; Budget Calendar; Revisions to AR 3451 Petty Cash Funds; and Appointment of Student Representative to the Board of Education.

Primary Sponsor of Gaming:

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 2003-2004.

Nontenured Teacher Assignments:

Dr. Whiteley recommended the Board approve tentative nontenure teacher assignments for Kristina Salness, Title I teacher, Kenai Alternative; Patricia Truesdell, social studies teacher, Ninilchik Elementary/High; and Janice Waldron, Title V reading teacher, Soldotna Middle.

Long-Term Substitute Teacher Contracts:

Dr. Whiteley recommended the Board approve substitute teacher contracts for Teresa Kiffmeyer, Grade 6, Redoubt Elementary and Paula Standefer, QUEST, Soldotna Middle

Resignation:

Dr. Whiteley recommended the Board approve a resignation from Brenda Williamson, intensive needs, Soldotna High (effective October 17, 2003).

Budget Calendar:

Mrs. Douglas recommended the Board approve a draft calendar to be used as a guideline for preparation of the 2004-2005 School District budget.

Revisions to AR 3451 Petty Cash Funds:

Mrs. Douglas recommended the Board approve revisions to AR 3451, Petty Cash Funds, which increases the maximum amount allowed for petty cash expenditures to \$150.00.

APPOINTMENT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Dr. Peterson recommended the Board approve the appointment of Mr. Patrick Tilbury, a Ninilchik High School student, as the student representative to the Board of Education.

MOTION:

Ms. Germano moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Ms. Germano asked whether the FY05 budget approval date could be moved to April 19 and the remaining dates be moved back accordingly. Mrs. Douglas stated that it was an extreme challenge for the accounting office to meet timelines during the FY04 budget cycle because of the amount of work involved. Ms. Germano clarified that delays in the finalization of the FY04 budget were caused by legislative action. Mrs. Douglas stated that if the budget Board approval date is moved later in the year it may not allow the Borough the required 30 day from the time it is introduced to the date that the Borough takes action on the ordinance and resolution. Ms. Germano suggested that the Board approve the FY05 budget on April 19. Mrs. Douglas expressed concern that the accounting department may not meet the Borough packet deadline. Ms. Germano stated that by approving the budget closer to the end of the legislative session it is potentially more accurate. Mrs. Douglas cautioned that if there are any significant changes in the budget after it is approved on April 19, it is difficult to make changes to the document in time to deliver to the Borough Assembly on time.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Germano stated that if the budget calendar is left as presented, and the budget is not approved on April 5, it provides a second chance for approval on April 19.

VOTE ON ITEM 10a.(6)

Advisory Vote – YES

YES – Poindexter, Anderson, Mullins, Arness

NO – Crawford, Germano

Motion carried.

Policy Revisions:

Mr. Stewart recommended the Board approve revisions to BP 6183, Alternative High Schools, and BP 6184, Secondary Program and Adaptation which will allow greater flexibility in meeting the needs of students who are experiencing difficulties in the traditional school setting. He noted that the wording was changed to reflect the wishes of the Board and to comply with state requirements regarding funding.

MOTION:

Mrs. Mullins moved the Board approve revisions to BP 6183, Alternative High Schools, and BP 6184, Secondary Program and Adaptation. Ms. Germano seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Policy Revisions:

Mr. Stewart recommended the Board approve the adoption of AR 6183, Alternative High Schools, which establishes alternative high school programs and provide for how they will be staffed.

MOTION:

Ms. Germano moved the Board approve the adoption of AR 6183, Alternative High Schools. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/
COMMENTS:**

Mrs. Patty Linville, Seward Site Council president, welcomed the Board and administration to Seward and thanked Mr. Arness for his past attendance at meetings in Seward that were not Board meetings.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mrs. Mullins thanked the Seward Education Alliance Committee for the innovative ideas expressed at the worksession prior to the meeting. She stated that she hoped some of the ideas will spread through the District. She welcomed Mr. Tilbury to the Board as the new student representative. She expressed her appreciation for his willingness to serve and provide a student perspective. She congratulated Dr. Peterson for her ascension to the presidency of Alaska Association of School Administrators. She thanked Mr. Poindexter for his service to the Board. She stated that although the Board members occasionally disagree, they can still be friends. She stated that unfortunately, the choice to have a districted Board caused her and Mr. Arness to be pitted against each other. She reported that he graciously chose not to file against her. She expressed her appreciation to Mr. Arness for his service to the Board and added that he has been a pillar for the

Board and taken a lot of criticism. She stated that she hopes Mr. Arness will share his valuable service in another capacity.

