

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
 Borough Administration Building
 Soldotna, Alaska 99669

October 18, 1993

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President
 Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk
 Mr. Clifford Massie, Treasurer
 Dr. John Nels Anderson, Member
 Mr. Joe Arness, Member
 Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Member
 Mr. Michael Wiley, Member
 Mr. Rick Bell, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Holmes, Superintendent of Schools
 Mr. John Dahlgren, Associate Superintendent, Planning,
 Operations, and Technology
 Mrs. Mary Rubadeau, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional
 Services
 Mrs. Sharon Radtke, Executive Director, Personnel
 Mr. Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Beth Martin	Mr. Mick Wykis
Mrs. Penny Little	Mrs. Helen Sibson
Mrs. Cheryl Samples	Mrs. Sharon Geeslin
Ms. Sherry Innes	Ms. Kari Mohn
Mr. David Spence	Mr. James Early
Mrs. Brenda Cutsforth	Mr. Mark Burgener
Mrs. Carole Bear	Mr. Pat Shields
Mr. and Mrs. John Mills	Mr. Tom Thorpe
Mrs. Karen Mahurin	Mr. Mike Chitty
Mr. John Kistler	Mrs. Lenoria Johnson
Mrs. Joan Schrader	Mrs. Janie Lawley
Mr. Duane Anderson	Ms. Cheryl Miller
Mr. Dan Sexton	Mrs. Kelly Smith
Ms. Trena Richardson	Mr. Hank Overturf
Mrs. Margaret Simon	Mrs. Nancy Thibodeau
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Moldenhouer	Mrs. Betsy Staley
Mr. and Mrs. William Raemaeker	Mrs. Kristin Green
Mr. Paul Sorenson	Mrs. Nancy Rollins
Mrs. Kathy Heus	Mrs. Ethel Clausen
Mr. Emery Thibodeau	Ms. Susie Franklin
Ms. Kelly Lynch	Mr. Richard DeMello
Mr. John Artz	Mr. John Bradshaw
Mrs. Donna Hicks	Mr. Doug Mervin
Ms. Shelly Culligan	Mr. Joe Mullins
Mr. Richard Harvey	Mrs. Debbie Tupper
Mr. George Martin	Mr. Richard Abrahamson
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Sandahl	Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Obendorf called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mrs. Obendorf invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- OATH OF OFFICE: Newly elected school board members Joe Arness and Dr. John Nels Anderson received the Oath of Office from Notary Public Barbara Jewell.
- ROLL CALL:
- | | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Mrs. Betty Obendorf | Present |
| Mr. Michael Tauriainen | Present |
| Mr. Clifford Massie | Present |
| Dr. John Nels Anderson | Present |
| Mr. Joe Arness | Present |
| Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross | Present |
| Mr. Michael Wiley | Present |
| Mr. Rick Bell | Present |
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as printed.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of October 4, 1993, were approved with a correction.
- PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:
- Mr. James Early stated he felt the school board member representative on the Reconsideration of Instructional Materials Committee should not be allowed to vote on recommendations from the committee. He noted this was a conflict of interest. He further noted the books being reconsidered had been placed in district libraries by individuals. He felt the books were against district policy and district approved curriculum, and school board members who voted for the books should be held liable for disciplinary action because they violated district policy.
- Ms. Kelly Lynch, Seward Community School Director, encouraged the Board approve a \$1,697 appropriation which would be matched by City of Seward funds to expand the program to full-time status. She noted the director's position is funded through the City as a temporary employee, thus costing less due to reduced benefits. She felt the policy to cut Seward first because they do not hire school district employee's is an outdated policy.
- Mr. Richard DeMello, Kenai parent, expressed concern on the books related to sex education in schools. He noted the current sex education program has resulted in a higher rate of teenage pregnancies. He felt this demonstrated the failure of sex education which is an attempt to stimulate students to create more behavior in the area of teenage sex. He did not see the need for books of such a nature in schools when better things can be taught.

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PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
(continued):

Mr. John Artz, Soldotna bus driver, requested the Board protect the bus drivers' wages in the upcoming transportation contract. He asked that language be added to the contract to protect the drivers' salaries. He felt the contract should stipulate that existing drivers will be hired, the driver's seniority will be honored, and the prevailing wage will be paid. Mr. Dahlgren responded that kind of language has been included in the bus contract to protect the local drivers' seniority and wage/benefit package.

Mr. John Bradshaw, Sterling parent, stated he did not feel the books had a place in the school system. He commented he did not feel students needed any more encouragement to run amuck.

Mrs. Donna Hicks, Kenai parent, spoke in opposition to the books introduced to the school. She stated she thought the books were written on a fourth grade level, and she couldn't understand if the school did not teach children fully in reading, writing and arithmetic, why should they teach students to have sex. She felt the situation was ridiculous and the books should not be used for research.

Mr. Doug Merwin, parent, presented charts indicating a \$2 billion comprehensive sex education program where abortions, unwed mothers, and pregnancies have increased. He stated birth rates have gone down due to abortions. He felt the district policy was excellent but the Board needed to adhere to it. He stated the only thing that works is an abstinence based program.

Ms. Shelly Culligan expressed concern about where the line of censorship stops, and noted that some things are not taught in the home. She questioned the accuracy of statistics presented by the previous speaker. She felt that education is not the sole blame for abortion and higher births rates.

