

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

May 15, 1995

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Vice President
Dr. Nels Anderson, Clerk
Mr. Joe Arness, Treasurer
Mrs. Susan Larned, Member
Mr. Emery Thibodeau, Member
Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Member
Miss Mandy Baldwin, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Walter Bromenschenkel, Superintendent
Mr. John Dahlgren, Associate Superintendent, Planning, Operations, and Technology
Mr. Thomas Thorpe, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
Mr. Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management
Mrs. Sharon Radtke, Executive Director, Personnel

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Pam Russell Mr. John Kistler
Mrs. Karen Mahurin Mrs. Melody Douglas
Mrs. Ann Bayes Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Peterson
Mr. and Mrs. Ted Notter Mr. and Mrs. Richard Campbell
Mr. Mark Norgren Mr. Ken Meacham
Mr. Jim White Mrs. Holly Klier
Mr. Aaron Marsters Ms. Diane Borgman
Ms. Judy Ragland Mr. Pat Shields
Ms. Trena Richardson Ms. Pam Lazenby
Mrs. Rhonda Oglesby Mrs. Angela McKinney
Miss Karen Oglesby

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Obendorf called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Miss Baldwin introduced Mr. Aaron Marsters, Skyview High School senior, who led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Betty Obendorf Present
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross Absent - Excused
Dr. Nels Anderson Present
Mr. Joe Arness Present
Mrs. Susan Larned Present
Mr. Emery Thibodeau Present
Mr. Michael Tauriainen Present
Miss Mandy Baldwin Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved with the deletion of Item 10f., Approval of Policy, 006.76 Student Access; and Item 10g., Approval of Co-curricular Activities and Handbooks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of May 15, 1995, were approved as written.

SOLDOTNA HIGH SCHOOL
REPORT:

Mr. Ken Meacham, Principal of Soldotna High School, presented the school report with the assistance of Mike Druce, drama teacher, and Joel Todd, student from the video productions class. They presented a short, humorous video demonstrating the visual and graphic effects created by the technology and sophisticated equipment available at Soldotna High.

Mrs. Sharon Sauer, Shane Slempp, Damian Latona, Ben Hastings, and Susan Fitzgerald displayed student artwork in the areas of mirror etching, watercolor, pottery, self-portraits, silk screen printing, air brush painting, and photography. Many of the students had received awards at the borough and state art competitions. Mrs. Sauer stated the art department creates logos and prints about \$6,000 worth of t-shirts for various clubs and organizations. She also mentioned that students in the drawing and painting class put on workshops for students at the elementary schools.

Mr. Meacham summarized his report by complimenting his staff and students, and expressed his appreciation for being a part of one of the finest high schools in the state. Mr. Norgren presented each of the Board Members with a coffee mug.

PAUL BANKS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL REPORT:

Mr. Lewis McLin, Paul Banks Elementary Principal, reported on three goals for his school this year; parent involvement, technology, and inclusion. He stated that one-third of his parents consistently volunteer at school. He noted that with the assistance of parent volunteers, teachers are able to work with their students more effectively in smaller groups. Mr. McLin presented a short video showing staff technology training, cultural activities, and inclusion of special services students.

Mr. McLin presented Mrs. Obendorf with a pin that was given to teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week.

COMMUNICATIONS AND
PETITIONS:

Mrs. Obendorf announced she received letters from Ed Harrison, Linell McCrum, and Brenda Zook expressing their concern related to the Skyview High School boundary changes and asked for reconsideration of that decision; Honey Bee Nordenson expressing concerns for the budget cuts in Special Services at Susan B. English Elem/High School; Chris Purdy-Marks expressing concerns for the budget cuts to the Handicapped Preschool Program at Seward Elementary; John Shields, and Rob and Jamie Shields concerning the Chapman Elementary move; Ron Drathman expressing concern for the reduction of the hazardous bus routes in Homer and asked the Board to reconsider their decision on the Chapman Elementary move; Harry Gregori, Mayor of Homer, forwarded a resolution from the City Council requesting the district not to cut hazardous bus routes; and the State Board of Education inviting the Board and Central Office administration to attend a work session at Romig Jr. High School on May 20, 1995, to work on solutions towards redesigning public education funding.