BOARD COMMENTS (continued):

Dr. Anderson welcomed Mr. Tilbury to the Board as the new student representative. He assured Mr. Poindexter that he will keep vocational education in mind as he has with the arts when Mrs. Larned left the Board. He thanked Mr. Poindexter for his Board service. He stated that Mr. Arness is a great public servant and expressed disappointment that Mr. Arness will not be able to serve. He stated that Mr. Arness is one of the most creative, innovative, and selfless public servants that he has met and added that he will truly be missed. He told Mr. Arness that he is irreplaceable and suggested that he consider serving the public in another capacity.

Mrs. Crawford reported that she attended the Mind A-Mazes, at the Soldotna Middle School, sponsored by the QUEST Program. She noted that hundreds of students and parents attended the competition. She thanked the Seward Educational Alliance for their innovative ideas and added that she hopes the Board can work with the group to use available community resources. She welcomed Mr. Tilbury to the Board as the new student representative. She stated that the Board will miss having Mr. Poindexter on the Board and thanked him for his work. She presented Mr. Poindexter with a gift from the Board as a token of appreciation. She thanked Mr. Arness for his work as Board President, for mentoring her and for answering her questions.

Ms. Germano thanked the Seward Educational Alliance for the informative worksession. She thanked the Seward community for coming to the meeting. She welcomed Mr. Tilbury to the Board as the new student representative. She thanked Mr. Poindexter for his service to the Board. She thanked Mr. Arness for his leadership to the Board and noted that he will be missed. She presented Mr. Arness with a gift from the Board as a token of appreciation.

Mr. Patrick Tilbury thanked the Board members for their service to children. He thanked Mr. Poindexter and Mr. Arness for their service as Board members. He stated that he is looking forward to working hard this year and added that he would like to attend the AASB Youth Institute Leadership.

Mr. Poindexter thanked the public for electing him to the Board and added that it has been a privilege to serve. He added that he decided not to file for reelection because he has taken a full-time job as the Alaska Association of Conservation District's Statewide Education Director and was afraid that he would miss too many meetings. He thanked the entire Board for their mentorship. He stated that each member is not only knowledgeable but has been ripened with wisdom. He stated that each member on the Board genuinely cares for the children of the Borough and do the best they can with all of the

resources that they have. He told Mr. Tilbury that he will gain a lot of helpful information from the Youth Institute and from spending time with Board members. He stated that perhaps one day Mr. Tilbury will be sitting in Mr. Arness' seat as the president.

BOARD COMMENTS (continued): Mr. Arness thanked the Seward Education Alliance for the worksession presentation and added that this group is the "wave of the future". Mr. Arness appointed Dr. Anderson to the Math Curriculum Committee and Mrs. Crawford to the World Languages Committee. He welcomed Mr. Tilbury and told him that he has the opportunity to learn a lot and see a new perspective of education and wished him the best of luck. He thanked Mrs. Woodward and Mrs. Carrow for their comments and wished each of them good luck in their new position as president. He told Mr. Poindexter that serving on the Board has been fun as well as frustrating and that he has brought a common-sense straight-forward perspective to the Board that will be missed. He stated that he leaves with the assurance that, pending the election results, the core of the Board will remain, that the school district will continue to be strong. He stated that he has always been proud to be associated with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. He stated that he can leave knowing that the district is in the hands of the premier administrative group and specifically the premier superintendent. He stated that he is proud of Dr. Peterson. He stated that he is not going anywhere and will continue to be involved.

ADJOURN: At 8:18 p.m., Mrs. Crawford moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Joe Arness, President

Ms. Deborah Germano, Clerk

The Minutes of October 6, 2003
were approved October 20, 2003
as written.