Mrs. Lenoria Johnson, parent, requested that young children and teens leave the room due to the nature of her comments. Mrs. Johnson spoke about masturbation, homosexuality, sexual behavior and terminology she found objectionable which were used in two of the books under reconsideration.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
(continued):

Mrs. Brenda Cutsforth, parent, stated she was asking for age appropriate materials, not total censorship. She reiterated a situation where students were placed on detention for reading a pornographic comic book and the students commented that had the material come from the library nothing would have happened. She noted that parents are encouraged to be involved in the schools, but when they are really involved in the students' health and welfare it appeared that the parents' involvement was not welcomed. She encouraged that the books be removed because they are not age appropriate for students.

Mr. Joe Mullins, Nikiski High student, stated that high school students and parents often feel that sex is an uncomfortable subject to talk about. He noted that if the books had not been brought before the school board, they probably would never have been read, but that it was important to have information available for students. He noted varying view points should be available so students can form their own opinions.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, noted that the books referred to are library books. They are not a part of the health curriculum. He stated it is appropriate that students have information available to reference in order to know what their fellow students are talking about, whether good, bad or indifferent. He noted this information could be discussed with parents or in health classes. He commented he did not want he or his children to bury their "heads in the sand" with those objecting to the books.

Mr. Richard Harvey, school board candidate, quoted from the Negotiated Agreement about instructional freedom and intent of instructional freedom. He questioned whether there was a legality involved in breach of contract. He commented on the new surgeon general's statement about teaching sex education, and questioned how much accessibility students need on other topics such as building bombs and becoming drug addicts.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

Mrs. Joan Schrader, representative for the Mount Redoubt Alaska Chapter of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, expressed concern on the cancellation of the Paideia Program at Homer High School. She felt the "Great Books" class featuring classic books spanning 2500+ years should be appropriate for the school district. She felt more could be done for students through actual presence of teachers, television instruction, and sharing of specific classes. She called attention to AASB resolutions which are of educational interest to the district. She requested board members take time to serve as hearing members throughout the year to develop consensus with the public on matters of concern to them.

COMMUNICATIONS AND
PETITIONS:

Mrs. Obendorf announced a letter had been received from Galina Maximova, School Superintendent for the City of Magadan, Russia, requesting an exception to the policy and invited Redoubt Elementary students and teachers to exchange ideas with School #14 during the March, 1994 spring break. They requested the students and teachers be excused from school for three days due to Aeroflot's scheduled flights.

Mrs. Obendorf read an executive proclamation from Governor Walter J. Hickel declaring the week of October 17-23 as School Bus Safety Week. The theme of the proclamation was "In the Land of the Midnight Sun, Safety is Number One".

KPEA:

Mr. Mike Chitty, KPEA President, presented the Board with written statements from librarians, teachers and members of the community expressing concern on the cuts to librarians' contracts. He acknowledged that the schools' media centers are the hub of each school, and requested that contract days be restored in order that students and teachers can be served properly. In addition, other budget cuts have resulted in decreased inventory which has resulted in additional librarian time for repairing and mending often outdated materials.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Obendorf presented a retirement plaque to Mrs. Gladys "Betsy" Staley, Personnel Coordinator, Central Office in recognition of her 29 years of dedicated service to the school district. She also presented a plaque to John Mills, Sears Elementary teacher, recognizing his "First Year Teacher Award" from the American Association of School Administrators.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Holmes reported student enrollment was currently at 9934, which is 215 students over projection. He noted adjustments in teaching staff will be considered after the close of the 20-day enrollment count, which ends October 22.

He reported on a successful Second Annual Kenai Peninsula Council of PTA/PAC's Conference held in Homer, October 15-16. He complimented Pam Lazenby, Kathy Godek and Pat Case for their efforts in developing an excellent conference with topics of interest to parents. He noted unfortunately only 20 parents attended the conference.

KENAI CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
REPORT:

Mr. David Spence, Kenai Central High School principal, reported to the Board on programs at his school. A program of student "hands on" experience was presented by a quartet comprised of Todd Jackson, and Aaron, James and Curtis McCubbins, a student activities report by Jessica Rutherford and Tonya Naylor, school video prepared by Mark Burgener, student art display and horsd'oeuvres prepared by the Advanced Foods class.

SEWARD BUS REQUEST:

In response to a request made at the October 4 meeting held in Seward, Mr. Dahlgren reported bus transportation to the Questa Woods Subdivision in Seward presented several problems which included the bus stopping on the main highway to do a light check before turning and crossing the railroad tracks, high accumulation of snow during the winter which caused hazardous traveling conditions, and a possible schedule change to pick up the students earlier in the morning. He noted other subdivision requests on borough maintained roads have been made throughout the borough, but no additional maintenance can be provided by the borough. Mr. Wiley requested that possibly the road to Questa Woods Subdivision be considered as a hazardous bus route and that the administration continue to review the situation. Mrs. Obendorf requested the administration send a copy of the report to the Seward PAC and principals.