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AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS: Mrs. Obendorf presented an award of appreciation to Mrs. Patty Campbell, Programmer/Analyst, Data Processing. Mrs. Campbell was recognized for her outstanding contributions towards the successful implementation and software design of the SDFIN Financial System.

CHAPMAN ELEMENTARY 7TH AND 8TH GRADE MOVE/TEXTBOOK FEES: Dr. Bromenschenkel presented a report concerning budget priorities as it related to the proposed move of Chapman Elementary students. During the past few months there has been considerable public testimony and discussion concerning the Chapman Elementary 7th and 8th grades move. Parents from the Anchor Point community have indicated their desire to receive the same staffing level in order to retain the 7th and 8th grades at Chapman Elementary. Dr. Bromenschenkel presented a cost analysis which provides an opportunity to leave the students at Chapman Elementary and still allow for a savings to the district. He recommended the Board postpone the decision to move the Chapman Elementary students for one year so that the community and the district can be better prepared for such a transition.

Dr. Bromenschenkel stated that instituting a textbook fee is an extremely difficult change to make and to implement. He recommended that if additional funding in the amount of \$200,000 or more is received from the legislature the district should not implement the textbook fee. He noted the news media is reporting that the legislature will act on a bill recommending full-funding of education. If that should occur, it would generate approximately \$300,000 in additional money to the district. He further recommended that the Board consider reinstating the technology funding in the amount \$40,000.

Dr. Anderson suggested that the Board hold a work session to determine where additional funds would be reinstated in the budget. Dr. Bromenschenkel felt that a budget revision work session could be held during the afternoon of June 12 Board meeting. He felt that more definitive information concerning state funding would be available from the legislature by that time.

Miss Baldwin questioned whether an additional \$15 extracurricular activity charge would be necessary if full funding was received. Dr. Bromenschenkel replied that it would be a matter that could be discussed during the work session.

Dr. Anderson asked the administration to provide a priority list of budget reinstatement items to Board Members prior to the work session. Dr. Bromenschenkel responded that the administration would provide a recommendation and the results from a survey of the Board.

1995-96 GOAL SETTING
SESSION:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board reschedule their planning session/goal setting session to June 19 and 20, 1995. The School District Policy Manual Work session is scheduled for June 8, 9, and 10. He felt that five days of concentrated Board work would be too much.

CHAPMAN ELEMENTARY MOVE
COST ANALYSIS RESPONSE:

Mr. Swarner presented a response to twelve questions posed by Angela McKinney concerning the proposed move of Chapman Elementary 7th and 8th grade students to Homer Jr. High.

Mr. Swarner explained the formula process used in determining the amount of certified and support staff, supplies and activity travel. These formulas have been developed in an attempt to equitably distribute the resources of the district. Over the last ten years, the formulas have been reduced in response to declining revenues.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Swarner presented the financial report of the district for the period ending April 30, 1995.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Grant, Furniture and Equipment List, Budget Transfer, Resignations, Leave of Absence Requests/Certified, Leave of Absence Requests/Support, and Early Graduation Request.

GRANT:

Mr. Thorpe recommended the Board approve the School To Work Transition Grant in the amount of \$40,300.

FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT
LIST:

Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve a furniture and equipment list for the Tustumena Elementary School Addition in the amount of \$21,574.79.

BUDGET TRANSFER:

Mr. Swarner recommended the Board approve budget transfer #000590 in the amount of \$11,000.

RESIGNATION:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve resignations from Robert Darling, Grades 7-12, Bartlett Elem/High School; Sandra Lambert, Music, Chapman Elementary; Roberta Darling, Speech Pathologist, Sterling Elementary; Lisa Vrvilo, Grade 8, Kenai Middle; Joyclyn Graham, Counselor, Ninilchik Elem/High; and Robin Lampman, Occupational Therapist, Redoubt Elementary.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE
REQUESTS/CERTIFIED:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve unpaid leave of absence requests for Lana Esposito, Special Education/Resource, Redoubt Elementary; Cindy Rehm, Music, Mt. View Elementary; Bea Klaich, Grades 3/4, Nikolaevsk Elem/High; and Felicia Smith, Special Education/QUEST, Kenai Middle.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE
REQUESTS/SUPPORT:

The Board unanimously approved unpaid leave of absence requests for Charles Gallien, Custodian, Kenai Central High; Sue Alexander, Bookkeeper, Homer High; and Elizabeth Kobylarz, Special Education Aide, Redoubt Elementary.

