
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

October 17, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent

Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley
Soldotna, Alaska

WORKSESSION REPORT: The Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included revisions to BP 0210, Goals for Student Learning, student transportation, the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), and the Board Reorganization Process.

OATH OF OFFICE: The Oath of Office was administered to Mrs. Penny Vadla and Mr. Joe Arness, by notary public, Mrs. Sally Tachick. Mr. Holt was also re-elected to the Board and took the oath separately.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS: Mr. Joe Cannava, Deputy Director of the Peninsula Community Health Services of Alaska and Mr. Bill Tappan, Board President, presented the District with the 2011 Collaborator Award.

SCHOOL REPORT: Dr. Christine Ermold Cooper Landing School introduced Mr. Gossard, teacher. Miss Clara LaRock and Miss Linnaea Gossard, students, assisted with the computer presentation highlighting technology, staff, students, and community and school events.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS: Mr. Neil Denney, Ninilchik High School teacher and senior class advisor, and six students from the Focus on Learning group explained their proposal to improve student involvement in the curriculum, and improve student attendance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Atwater announced that Spring Creek High will close and the youth offender program will move to Anchorage in July 2012. He announced that the Homer High track was closed by Borough Risk Management due to the poor condition of the track. He reported that the graduate survey including graduates from 2001 and 2010 has been completed and the results will be presented at a worksession on November 14. He reported that he has been visiting with school staffs. He congratulated the Nikiski High and Kenai Central High football teams for each winning their respective state championships. He also recognized the Homer football team for an outstanding season.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Jones presented the financial report of the District for the period ending September 30, 2011.

QUARTERLY BUDGET TRANSFER REPORT: Mr. Jones reported on budget transfers Numbers 4 through 292 for various schools and departments within the District.

RESOLUTION 11-12-1: The Board unanimously approved Resolution 11-12-1, listing the primary and alternate members in charge of gaming for those schools applying for gaming permits for 2012.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD: The Board unanimously approved the appointment of Miss Annaleah Ernst, a Nikiski Middle/High School student, as the student representative to the Board of Education.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved new teacher contracts for the 2011-2012 school year for Heidi Berg, special education intensive needs teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary; Justin Derks, generalist – teacher/advisor, Connections Program; Jordana Engebretsen, special education visually impaired teacher, Kenai Middle; Tiffany Gray, temporary 1st grade teacher, Sterling Elementary; Callie Hruby, special education resource teacher, Nikiski Middle/High; Thor Jones, intermediate grade teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary; Jon Kulhanek, .50 FTE, primary grade teacher, Fireweed Academy; Emily Mayberry, temporary 1st grade teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary; Margo McKay, social studies teacher, Kenai Central High; John Morton, art teacher, Kenai Central High; Taj Smith, special education resource teacher, Soldotna Montessori; and Elizabeth Wallin, 3rd grade teacher, Mountain View Elementary.

CONTRACT AND TENURE FOR NONTENURED TEACHER: The Board unanimously approved a contract and tenure for Rhonda Neill, speech language pathologist.

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved long-term substitute teacher contracts for Brenda Dolma, Homer High School and Gerald Byrne, Kenai Central High School.

HSGQE: The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Numbers 2012-02, 2012-03, 2012-04.

BOARD MEETING DATE CHANGE: The Board unanimously approved a recommendation to change the November 7 Board meeting date.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT: The Board unanimously approved the acceptance of the FY11 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES: The Board unanimously approved a list of proposed FY12 federal and state legislative priorities. The Board unanimously approved two amendments adding language regarding funding of transportation and the Homer High track.

MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS: The Board approved a directive to the Board President Arness to write a letter to the Assembly urging them to establish a joint working group to identify maintenance projects in the \$100,000 to \$1,500,000 range; identify both recurring and non-recurring potential funding sources; and recommend fund uses and priorities for School Board and Assembly approval.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting was canceled and will be rescheduled for another date in November.

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