SEWARD HIGH HANDICAP
ACCESS:

Mr. Dahlgren reported the school district and borough maintenance department are currently assessing all schools related to disability access outside and within the buildings as part of ADA legislation. He noted projects will be prioritized according to student and patron needs and budgeted through the borough maintenance budget in subsequent years. Seward High School's handicap access will be considered within the review of the schools in the district. Mrs. Obendorf requested a letter be sent to the Seward PAC since they brought this item to the Board's attention.

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RECESS: At 9:08 p.m., Mrs. Obendorf called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER RECESS: The Board reconvened in regular session at 9:22 p.m.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Swarner presented the financial report of the district for the period ending September 30, 1993. He also outlined expenditures for the August pupil activities account.

BUDGET TRANSFERS REPORT: Mr. Swarner reported on Budget Transfers #1 through #115 as follows: #1, Soldotna High, \$1,245; #2, Seward High, \$12; #3, Ninilchik Elem-High, \$125; #4, Soldotna Junior High, \$797; #5, Soldotna Junior High, \$3,767; #6, Paul Banks Elementary, \$165; #7, Sears Elementary, \$192; #9, Alternative Programs, \$738; #10, Director - Operations, \$600; #11, Purchasing Services, \$1,461; #12, Purchasing Services, \$60; #13, Skyview High, \$173; #14, Personnel Services, \$83; #15, Tustumena Elementary, \$2,000; #16, Soldotna High, \$1,436; #18, Nikiski Jr-Sr High, \$500; #19, Nikiski Jr-Sr High, \$732; #20, Nikolaevsk Elem-High/District Media Center, \$100; #21, Special Services/Kalifornsky Beach Elementary/Redoubt Elementary/Kenai Central High/Paul Banks Elementary/Seward Elementary/Seward High/Soldotna Junior High/Sears Elementary/Soldotna High/Homer High/Soldotna Elementary/Homer Intermediate/Nikiski Elementary, \$8,250; #22, Special Services/Sears Elementary/Redoubt Elementary/Seward Elementary/Paul Banks Elementary/Nikiski Elementary, \$2,600; #23, Special Services/Nikiski Elementary/Sears Elementary/Mountain View Elementary/Kalifornsky Beach Elementary/Redoubt Elementary/Soldotna Elementary/Sterling Elementary/Chapman Elementary/Paul Banks Elementary/McNeil Canyon Elementary/Seward Elementary/Tustumena Elementary/Homer Intermediate, \$4,125; #24, Special Services/Chapman Elementary/Homer High/Homer Intermediate/Homer Junior High/Kalifornsky Beach Elementary/Kenai Central High/Kenai Middle/McNeil Canyon Elementary/Mountain View Elementary/Nikiski Elementary/Nikiski Jr-Sr High/Nikolaevsk Elem-High/Ninilchik Elem-High/North Star Elementary/Paul Banks Elementary/Redoubt Elementary/Sears Elementary/Seward Elementary/Seward High/Soldotna Elementary/Soldotna High/Soldotna Jr. High/Sterling Elementary/Susan B. English Elem-High/Tustumena Elementary/Skyview High, \$11,750; #25, Special Services/Sears Elementary/Paul Banks Elementary/Redoubt Elementary/Soldotna Elementary, \$2,400; #26, Soldotna High, \$500; #27, Kenai Central High, \$200; #28, Kenai Central High, \$1,500; #29, Kenai Middle, \$285; #30,

BUDGET TRANSFERS REPORT
(continued):

Nikiski Elementary, \$208; #31, Warehouse, \$250; #32, Homer Jr. High, \$745; #33, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary, \$203; #34, Skyview High, \$140; #35, Homer High, \$1,482; #36, Nikiski Elementary, \$289; #37, Purchasing Services, \$160; #38, Alternative Programs, \$212; #39, Skyview High, \$539; #40, Homer High, \$362; #41, Tustumena Elementary, \$199; #42, Alternative Programs, \$296; #43, Special Services, \$1,117; #44, Paul Banks Elementary, \$70; #45, Nikiski Elementary, \$359; #46, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary, \$299; #47, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary, \$96; #48, Homer High, \$1,081; #49, Seward High, \$585; #50, Soldotna High, \$500; #51, Nikolaevsk Elem-High, \$192; #52, Warehouse, \$270; #53, Alternative Programs/Voznesenka, \$233; #54, Special Services, \$400; #55, Homer High, \$110; #56, Soldotna High, \$1,918; #57, Special Services/Soldotna Elementary, \$60; #58, Ninilchik Elem-High, \$26; #59, Homer High, \$2,580; #60, Soldotna High, \$204; #61, Homer High, \$58; #62, McNeil Canyon Elementary, \$220; #63, Ninilchik Elem-High, \$149; #64, Kenai Central High, \$454; #65, Kenai Central High, \$60; #67, McNeil Canyon Elementary, \$125; #68, Homer Intermediate, \$179; #69, Homer High, \$94; #70, Homer High, \$300; #71, Nikiski Jr-Sr High, \$3,370; #72, Kachemak Selo, \$875; #73, Susan B. English Elem-High, \$351; #74, Soldotna High, \$726; #75, Paul Banks Elementary, \$447; #76, North Star Elementary, \$590; #77, North Star Elementary, \$168; #78, Skyview High, \$310; #79, Homer High, \$200; #80, Kenai Central High, \$200; #81, Homer High, \$2,221; #82, Homer High, \$55; #83, Soldotna High, \$2,640; #84, Homer High, \$309; #86, Tustumena Elementary, \$230; #87, Alternative Programs, \$1,320; #88, Food Services, \$1,000; #89, Kenai Central High, \$580; #90, Cooper Landing Elementary, \$178; #91, Paul Banks Elementary, \$30; #92, North Star Elementary, \$200; #93, Alternative Programs, \$1,050; #94, Alternative Programs, \$350; #95, Seward Elementary, \$400; #96, Tustumena Elementary, \$244; #97, North Star Elementary, \$402; #98, Special Services, \$251; #99, Homer High, \$94; #100, Homer High, \$143; #101, Kenai Central High, \$200; #102, Special Services, \$900; #103, Soldotna Jr. High, \$562; #104, Director - Instruction, \$484; #106, Soldotna High, \$38; #107, Homer Jr. High, \$132; #108, Sterling Elementary, \$1,750; #110, Kachemak Selo, \$300; #111, Nikolavesk Elem-High, \$107; #112, Homer High, \$485; #113, North Star Elementary, \$159; #114, North Star Elementary, \$239; and #115, Seward High, \$237.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Extended Field Trip Request, Resignations, Substitute Teacher Contracts and Sick Leave Bank Request/Support.