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EARLY GRADUATION REQUEST: Mr. Tom Thorpe recommended the Board approve an early graduation request for a Homer High School student to graduate in January, 1996.

ACTION Mr. Arness moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

EXPULSIONS: Mrs. Obendorf reported that the Board conducted two expulsion hearings to tonight's business meeting.

ACTION Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board approve the following:

The decision of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School Board in the matter of expulsion of the student C.S.

This matter came for hearing at the recommendation of the Administration for expulsion of the student C.S. from Nikiski Jr/Sr High School. The student, a seventh grader, was recommended for expulsion for starting a fire in the restroom at the school. The student was present with counsel and a parent; the school administration was represented by Robert G. Bellmore, Principal, Donald P. Glaze, Asst. Principal, and Tom Thorpe, KPBSD Assistant Superintendent of Instruction. The matter was heard by the Board on May 15, 1995. The Board hearing on expulsion followed a hearing conducted by Mr. Dave Spence.

After having heard the presentations and testimony, and having reviewed the decision rendered by Dave Spence as the hearing officer, the Board concludes that the hearing officer had adequate support for the findings made therein. The student admitted starting a fire in the restroom, and this is not excused by the possibility another student may have started a separate fire within minutes in the same area as claimed by the student. Further, the administration introduced evidence that the alleged second student was in a detention room at the time he was reported to have been in the restroom, and records do not show this person having left the detention room. This calls directly into question whether any such incident occurred but it is noted that even if such were true it would not lessen the actions of this student. The student knowingly and willfully set a fire with all the attendant possibility of damage and injury. This action

EXPULSIONS (Continued):

warrants expulsion. Setting a fire, regardless of intent, places other students and individuals at risk. With inclement weather, the risk of harm to other students is increased. The fact that a student in the seventh grade fails to show recognition of, or disregard of, the consequences of lighting a fire in a school raises significant questions that must be addressed before the student can be readmitted to the school setting. The school district finds the evidence shows the student should be expelled both as a consequence of his actions and for the protection of other students. A reasonable time of expulsion is required for the school district to ascertain that no further risk to students will occur by the readmission of this student.

In light of this determination, the school board directs that student C.S. be expelled from the date of his suspension through the remainder of this semester and the fall semester of the 1995-96 school year. Provided however, that the student will be eligible for limited readmission for correspondence courses for the period of expulsion, and further provided that the student may be considered for early readmission to the classroom setting in the fall semester on the following conditions:

1. That a satisfactory psychological evaluation be provided clearly indicating the student does not have a problem with starting fires or inability to recognize danger to other people from such action.
2. That the student provide 200 hours of community service, or, if such work is available and convenient to the district, he may do work for the district that would be counted toward restitution for the damages caused by the fire.
3. That the student enter a behavior contract with the principal if allowed early readmission, and upon failure to meet the terms of that contract, the remaining term of expulsion be reimposed.

EXPULSIONS (Continued):

We specifically consider the arguments presented on behalf of the student that there was a question of whether there were two fires started by different individuals. The Board finds there is not sufficient evidence to support the student's contention and finds it unlikely this occurred. As noted earlier in this decision, the Board does not deem such issue material to this decision. The Board also considers the claims that the procedure was unfair in that the student could not confront witnesses who stated he admitted to starting the fire. The confrontation would be irrelevant in this case, since the administration stated that the witnesses would only repeat the same things the student admitted, and no further statements, if any, of these students were offered. Therefore, any claim of error in that regard would be without merit. We find no basis that the student was deprived of a fair process or that the conclusions reached by the hearing officer in this matter are not supported by evidence.

This decision is rendered by the school board this 15th day of May 1995.

Dr. Anderson seconded.

Mr. Arness arrived late for the expulsion hearing and asked to abstain from voting.

Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board approve the following:

The decision of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School Board in the matter of expulsion of the student L.S.

