

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION

Title: 2012 AASB Resolutions

Date: August 29, 2012

Item Number:

Worksession

Administrator: Steve Atwater, Ph.D.

Superintendent of Schools *Steve Atwater*

Attachments:

Action Needed For Discussion Information Other: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Each year the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) promotes a series of core resolutions that provide AASB staff guidance in working with state and federal policy-makers. The district's senior management reviewed the FY13 resolutions and recommends that you support them as proposed in the KPBSD Position Worksheet. Note that all new AASB resolutions are supported by the administration. This worksession is your chance to review the resolutions and to as necessary, make changes in preparation for approval of the list at the meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

KPBSD POSITION WORKSHEET 2012 AASB CORE RESOLUTIONS

GOVERNANCE

AASB Resolution	District Position (comment only appears for those resolutions that the administration does not support)
1.1 Pledge of Allegiance	
1.2 Opposing mandated school consolidation	RECOMMENDATION-DELETE: As the state's finances are stretched, it is not inappropriate for the state to review efficiencies and economies of scale. A single school district with less than 50 students is probably not the most efficient way to spend state money, nor may it be in the students' best interest to maintain the small district when a larger district is close by.
1.3 Opposition to mandated borough formation	RECOMMENDATION-DELETE: The administration recognizes that the tax payers of our borough contribute a significant amount of their taxes to the KPBSD. It is appropriate to expect those who live in an area that has a reasonable tax base (to support organization), to do so.
1.4 Maintaining local control in charter school formation	
1.5 Opposition to school vouchers	
1.6 Centralized treasury: distribution of allocated funds for schools and interest earned	
1.7 School improvement and student achievement (NCLB)	
1.8 Accountability and advocacy for students outside the public school system	
1.9 Change compulsory attendance age to 6 through 18	
1.10 Urging federal support for state implementation of standards and testing	The federal accountability requirements are needed. KPBSD would like to see some local leeway, e.g., use AIMSWEB instead of Terra Nova, with the choice of assessments.
1.11 Accountability for student attendance	

FUNDING

AASB Resolution	District Position
2.1 Sustained, reliable and adequate educational funding for Alaska's students through a non-volatile funding source	
2.2 Urging the legislature to adjust the base student allocation for K-12 education	
2.3 Support continuation of Rural Schools Act	
2.4 Encouraging the legislature to fund a grant program for student improvement strategies	
2.5 AASB to monitor and advocate ON 9 items pertaining to individuals with disabilities in education act (idea)	
2.6 Additional funding for standards-based early learning programs	
2.7 Funding for intensive needs pre-school and other intensive needs students enrolling post-count date	
2.8 Following the capital improvement project priority lists for non-bonded projects	
2.9 Local contribution in the school funding formula	
2.10 Education endowment	
2.11 Implement state and federal funding for instructional technology	
2.12 School construction debt retirement for bonded indebtedness	Important to review; Strongly Support for KPBSD
2.13 Revenue sharing	Important to review; Strongly Support for KPBSD

FUNDING

(continued)

2.14	Fully fund pupil transportation and support the minimum standards for proposals and contracts required by SB 182	Important to review. Inflation adjustment sunset; now this is flat.
2.15	Funding for school district-operated regional boarding home programs	
2.16	Funding for transient students in schools	
2.17	Increased funding to mitigate increases in insurance costs	
2.18	Statutory grounds for reduction in force	
2.19	Legislative financial relief for ongoing TRS and PERS employer rate increases	RECOMMENDATION-KEEP: See 4.8
2.20	Modification of the minimum instructional expenditure requirement,	RECOMMENDATION-DELETE: While the administration recognizes that for some rural districts the 70% of expenditures requirement for instruction is difficult to meet, KPBSD has never had a problem doing so. Administration believes that repeal of this statute sends the wrong message. The current waiver system works.
2.21	Energy cost relief	
2.22	State subsidize reliable and efficient service by the Alaska Marine Highway System	
2.23	Supporting bypass mail in Alaska	
2.24	Forward funding for schools	RECOMMENDATION-STRONGLY SUPPORT: Cannot budget effectively if we do not know level of revenue, Example: KPBSD wants to recruit the best possible teachers, early, but cannot commit funds until revenue is known.
2.25	Reconstitution and active management of the public school land trust and permanent fund	
2.26	Support excellence in science, technology, engineering and math instruction	
2.27	Urging revisions to 2.5% in the step-down hold-harmless clause for reductions in ADM	

FUNDING

(continued)

2.28	Support a reduction in the ADM threshold for k-6 and 7-12 schools to no higher than 41	
2.29	Urging the state to mitigate the impacts of excess facility space in districts	
2.30	Requesting the state to audit all school buildings and create a facility major maintenance and replacement list	RECOMMENDATION-DELETE: Funds better utilized to repair buildings.
2.31	Urging the establishment of a funding pool to help fund travel for students to attend state-level competitions	
2.32	Requesting AASB to explore creation of a central purchasing agency	
2.33	Urging the legislature to annually fund vocational (career and technical) education outside of the block grant	
2.34	State funding for school meals	
NEW 2.35	Supporting partial foundation funding for schools with seven to nine students for up to two years	
NEW 2.36	Urging the legislature to fund intervention for K-3 students needing to reach grade-level proficiency	
NEW 2.37	Supporting legislation to increase funding for and to eliminate expiration of the Special Education Service Agency (SESA)	
NEW 2.38	Support the goal that students complete high school with sufficient skills to enter the workforce or a postsecondary institution, without the need for remediation	