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EXTENDED FIELD TRIP
 REQUEST:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve an extended field trip request for 12 Seward Jr/Sr High School Spanish students to travel to Spain, March 10-19, 1994 to participate in an educational program tour to visit Madrid, Barcelona and Palma de Mallorca.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve resignations from Patricia Hunter, Special Education/Resource, Chapman Elementary School, effective November 30, 1993; and Charlotte Pendleton, Library, Sears Elementary, effective October 1, 1993.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER
 CONTRACTS:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve contracts to 19-day substitute teachers Suzanne Torian, Library, Homer High; Jill Gann, Physical Education, Homer High; and Teresa Schutter, Grades 1-2, Tustumena Elementary.

SICK LEAVE DRAW REQUEST/
 SUPPORT:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve a draw from the KPESA Sick Leave Bank for Margaret Turkel, Deaf Education Interpreter, Paul Banks Elementary, 9 days.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

PRIMARY MEMBER IN CHARGE
 OF GAMING PERMITS:

Mr. Swarner recommended the Board approve a resolution establishing the primary member in charge of gaming at twenty-one schools in the district. He noted the schools hold raffles to raise funds, and in order to be in compliance with state law it is necessary for the schools to hold a gaming permit with a primary member responsible for proper operation and reporting requirements.

ACTION

Mr. Massie moved the Board approve the primary member in charge of gaming permits. Mr. Arness seconded.

Mr. Tauriainen commented he was concerned that pull-tabs and rippies might be used, and the motion should be clarified on its use.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved to amend the motion to add, BE IT RESOLVED that such permits shall be limited to raffles. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Mrs. Gross reminded the Board that a policy approved last year would require any activities other than raffles to be approved by the superintendent.

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PRIMARY MEMBER IN CHARGE
OF GAMING PERMITS (cont.):

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YES - Anderson, Tauriainen
NO - Arness, Gross, Massie, Wiley, Obendorf
Advisory Vote - YES

Amendment failed.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

YES - Anderson, Arness, Gross, Massie, Wiley, Obendorf
NO - Tauriainen
Advisory Vote - YES

Motion carried.

BUDGET TRANSFER:

Mr. Swarner recommended the Board approve a Budget Transfer in the amount of \$10,000 to cover travel in the district for speech therapists. He noted the budget transfer was necessary to rectify an oversight when revising the 1993-94 budget. He reminded the Board that the transfer was necessary to be in compliance with board policy which requires any transfer of \$10,000 or more to receive board approval.

ACTION

Mr. Wiley moved the Board approve the budget transfer.
Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

RECONSIDERATION OF
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Mrs. Rubadeau reported the Reconsideration of Instructional Materials Committee met on August 5 and September 22 to review three library books on teenage sexuality which were requested by a parent. This was done in compliance with Policy 006.13 by a committee appointed annually by the Board to reconsider books. She noted two books were requested for reconsideration after approval at the October 4 meeting. She reported book #1, "What Teenagers Want to Know About Sex: Questions and Answers" by Boston Children's Hospital was found to be factual, medically based, and non-judgmental. The committee members unanimously approved maintaining the book in school libraries, with one member who did not approve it for placement at the junior high level. Regarding book #2, "What's Happening to My Body? Book for Boys: A Growing Up Guide for Parents and Sons" by Lynda Madaras with Dane Saavedra, it was found to be factual and emphasized communication about sexuality issues with parents. The committee felt it was appropriate for junior high students. She recommended the Board approve the committee's recommendations.

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RECONSIDERATION OF
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
(continued):

Mr. Tauriainen commented that the second book was also at the Mountain View Elementary School. Mrs. Rubadeau responded that the Mountain View Elementary school nurse keeps the book in her office and checks it out to parents.

Mrs. Obendorf explained that public comments would be taken on the reconsideration motion. She noted that comments should be made to this issue only.