This matter was heard on recommendation of the administration for expulsion of the student L. S. on May 15, 1995. Appearing before the Board were the student and mother; and for the school district, Tom Thorpe, Asst. Superintendent of Instruction, Malcolm Fleming, Principal, and Steve Wilcox, Asst. Principal, of Seward High/Middle School.

This matter was previously heard by Malcolm Fleming as the hearing officer on May 3, 1995. The incident over which this matter arose was on May 1, 1995. The student used a butane or Bic-type lighter, and set another student's hair on fire while flicking it behind the student's back. The student is an eighth grade student at the Middle school, the incident occurred shortly after the school day.

EXPULSIONS (Continued):

The Board has reviewed the decision of the hearing officer, and, after having heard the presentation, finds there was evidence to support the findings regarding the circumstances leading up to the hearing officer's decision, and the decision of the hearing officer as to the facts and events is hereby adopted by the Board. The Board does not adopt in full the recommendations of the hearing officer as to the expulsion. The board also finds that there is a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the student this year that, in conjunction with this action, indicates a serious risk for the safety of other students exists with the student's presence in the school setting. Expulsion to remove the student from this setting is necessary for the protection of other students in the school, and to avoid disruption of the programs in the school. The evidence amply demonstrates that the student has had conflicts and behavioral problems during the past year, and that sanctions rendered to date have not tended to curb rather impulsive behavior. From its own observation and the principal's testimony, we determine the student is extremely bright and articulate. Despite the student's assertions, the Board can only conclude that a continued significant risk exists for the safety of other students and that expulsion is appropriate. The student is therefore expelled from the date of the event through the remainder of this school year and the first semester of the 1995-96 school year. However, the student is authorized for limited readmission for district correspondence, both for the current year and the following fall semester. And given the possibility of a change in behavior, it is further provided that the school district may allow an early readmission if certain special conditions are met prior to the beginning of the fall semester in 1995-96. The district may consider but is not compelled, to allow readmission upon the student meeting the minimum conditions set out herein. Early readmission to the classroom shall only be allowed if the superintendent, after consultation with the principal, that the possibility of continued conduct creating a risk for other students has been addressed through maturity and a change in the student's behavior. The special conditions set herein are designed to demonstrate that the student is sufficiently aware of the consequences of his actions and has completed steps that show a sufficient stability that the risk of reoccurrence does not substantially exist. The minimum conditions for early readmission are:

1. Completion of counseling regarding proper behavior toward other persons and a report from a qualified counselor indicating that the student does not have compulsive behavior problems or problems related to fire that would create an undue risk to other students and person if allowed into the setting of school.

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EXPULSIONS (Continued):

2. That the student successfully complete a correspondence curriculum as specified by the district for the spring semester of the eighth grade.
3. That the student research and prepare a 15-page report that details the consequences of injury or harm to person where the person causing the harm did not intend such harm as a result of their actions.
4. That the student address any additional concerns that the district administration has in addition to these minimum requirements to allow it to determine whether a risk of harm exists.
5. That the readmission be based upon a behavior contract to be set up by the principal for which the violation of any term will result in immediate reimposition of the remaining expulsion term.

The burden of demonstrating a change in circumstances in behavior to address the concerns of safety of the other students rests solely upon the student and his parents. In the absence of the minimum requirements set herein the student shall have been deemed not to meet the threshold showing of sufficient change to warrant consideration of early readmission to a classroom setting.

This decision is rendered by the School Board this 15th day of May, 1995.

Dr. Anderson seconded.

Mrs. Larned abstained because of her absence at the expulsion hearing.

Motion carried unanimously.

RECESS:

At 9:10 p.m., Mrs. Obendorf called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER RECESS:

At 9:20 p.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.

POLICY REVISION/007.2 DUE
 PROCESS:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve revisions to Regulation 007.2, Due Process. This regulation was developed by the district administration in conjunction with the high school administration in an attempt to provide an easier process for parents and school administrators to understand and implement.

