

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

August 4, 2003 – 7:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting

Borough Administration Building
148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, 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

STAFF PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Jim White	Mr. Jim Heim
Mr. Dave Larson	Ms. Jenni Dillon

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Arness called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

(Tape 1, 46)

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

ROLL CALL:

(Tape 1, 62)

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

(Tape 1, 80)

The agenda was approved as written.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

(Tape 1, 94)

The School Board Minutes of July 7, 2003, were approved as printed.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

(Tape 1, 126)

Dr. Peterson reported that she has received the usual correspondence from the State Department of Education and Early Development.

Mr. Arness noted that the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) Core Resolutions were included in the Board information packet.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

(Tape 1, 201)

Dr. Peterson presented the 2002-2003 Superintendent's Annual Report. She noted that the new, less-expensive, streamlined document will be used for a variety of audiences and provides valuable information about the District. She noted that the Board also received the individual school summaries that were submitted by the building administrators and used to compose the Annual Report. She noted that administrators will be responsible for their own professional development this year and noted that there will be an increased emphasis on data at the individual student level.

Dr. Peterson reported that she and representatives from AASB, the Principal's Association, and the Superintendent's Association met with Commissioner Sampson to set the direction of the state. She noted that training for new-to-position administrators was held on Friday, August 1, optional training classes for administrators are being held on August 4-6, and the Administrator Meetings will be held on August 7-8.

BOARD REPORTS:

(Tape 1, 338)

Ms. Germano reported that she attended the Project GRAD Kenai Peninsula Informational Brunch (held in Soldotna) as a Board Representative. She stated that she was excited to hear Mr. Bart Garber, CEO of Tyonek Native Association speak. She stated that the same meeting was held in Homer and that the group is currently selecting a Board of Directors so that a nonprofit organization can be formed.

Mrs. Debra Mullins reported that she attended the Association of Alaska School Boards Board of Directors meeting. She stated that the group developed a new long-range plan. She stated that the group reviewed the proposed core resolutions and noted that there are a number of resolutions that are scheduled to sunset this year and must be reintroduced by a member of the school board to be considered at the Annual Business meeting. She encouraged Board members to carefully review each resolution so that action can be taken at the September 8 Board meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

(Tape 1, 503)

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Revisions to AR 4021, Drug and Alcohol Testing of School District Commercial Driver Licensed Employees; Nontenure Teacher Assignments; New Teacher Assignments; and Recommendations Regarding Requests for Leave of Absence-Certified.

Revisions to AR 4021, Drug and Alcohol Testing of School District Commercial Driver Licensed Employees:

Mr. Stewart recommended the Board approve revisions to AR 4021, Drug and Alcohol Testing of School District Commercial Driver Licensed Employees in order to be in compliance with a regulation change; the change reduces the minimum percentage of employees required for random alcohol testing from 25% to 10%.

Nontenure Teacher Assignments: Dr. Whiteley recommended the Board approve nontenure teacher assignments for Mary Ellen Purcell, Grade 1/primary, McNeil Canyon; Breta Brown, generalist, Nikiski Middle/Senior High; Jacob Doth, science, Nikiski Middle/Senior High; Christopher Towne, music, Paul Banks Elementary and West Homer Elementary; Lisa Rolph, Grade 4, Redoubt Elementary; Jill Herbert, social studies/generalist, Seward Middle/High; Christy Mulyca, business/technology education, Seward High; Katrina Cannava, Title I reading teacher, Soldotna Elementary; Galen Brantley, social studies, Soldotna High.

New Teacher Assignments: Dr. Whiteley recommended the Board approve teaching assignments for Elizabeth Ladd, special education/resource, Nikiski Middle/High; Naomi B. Fischer, math, Seward Middle/High; Karl P. Kircher, Grade 6 (temporary), Soldotna Elementary; Ann M. McCabe, kindergarten through Grade 1, Soldotna Montessori; Ronald Records, (.50 temporary, .50 permanent) Grades 5/6, Tustumena Elementary.

Recommendations Regarding Requests for Leave of Absence-Certified: Dr. Whiteley recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for the 2003-2004 school year for Kurt Racicot, vocational education, Homer High School. Dr. Whiteley recommended the Board deny a request for leave of absence for Heather Lindquist, kindergarten through Grade 3, Cooper Landing Elementary.

MOTION: Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 4. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Revisions to BP 6146.7, Diplomas: Mr. Stewart recommended the Board approve revisions to BP 6146.7 to align with current state and federal law and regulations relating to special education. He noted that upon review at the July 7 meeting, an additional change was made which will require special education students to meet attendance and credit requirements to receive a certificate of achievement.
(Tape 1, 539)

MOTION: Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve revisions to BP 6146.7, Diplomas. Mrs. Germano seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS: Mrs. Mullins requested an excused absence from the August 18 Board meeting.
(Tape 1, 636)

Ms. Germano encouraged the Board to carefully review the AASB Core resolutions because a number of them have been rewritten. She noted that the homeschool accountability resolution has been reworded as well as resolutions regarding mandated borough formation and school consolidation.

BOARD COMMENTS: Mrs. Crawford expressed appreciation for the cocurricular activities funding worksession prior to the Board meeting. She stated that she hopes the District can come up with a way that students can continue to participate in cocurricular activities. She noted that many young people
(continued)

were involved with the Kenai Peninsula Orchestra who recently presented a concert, and the Fairbanks Shakespeare Company who recently performed Hamlet. She expressed appreciation for the Superintendent's Annual Report.

Mr. Arness appointed Ms. Germano to be a member of the Project GRAD Board of Directors.

Mr. Arness stated that he will ask the Borough Assembly President to appoint two Assembly Members to the Cocurricular Activities Task Force. Mr. Arness requested the superintendent to establish a Cocurricular Funding Task Force as well as request the Borough Administration to provide Task Force members as they see fit. Mr. Arness invited those who are interested in serving on the Task Force to contact him within the next couple of weeks.

ADJOURN:
(Tape 1, 887)

At 7:50 p.m., Mrs. Crawford moved the School Board meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Joe Arness, President

Mrs. Deborah Germano, Clerk

The Minutes of August 4, 2003,
were approved on August 18, 2003 as
written.