Mr. Jim Early asked members of the audience to stand or wave their hand in support of removing the books from the schools. He stated the Reconsideration of Instructional Materials Committee was made up of nine people. He noted a school board member sits on the committee and felt this was a conflict of interest since the board member was voting on something he considers and should abstain from voting. He noted the Board should weigh their decision openly, honestly and with much forethought. He felt all books should be open for consideration and reconsideration. He did not feel this was censorship, which is denying a person what they can write, what they can publish or what they can read. He felt the books were against the health curriculum.

Mrs. Obendorf explained that all committees contain at least one board member which is according to school district policy. Such membership does not exclude the school board member from voting when a committee issue arises.

Mrs. Debbie Tupper, Soldotna parent, commented she did not feel the material in the books was appropriate for children. She noted since students were not taught everything about science, math, physics in junior high school, they should not be taught every detail about sex. She felt abstinence should be promoted, and if the standards are lowered there are potential dangers to young people. She requested the books be removed from the libraries.

Mr. Richard Harvey, school board candidate, stated he felt that in accordance with the negotiations if teachers used the books as reference materials they would be in violation of the board's policies and liable for dismissal. He questioned who would maintain individual contact or control within the classroom. He stated he appreciated one book's control through the nurse to parents. He felt students were being robbed of academics when getting involved in so many controversial sides of issues. He felt the school district might be held legally liable, and could not afford to take dollars for legal suits away from educational dollars for students.

RECONSIDERATION OF
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
(continued):

Mrs. Nancy Rollins, Soldotna parent, stated she had read one of the books being reconsidered and did not recognize it as described by some community members. She stated 145 pages dealt with puberty, and did not teach students to have sex. She noted the book reinforced abstinence, platonic relationships, and physical changes in their bodies. She noted the Board has a process which has been followed, voted upon and should not be reconsidered. She noted the book is a library book, not part of the health curriculum.

Mrs. Donna Hicks, Kenai parent, told the Board she was mad and requested the Board remove the books from the school libraries. She did not feel there was a place in the school for such material. She stated she would take the issue to any court to have it removed from the schools. She considered the material "garbage".

Ms. Susie Franklin, parent and elementary librarian, stated she is hired to uphold the selection policy which includes the Library Bill of Rights by the American Association of Librarians. The Library Bill of Rights states that libraries should present all points of view on current and historical issues. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or the right denied to use a library because of age, origin, background or views. She noted that from professional training she was at no time told that personal bias entered into the selection of material. She commented the information is accurate, and meets the needs of the community. District policy states it is a responsibility to teach students to think, and teachers can't teach in a vacuum. She commented the district's review policy is one of the best in the nation and urged the Board to not reconsider the books, but let the original decision stand.

Mr. George Martin, Soldotna parent, urged the Board to reconsider the books and stated he was disappointed to find the material in place where his young children can get their hand on it. He noted this is one of the reasons that "school choice" is becoming such a big issue in this country.

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RECONSIDERATION OF
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
(continued):

Mrs. Lenoria Johnson, Soldotna parent, asked the Board to reconsider the issue and questioned whether the Board was aware the complaint was a parental complaint and whether they had received her specific complaint. Mrs. Obendorf responded the Board was aware it was a parent complaint, but the complaint goes to the committee not the school board. Mrs. Johnson requested that school board members receive the parent complaint and felt the board did not have correct information from the committee on the review of the books. Mrs. Johnson requested that more parents be assigned to the committee.

Mrs. Brenda Cutsforth, Soldotna parent, told the Board they should represent the people who communicate and attend their meetings. She stated that she is not opposed to educating students on sexual issues, but felt the information should be medically correct and terminology correct. She did not feel that use of the library books had the educational value they should have. She felt students should discuss issues with adults in the classroom and parents. She felt there were other excellent materials available, and requested the books be removed.

Mr. Mike Chitty stated he agreed with the previous speaker in that informed persons can make intelligent decisions. He felt students should not be denied information on which to base decisions. He did not believe that anyone is diminished by information or education.

Mr. Mark Moldenhouer, Sterling parent, urged the Board to approve reconsideration of the books because the committee did not represent the majority of the parents, all the information in the books was not factual or medically based, and they were straight forward and non-judgmental where everything goes. He stated those present are the public and as such does not limit what administrators, teachers or librarians would want in school libraries. He felt this would be more like a communist government which binds people.

Ms. Kari Mohn, District Media Coordinator, spoke in support of the Board's decision to retain the books as well as replacing the outdated issues of the third book. She stated she had read the books in their entirety and concurred with the committee on the two books which were factual, medically based, straight forward and non-judgmental. She commented that in addition to students receiving human sexuality information from each other, parents, clergy, medical personnel and teachers, students need access to materials on human growth and development in their school libraries.

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RECONSIDERATION OF
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
(continued):

Mr. John Willard, parent of the student representative to the Reconsideration Materials Committee, stated as a parent he believed in education and God, and felt education was important to students. He felt as a parent he is receptive to questions from his children, but sometimes parents do not have all the answers. He felt other resources and information should be available through school libraries and other sources.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, told the Board the books should not be reconsidered. He noted the books were not part of the health curriculum which many parents felt they were. He stated the content of the books is appropriate to junior high and high school libraries, and answers questions asked by students. He concluded that people should not "bury their heads in the sand."