ACTION

Mr. Thibodeau moved the Board approve the revised Regulation 007.2 Due Process. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

POLICY REVISION/007.2 DUE
PROCESS (Continued):

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board approve an amendment to insert the statement "but postmarked not later than within 36 hours of removal or suspension from school" at the end of the third paragraph. Motion died for lack of a second.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board approve an amendment to insert commas after "Parents" and "majority" in the first paragraph under the heading of "Appeal Process" and replacing "at" with "prior to" in the last sentence. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Amendment carried unanimously.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

POLICY REVISION/007.12
SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve revisions to Policy 007.12, Substance Abuse. This policy is a rewrite of a former policy which was extremely lengthy. High school and district administrators assisted in developing this policy which is more understandable and direct.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve the rewrite of Policy 007.12, Substance Abuse. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

1995-96 NON-TENURE
TEACHERS FOR TENURE:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve a listing of non-tenure teachers for tenure for the 1995-96 school year.

District Wide

Hall, Kevin
Maxwell, Laurine

McNeil Canyon Elementary

Ford, Lori

Homer High

Jay, Patricia
Sander, Richard
Wilbanks, Gregory

Mt. View Elementary

Altland, Sandra (.50)

Nikiski Elementary

Bagley, Gretchen
Redlin, Paula

Homer Jr.

Calhoun, Daniel
Koplin, Alex

Nikiski Middle/Sr. High

Shostak, Kimberlee

Hope Elementary

Trout, Alex

Paul Banks Elementary

Edwards, Jennifer

K-Beach Elementary

Roed, Mary

Razdolna Elementary

Wisdom, Beverly

Kenai Central High

Hobart, Jason
Shirley, Robert

Sears Elementary

Jackson, Mary (.50)
Mathews, Susan

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1995-96 NON-TENURE
TEACHERS FOR TENURE
(Continued):

Seward Jr./Sr. High
Davenport-Wheeler, Liesl
Fleming, Martha
Olson, Deborah

Soldotna Middle
Carpenter, Dave
Rolph, Cathleen
Wyatt, Shannon

Skyview High
Boehmer, Nancy
Dusek, Sean
Tabor, Jennifer (.60)

S.B. English Elem/High
Agosti-Hackett, Ann

Tustumena Elementary
Blossom, Katie (.50)

Soldotna High
Britton, Julie
Druce, Michael
Hamel, Michael
Smola, Abigail
Vaisenberg, Grigorii

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve the 1995-96 list of non-tenure teachers for tenure as presented. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

TENTATIVE 1995-96 NON-
TENURE TEACHER
ASSIGNMENTS:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve a listing of non-tenure teacher assignments for the 1995-96 school year.

Chapman Elementary
Crum, Christine
Demers, Carole
Nelson, Luanne

Kachemak Selo Elementary
Conley, Sharon

District Wide
Estelle Renee
Nelson, Andrea

Kenai Central High
Davis, James
Knaus, Deborah

Homer Flex
Whitney, Anne

Kenai Middle
Johnston, Colleen
Vrvilo, Lisa

Homer High
Phillips, Todd
Roberts, Frances
Todd, Mickey
Welles, Julianne

Mt. View Elementary
Brewer-Fair, Karen
Hamm-Brinkerhoff, Angela
Heath, Monica

Homer Jr. High
Tinsley, Carolyn

Nanwalek Elem./High
Carrow, Catherine
Harbison, Dan
Morris, David

Hope Elementary
Cruz, Patricia

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TENTATIVE 1995-96 NON-
TENURE TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS
(Continued):

Nikiski Elementary
Atchley, Lisa
Lewis, Russell
Sparlin, Shelli

Nikiski Jr./Sr. High
Atchley, Chell
Gillaspie, Steven
Moore, Lee
Sanders, Dorothy
Sanders, Kent
Schrier, David C.
Taber, Patricia
VanBuskirk, Christine (.50)

Ninilchik Elem./High
Boll, Julie
Graham, Joyclyn
Vaughan, Wayne

Port Graham Elem./High
Michael, David
Wetherbee, Kristi
Wetherbee, Michael

Sears Elementary
DeVolld, Sheila (.75)
Dykoschak, Laurie
Wright, Colleen

Seward Jr./Sr. High
Barkman, James
Colston, Lawrence

Skyview High
Blomquist, Melinda
Jones, Darren
McKay, Miriam
Peterson, Kent (.75)

Soldotna Elementary
Johnston, Robert (.50)
Morgenweck, Judith
Pfitzner, Anne

Soldotna High
Harding, Heidi
Kiel, Holly (.50)
Lakin, Amy
Ramponi, Jill
Torassa, Robin