CHILD ADVOCACY

AASB Resolution	District Position
3.1	Declaring children the top priority of Alaska
3.2	Promoting student success through social and emotional learning and positive youth development and support
3.3	Provide and improve effective programs and services aimed at the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
3.4	Preventing access to pornography on the internet
3.5	Violence in electronic media and entertainment
3.6	To provide leadership, and to provide the funding and support inhalant, alcohol, tobacco, methamphetamines and other drug abuse
3.7	Interagency cooperation among service providers serving children
3.8	Provide funding for statewide suicide prevention, education and treatment efforts
3.9	Provide a school environment that is free from weapons, harassment and intimidation, violence, drugs (including alcohol and tobacco), and other factors
3.10	Support of state funding for student health services in Alaska
3.11	Provide education programs for students regarding HIV/AIDS and other STDs

CHILD ADVOCACY

(continued)

3.12	Education of students in responsible behaviors relating to human sexuality	
3.13	Support of Alaska Children's Trust	
3.14	Increased support of Alaska Head Start Programs	
3.15	Support the safe and drug-free schools and communities act	
3.16	Revise parental permission requirements for questionnaires and surveys administered in public schools	Position? : Political will is low; reality is this is not a good expenditure of time.
3.17	Funding to districts should be increased to support adequate school services and programs to address student wellness	
3.18	Promoting early childhood brain development	
3.19	School activity and statewide testing schedules in relation to major religious holidays	
3.20	Interventions and sanctions that reduce loss of credit	
3.21	Accountability for funding for student learning and student needs	
NEW 3.22	Supporting legislation restoring the Denali Kidcare Program eligibility standard to 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines	
NEW 3.23	Student participation in interscholastic activities	

PERSONNEL

AASB Resolution	District Position
4.1	Support for staff development
4.2	National certification of teachers
4.3	Position ?: This is a reach, not a hindrance. Our evaluation system provides a filter.
4.4	The Alaska statewide mentor project
4.5	Special education and related services training
4.6	Addressing the teacher, specialist, and administrator shortage (10 strategies suggested)
4.7	Repeal the social security government pension offset and windfall elimination provision
4.8	RECOMMENDATION-DELETE: The administration does not support a return to a defined benefit because it would cause a drastic decrease in staffing for KPBSD. Currently, KPBSD pays 12.5 % of salary to TRS for each certified employee. A return to a defined contribution would likely cause this amount to increase to a much higher rate- perhaps 40%. Without a drastic increase to the BSA, this change would leave the district with no choice but to reduce staffing. The intent of this resolution is good-we all want teachers to have a defined benefit. Unfortunately, the reality of making such a change is not financially doable. Recommendation that Board suggest an amendment to include language that would hold the district contribution at 12.5%.
4.9	Relating to health care costs and medical insurance
4.10	Supporting use of licensed professionals to facilitate services by electronic means
4.11	Identify and evaluate school performance incentive programs that promote student achievement in a fair and productive manner
4.12	Opposing mandated Alaska reading course
4.13	Urging the state of Alaska to reinstate the retire-rehire program

PERSONNEL

(continued)

4.14	Alternative pathways to certify highly qualified teachers
NEW 4.15	Urging adequate notice to school districts before teachers change their endorsements

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

AASB Resolution	District Position
5.1	Urging funding for the implementation of career-exploration programs
5.2	Curriculum expansion via technology
5.3	Native language program development
5.4	Community school programs
5.5	Increasing student contact time
5.6	Modification of the Alaska certificate of achievement
5.7	Encourage civic education in school districts
5.8	Request DOEED provide standards-based assessments in Alaskan native indigenous language
5.9	Support regional vocational training centers
5.10	Urging flexibility in testing regimes to support indigenous language programs
5.11	Supporting universal access to voluntary education for 3- and 4-year-olds
5.12	Encouraging districts to adopt standards for parent/family involvement programs

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

(continued)

5.13	Urging continuation of the Alaska native education act	
5.14	Relating to the career assessment requirement	RECOMMENDATION-DELETE: The administration does not support the WorkKeys exam as a requirement. Communication with employers indicates that the results of this exam are not overly useful and that few employers will consider it.
5.15	State should consider funding appropriate post-secondary vocational or college courses for secondary students	
5.16	Continued review of concerns related to the HSGQE	
NEW 5.17	Urging review of Alaska academic content and performance standards	
NEW 5.18	Allowing flexibility in nationally-normed testing	
NEW 5.19	Urging the legislature to recognize the true and improving rate of Alaska high school graduation	
NEW 5.20	Encouraging online high-stakes testing	