Mr. Monte Cutsforth, student, stated his head is not "buried in the sand" and stated anatomical language not slang should be used. He stated there is a mixed message on appropriate materials, and questioned if these books were in the library why were subscriptions to Hustler and Playboy not in the libraries. He requested the books be reconsidered.

Mrs. Obendorf announced the books would be voted on separately.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved to reconsider the book, "What Teenagers Want to Know About Sex: Questions and Answers."
Dr. Anderson seconded.

Mr. Wiley commented he was concerned about both of the books when the meeting was held in Seward. He noted he read both books which he found to be medically correct and anatomically correct, where the same could be found in an encyclopedia. Overall, he did not feel the material was damaging to students. He further commented the information reinforced abstinence and is not harmful material. He asked the Board to examine the material and not get so carried away by the testimony.

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RECONSIDERATION OF
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
(continued):

Mr. Tauriainen commented the issue was not one of censorship but leadership. He felt the Board should not be providing material to students that they are not ready to handle. He noted they need to make responsible choices. He stated he read the book, and disagreed with Mr. Wiley in philosophy on the book. He read excerpts from the beginning of "What Teenagers Want to Know About Sex: Questions and Answers" by Boston Children's Hospital. He stated the Board needed to reconsider the book and look at the overall policy on books for students.

Mr. Rick Bell, student representative, stated that the future for students with STDs and dangers from sex will not disappear. He felt the problem will not be cured by withholding information, and noted he had read the books, and found them to be factual and real. He noted the same information is taught in the health curriculum and facts and truth will protect and be beneficial for the students in the future. He commented most likely the books will sit by themselves, and be used only by students seeking the information. He felt the issue had been dealt with enough and should be done with.

Dr. Anderson stated that having read the books that basically he would not remove the books from his children. He noted his major concern was the issue to accommodate everyone's view points. A person's religious philosophy basically constitutes the basis of their whole life. He felt the Board has no way to accommodate these opinions or conservative views. He suggested perhaps a parental guidance section could be established in the library, however, that would not follow the Library Bill of Rights. He questioned whether the district would be out of compliance with federal and other laws in doing this. He urged the Board to reconsider both books and postpone action until such time as to consider an option for parents to have control over their children's reading materials.

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RECONSIDERATION OF
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
(continued):

Mrs. Gross commented that as conservative as she is, and considering the sexual molestation rate of young women, and where she attained her sex information from friends, she approved of the books. She noted children are very knowledgeable about sex by the sixth grade either from friends, television, newspapers and other sources. She felt it was unrealistic to believe that children do not have sex knowledge or know the slang terminology, not whether parents approve of it or allow them to use it. She felt that values must be placed in the home at an early age, and parents would be naive to think their children do not have such knowledge by age 10. She did not see the book as a threat to children who have learned values at home.

VOTE:

YES - Anderson, Tauriainen
NO - Arness, Gross, Massie, Wiley, Obendorf
Advisory Vote - NO

Motion failed.

No reconsideration motion was made on the book "What's Happening to My Body? Book for Boys: A Growing Up Guide for Parents and Sons".

RECESS:

At 10:44 p.m., an outburst was made by Mrs. Donna Hicks in the audience, and Mrs. Obendorf called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER RECESS:

At 10:55 p.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.

ARCHITECT SELECTION FOR
TUSTUMENA ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL:

Mr. Dahlgren reported the Board had conducted a worksession prior to the meeting to hear from architectural firms Cash Barner Usher, McGlothlin Balivet Co., Architects Alaska and Kluge and Associates. Evaluation of the proposals indicated 2.3 points separated the two highest firms. He recommended the Board recommend to the Borough Assembly selecting Cash Barner Usher as architect for the Tustumena Elementary School renovations and addition.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved to accept the recommendation of the administration for Cash Barner Usher architects. Dr. Anderson seconded.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved to amend the motion to recommend to the Borough Assembly that Kluge and Associates be retained for architectural services on the Tustumena Elementary Project. Mr. Wiley seconded.

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ARCHITECT SELECTION FOR
 TUSTUMENA ELEMENTARY
 SCHOOL (continued):

Mr. Arness commented he felt a highly qualified local architect should be awarded a portion of the services since the point difference was close. He commented it would be good policy to give the district's business to the local firm for a portion of the services. Mrs. Obendorf expressed concern that some of the architectural changes would be disruptive to school being carried out, and for that reason would vote against the amendment.

Mr. Tauriainen gave notice that he would abstain because of a vested financial interest as a sub-consultant. Mr. Massie stated he would also abstain due to previous commitments he was unable to attend the worksession with the architects.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YES - Arness, Wiley
 NO - Anderson, Gross, Obendorf
 ABSTAIN - Massie, Tauriainen
 Advisory Vote - NO

Amendment failed.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

YES - Anderson, Arness, Gross, Wiley, Obendorf
 ABSTAIN - Massie, Tauriainen
 Advisory Vote - YES

Motion carried.

RESTORE SEWARD COMMUNITY
 SCHOOL FUNDING:

Dr. Holmes stated this item was placed on the agenda at the request of the Board at the October 4 meeting. Mrs. Obendorf commented that a request for an additional \$1,697 would be matched by the City of Seward. She noted the shortfall resulted in escalating salaries.