Soldotna Middle
Campbell, Donna
Furlong, Pamela

Sterling Elementary
Stroh, Kelli
Szabo-Bendock, Catherine

S.B. English Elem./High
Streater, Kenneth

Voznesenka Elementary
Krieger, Leanne

Unassigned
Johnston, Robert (.50)
Kittrell, Carl
Koppert, Joyce
Mooney, Joseph

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve the 1995-96 list of tentative assignments for non-tenure teachers as presented. Mr. Arness seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

TENTATIVE 1995-96 TENURE
TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve a listing of tentative tenure teacher assignments for the 1995-96 school year.

Paul Banks Elementary
Shepard, Janet
Venuti, Caroline

Unassigned
Bell, Robert
Brann, Molly

District Wide
Saito, Lincoln

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TENTATIVE 1995-96 TENURE
TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS
(Continued):
ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve the 1995-96 list of tentative assignments for tenure teachers as presented. Mr. Thibodeau seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

REDOUBT ELEMENTARY
PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT:

Dr. Bromenschenkel moved the Board approve the appointment of Mr. Ken Meacham as Principal, Redoubt Elementary School. Mr. Meacham currently serves at the principal of Soldotna High School, and has seventeen years of administrative experience in addition to classroom teaching experience at both the elementary and secondary level.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve Mr. Ken Meacham as Principal of Redoubt Elementary School. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

NIKISKI ELEMENTARY
PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve Trena Richardson as Principal, Nikiski Elementary School. Ms. Richardson has worked in the district for twenty-two years and has served in various capacities, most recently as librarian and teacher-in-charge at K-Beach Elementary. Ms. Richardson has participated in many leadership roles in the district and state levels. She has been an active member on various committees including the School Based Decision Making committee.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve Trena Richardson as Principal of Nikiski Elementary School. Mr. Thibodeau seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR
APPOINTMENT:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board appoint Phil Biggs to the position of Technology Director. Mr. Biggs currently directs the development of the technology program in the Greeley, Colorado Public Schools. Mr. Biggs has worked with the Greeley Public Schools for the last four years. Prior to that time, he served as an education specialist with a private enterprise firm in Greeley. He served as the district technology coordinator for the Rangely Public Schools in Rangely, Colorado for four years.

Dr. Bromenschenkel commented that two local candidates and Mr. Biggs were interviewed for the position.

ACTION

Mr. Thibodeau moved the Board approve Phil Biggs as the Technology Director. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

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AASB NOMINATION:

Dr. Bromenschenkel announced that during the last meeting correspondence was shared with the Board concerning two vacancies on the AASB Board of Directors. The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District and other districts were invited to nominate one of their Board members to sit on the Board of Directors. This response requires Board action during a regular or special meeting, and was placed on the agenda should the Board wish to nominate one of its members.

Mrs. Obendorf further explained that this position would serve until their elections are held in November.

No nominations were made.

FIRST READING/REGULATION
007.5 STUDENT FEES:

Dr. Bromenschenkel presented the first reading of Regulation 007.5 Student Fees. He recommended the title be changed from materials/textbook use fee to a materials use fee. Several options were presented for who should pay and how collections will be made.

Option #1 under each section was the administration's recommendation. Money would be collected for those who did not declare that it was a hardship, and would be deposited into the school 30 account. A formula of two-thirds would be deducted from the school budget, and the money collected would be deposited into the accounts as determined by the principal. The money would remain at the school where it was collected.

Mrs. Obendorf asked that the word "deposit" be replaced with the word "fee." Mr. Swarner explained that the district does charge deposits, and unspent money is returned at the end of the year, and in other cases fees are charged.

Mr. Tauriainen suggested that the new language become the first paragraph in the regulation. Dr. Bromenschenkel agreed and further recommended that the sentence "In addition, a deposit may be required in junior and senior high school classes," be added. Dr. Anderson recommended that the terms "deposit and/or fee" be used.

Mr. Arness supported both recommendations by the administration. He felt that the recommended fee process encourages the principals to pursue their parents for collection.

Dr. Anderson felt that the term textbook/materials fees indicates to parents that some part of that money would go towards the purchase of textbooks. If the money will be put into various revenue accounts it becomes misleading.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Angela McKinney thanked the Board for their consideration of the postponement of the Chapman move.