Ms. Kelly Lynch, Seward Community School Coordinator, told the Board that the program served over 5,000 people annually, which is a large number of people for a small community. She noted time for the coordinator had been cut from 35 hours weekly to currently 19 hours per week. Her time is in charge of the programs at the high school as well as dealing with both safety and security of the building. No office hours to coordinate programs are now available. The appropriation would reinstate the coordinator's office hours to plan and initiate other programs besides open gym activities.

ACTION

Mr. Wiley moved the Board approve restoring \$1,697 to the Seward Community Schools Program. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Mrs. Karen Mahurin, KPESA President, stated she was pleased to hear Seward residents rallying in support of their local program. She commented that this is an example where the district in its quest to save money had cut hours and benefits which directly effected services to students and community. She urged that the appropriation be reinstated.

Mr. Richard Abrahamson, Seward resident, strongly urged the Board to appropriate the funds for the Seward Community School Program. He noted that use of the school, even by individuals who do not have children, gives the school a place of identity within the community. He felt this was a beneficial, positive element of the community.

Mr. Tony Lewis, Soldotna Community School teen coordinator at Skyview High School, supported the request for additional funding to the community school program in Seward. He noted it is important that the coordinator has time to plan and provide quality services to the program. He noted money to the community school program is well spent and costs are minimal compared to the benefits the community receives.

ACTION

Mr. Wiley moved to restore \$1,697 to the Seward Community School Program from 1992-93 carryover funds. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Dr. Anderson questioned why the funds had been cut from the Seward program. Mrs. Rubadeau stated that as explained in previous meetings status quo funding resulted in the reduction of the coordinator's salary. She noted there was nowhere else to cut the budget and the Seward community was aware of the impending reduction. The reduction was not made until this fall when it was known which personnel were retained. Dr. Anderson commented it appeared that Seward was discriminated against on equal division of funds. Mrs. Rubadeau responded that the Seward program was not discriminated against, but that the negotiated agreement with employees was honored.

Mr. Wiley commented he hoped all facts would be known at budget time, and they will not be caught by surprise. Mrs. Rubadeau responded that as long as the budget is totally salary accounts, there is no way to reconcile what the numbers will be until the employees have returned to work. Mr. Wiley stated the program is very important to the community and urged support of the program to return to full-time status.

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RESTORE SEWARD COMMUNITY
SCHOOL FUNDING (continued):

Mrs. Gross questioned whether central peninsula programs could be adjusted to serve a portion of the Seward program. Mrs. Rubadeau responded that each community has separate agreements and provide different financial commitments to their program.

Mr. Tauriainen questioned whether the administration had objections to using surplus funds from the 1992-93 budget for this purpose. Dr. Holmes responded that he felt this was a worthwhile project, however, there are many other requests waiting for use of these funds. He noted the administration looks at the request in the context of other requests. Mrs. Obendorf added that another obvious request is that of extended hours for librarians which was presented to the Board. She noted she was supportive of the request, but hoped there would be no assumption that the increase would become a status quo situation. She felt there was need to work out a plan for next year. Mrs. Rubadeau responded that the administration is unable to work out a plan even though they are advocates for the program. She noted with status quo budgeting, the only accounts left in the budget are salaries which are dictated by the negotiated agreement. There is no room to move unless contract length is cut. Dr. Holmes stated that if labor contracts continue as they have for the past two years and there is no unit value increase he anticipated a cut of \$1.4 million for next year. He cautioned the Board as they enter into the budget process that budget cuts will need to be made.

Mr. Massie stated that he did not favor handing money out whenever requested, however, since it was such a small amount he would like to see this done on a one-time only basis.

ACTION

Mr. Massie moved to amend the motion that it be stipulated that funding is for one year only, and that future budgets be taken care of during the budget process. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Amendment carried unanimously.

Mr. Arness commented he opposed the issue because of the mechanism, not the program. He did not want the Board to begin taking nominations from the floor to fill the gaps. He noted there is a process to follow in requesting funds and this would set a precedent. Mr. Wiley commented he felt the key word is "restore" and because no notice was given to the Seward Program they continued to plan for the full amount. He noted salaries should be considered during the budget process, not in August.

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RESTORE SEWARD COMMUNITY
SCHOOL PROGRAM (continued):

VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION:

YES - Anderson, Gross, Massie, Tauriainen, Wiley, Obendorf
NO - Arness
Advisory Vote - YES

Amended motion carried.

POLICY REVISIONS:

Mrs. Rubadeau presented the first reading of revisions to Policy 005.31, Non-Discriminatory Employment Activities, and new Policies 005.312, Sexual Harassment and 007.17, Harassment/Students. Following general discussion, the Board requested a half-hour worksession on the new policies prior to the next school board meeting.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Karen Mahurin, KPESA President, commented she was pleased the Board would be holding a worksession on the policies, particularly Policy 005.312. She commented she felt the 120 days reporting period needed to be reconsidered. She also noted that the personnel department is often extremely busy, and suggested a committee of three people rather than the personnel director investigate complaints. She felt the personnel coordinator should be an advocate for both employees. She stated other considerations should be given to section C-2, where power is not held over the employee, and employees are dealt with accordingly.

Mr. Pat Shields, Tustumena PTA President, thanked the Board for their support in obtaining approval for their school addition. He also expressed appreciation to parents being able to sit in on the architect selection. From a parent's perspective, he felt the Board's decision on the books made it a more difficult job to teach children sex education because there are mixed messages being sent to children. He told the Board that the issue hasn't gone away.

Mrs. Debbie Tupper, parent, stated she felt it was ironic that there is a policy which prohibits sexual harassment with language on a piece of paper, yet the Board did not see the same concern for kids with the books. She felt it is important to protect kids, and would like the Board to listen to parents.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS
(continued):

Mrs. Nancy Rollins, parent, stated that she too attended numerous school board meetings, and felt the Board should represent her view point along with other parents. Just because a group was in attendance advocating for a particular point of view, the Board still had the responsibility to represent all parents and all children. She commented that the KPBSD does not have a comprehensive health curriculum or comprehensive sexuality education. She noted the health curriculum is huge and cannot be taught in a year or semester, and the sexuality part is a small portion of the curriculum.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, told the Board they touched the tip on the iceberg in approving the allocation to Seward's Community School Program. He stated it involved a principle on how much money a community can spend on education. He told the Board they need to plan for the future when oil revenues can no longer be depended on for inflated spending programs.

Mr. Richard Harvey, school board candidate, told the Board he appreciated their patience in hearing from public members. He noted he would like to see more involvement in other areas to see positive changes.

Mrs. Brenda Cutsforth, parent, stated that language in policy seemed more important than language in books for students. She commented this was reinforced tonight that the plea for parent involvement is lip service when parents aren't listened to. She stated she did not feel the books contributed to students in a positive manner. She stated she planned to continue involvement in the schools, but hoped other parents wouldn't be discouraged. She felt the Board listened, but didn't hear.

Mrs. Lenoria Johnson, parent, stated that based on the health curriculum statement and the Sky View High belief statement that as a parent she did not feel it was right to teach about masturbation or abortion. She stated with the exception of Mr. Tauriainen and Dr. Anderson she was appalled at the hypocrisy of the school board and administration.

BOARD COMMENTS:

The Board welcomed student representative Rick Bell and new school board member Dr. Nels Anderson.

BOARD COMMENTS (cont.):

Mr. Tauriainen stated he appreciated Mr. Shields comments, and felt the Board would be looking at this issue again and again until the Board comes up with a way to deal with material that a large part of the community did not want in the school libraries.

Mr. Bell stated that, with all due respect, he did not see how allowing a couple of books to sit on the library shelf will corrupt the morals of any teenager. After all is said and done students won't care. The only students who will read the books are those who want the information. He felt discussion was good for thinking and free expression of ideas is what the country is based on.

Dr. Anderson stated he felt it was important to work on a compromise for people both on the right and left in terms of their philosophies. He stated he hoped a middle ground could be reached. He personally did not object to his children reading the books.

He expressed concern about future finances and felt it was unrealistic to expect additional funding from Juneau. He noted the Board will have to make serious budget cuts in the future. He noted that particular part of his school board responsibility he did not look forward to, but otherwise, he looked forward to working with the Board. It was obvious the Board was concerned about kids and education.

Mr. Wiley stated he was impressed with the gathering of student council representatives in Seward recently. He was also impressed with the topics and subjects they talked about.

Mr. Wiley stated there was lip service regarding parent involvement, and more issues could be handled on the local level through the Site Based Decision Making process. He noted the School Board does listen, but change comes slowly. He hoped the Board could come up with a better process to serve these needs.

Mr. Arness stated he did not appreciate having his integrity and values questioned. Because of different points of view, he did not feel he was a bad person. He did not believe the Board had to keep doing this and a compromise did not exist. He noted he did not believe that attendance at school board meetings gave any person an "in".

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BOARD COMMENTS (cont.):

Mr. Arness expressed disappointment that the Board did not approve the local architect hire. He also noted he hoped the Board did not open the "flood gates" in approving the Seward Community School appropriation.

Mrs. Obendorf stated she was impressed with the students at the boroughwide student council meeting. She stated she was optimistic about the young people of the district.

She stated she was encouraged by the work of the Kenai Peninsula Council of PAC/PTA's. She noted concern was expressed that no school board member was in attendance at the legislative session of that conference.

Mrs. Obendorf stated that because the Board had a different opinion they should still be respected for the right to have a different opinion. She noted the Board had struggled for many hours on the book decision.

With concurrence of the Board, Mrs. Obendorf appointed Dr. Anderson to the Calendar Committee and Mr. Wiley to the Resolutions Committee at the AASB Conference.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 12:15 a.m., Mr. Arness moved the Board go into executive session to discuss subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE
SESSION:

At 12:55 a.m., Mr. Arness moved the Board adjourn the executive session. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

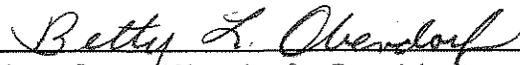
Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

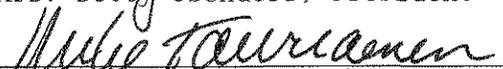
At 12:56 a.m., Dr. Anderson moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President



Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk

The Minutes of October 18, 1993,
were approved on November 1, 1993,
with corrections.