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PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
(Continued):

Mrs. Karen Mahurin spoke against the textbook/materials fees collection process. She felt that it is asking too much of school secretaries to collect fees. Over the past years secretaries have been asked to take on more responsibilities as well as reducing work schedules of high school secretaries from twelve months to ten months. She felt that this fee would be unfair to her school since they have an extremely high amount of free/reduced lunch participants.

Mrs. Ann Bayes expressed her concern for equity throughout the district regarding the textbook/materials fees.

Ms. Pam Lettington, parent, North Star Elementary, expressed her concern for the materials/textbook fee and the reduction of school budgets. She felt that it puts too much burden on the school secretary to collect the fees.

Mr. John Kistler stated that the proposed textbook/materials fees are, in fact, a textbook tax. If a textbook tax is going to be charged and students do not receive a textbook, he predicted that lawsuits from the parents of those students will be forthcoming. He suggested that the wording "and used to purchase textbooks" be added to the end of the regulation.

Ms. Pam Russell, Nikiski parent, asked for clarification of the pupil activity account. She cited an example of money raised for the senior class celebration at Nikiski High. It was deposited into a pupil activity account and when it came time to spend the money, it was gone. She asked if the materials/textbook fees would be deposited into the same account.

Dr. Bromenschenkel explained that the principal is the one who will have direct accessibility to the money collected to purchase textbooks. He added that if additional money is received from the legislature then he would like to postpone implementation of the textbook/materials fee.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Miss Baldwin stated that during her conference call with the student body presidents, they asked her to have the Board consider uniform scheduling for all high schools throughout the district. Miss Baldwin also thanked the Board and administration for assisting her this year as she served as the Board's student representative. She will graduate on May 23rd and has been impressed with this school district and its teachers.

BOARD COMMENTS
(Continued):

Mrs. Larned expressed her appreciation for the school presentations at the beginning of each meeting. Tonight she especially appreciated hearing how the high school art students are sharing their abilities in workshops for elementary students. She felt this was very important since many elementary schools do not have much in the way of art classes. She was also happy to learn that Paul Banks Elementary is teaching foreign languages to their students. Mrs. Larned stated the band and choir concerts have been wonderful and thanked the teachers, students and their parents for all the effort that goes into these productions.

Dr. Anderson stated that he was extremely impressed with the Soldotna area school music concerts he recently attended. In response to Mr. Ron Drathman's letter to the Board concerning hazardous bus routes, Dr. Anderson felt the Homer routes should be reconsidered. Dr. Anderson asked the Board to reconsider the boundary changes to Soldotna and Skyview High Schools.

Mr. Arness recognized the elementary principals for the extremely hard job they do and felt that statements made earlier in the evening about, "giving high school principals a break by rotating them around," was unfair. Mr. Arness announced that he will have a high school graduate next week and that he recently attended the Kenai Central Pop Festival and that it was quite an enjoyable evening.

Mrs. Obendorf stated she attended the Academic Recognition Night and was impressed by the amount of students who had maintained a 4.0 grade point average for the year. She also encouraged those present to attend the Chamber of Commerce luncheon tomorrow at the Senior Center, where Dr. Bromenschenkel will be speaking on school based decision making.

Mrs. Obendorf reported she drove through the new Hall subdivision at the end of Redoubt Avenue and was astounded at the number of houses that are being built. She did not feel it was necessary to change high school boundaries and will change her vote if the item appears on the agenda again.

Mrs. Obendorf asked Chapman Elementary parents to think very seriously about what is truly best for students and not what parents want. She cautioned them to consider whether their proposal is really what they want, because if it happens, they will have to live with that decision. She also asked them to speak with both principals concerning the differences with each of the school programs.

Mrs. Obendorf thanked Sally Tachick for substituting for Ms. Jewell during her absence. She announced that the next Board meeting will be June 12, and reminded Board members to check the sign up schedule for graduation attendance.

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ADJOURN:

At 10:30 p.m., Mr. Thibodeau moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Arness seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President


Dr. Nels Anderson, Clerk

The Minutes of May 15, 1995,
were approved on June 6, 1995,
as written.