

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
148 N. Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

John Dahlgren, Superintendent

April 6, 1998

NEWS IN BRIEF

NIKISKI MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL REPORT - Bob Bellmore, principal, Nikiski Middle High, reported that British Petroleum donated several computers for their Apple computer lab. Phil Morin, science teacher, and Stephanie Roberts, math teacher, reported on Nikiski High School's use of the internet as a cross curricular tool. Breanna Butler and Kendall Barrett, students, presented several web pages designed by students as part of a research assignment on Egypt.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS - Mrs. Gross presented awards of appreciation to Rose Mary Reeder, Soldotna Community Schools Program, for the countless hours she has dedicated to the program which provides many benefits for District students and to David Boyle, Soldotna Middle School, for his outstanding contribution to education and the District.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Mr. Dahlgren reported that Eric Simpson, Soldotna Elementary sixth grade student, recently placed second at the State Geography Bee. He announced that Phil Biggs, technology director, had successfully applied for Technology Literacy Challenge grant monies in the amount of \$200,000 to be used for staff development. Mr. Dahlgren reported on his recent trip to Juneau to participate in the Superintendents' AASA Legislative Fly-In. He reported on the progress of SB 36 relating to school funding and expressed concerns for legislation dealing with part-time students and expansion of charter schools.

QUARTERLY LEASE REPORT - Mr. Hickey presented a report of leases or agreements entered into for the third quarter of fiscal year 1998. The District terminated the lease for equipment with Xerox Corporation and entered into a service agreement with Xerox Business Services.

MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT - Dorothy Gray presented a review of District middle school programs. The report contained survey results from parents, staff and students; primary points of consideration; committee recommendations and individual District middle school histories and profiles. Recommendations made by the committee were that the middle school review should occur on a regular basis every five years, that the District should continue to support national studies which recognize the importance of middle school conceptual learning with the specific recommendations from the Carnegie Report, and that the Board recognize the specific needs of middle school physical plant design as new schools are built and older schools are remodeled.

BUDGET TRANSFER - The Board tabled action on budget transfer number 358 for \$19,135 for the purchase of computers for the Quest Program.

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP REQUEST - The Board approved extended field trip requests for Soldotna High School students to travel to Denver, Colorado, to participate in the National DECA Conference and for Homer High School students to travel to Washington, D. C. to participate in the CloseUp Program.

1997-98 TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS - The Board unanimously approved 1997-98 teacher assignments for Janet VanDriessche, full time (temporary) Special Ed/Resource at Seward Middle/Senior High and James William Carlson, full time (temporary) Vocational Education at Soldotna High.

RESIGNATIONS - The Board unanimously approved the resignations of Julie Britton, Special Ed/Resource, Soldotna High, effective March 31, 1998; and Margaret Evans, Generalist, Kenai Alternative; Laurie Cramer, Physical Therapist, D/W Special Services; and Jamie Shurts, Special Ed/Resource, Sterling Elementary; effective May 29, 1998.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/SUPPORT - The Board unanimously approved a one-year leave of absence request for the 1998-99 school year from Mary Downs, school secretary III, Chapman Elementary School.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS - The Board unanimously approved proposed high school scheduling recommendations which include more course integration; selling teacher preparation periods; shared partial day programs in the areas of vocational education and specialty programs; development of a distance delivery model through the use of technology for enrichment and make-up for failed requirements; and the expansion of dual credit offerings for required course work with the college. The Board unanimously approved an amendment which strongly recommends that principals and central office administration develop a method to deliver a minimum of seven credits per year to high school students.

POLICY REVISION - The Board tabled revisions to BP 6153 School-Sponsored Trips and AR 6153 School-Sponsored Trips.

POLICY REVISION - The Board heard a first reading of a revision to AR 3100 Budget. The revision changes the April 1 deadline to May 1 for the Board to adopt and submit the annual budget to the Borough Assembly for approval.

FY 1998-99 BUDGET - The Board approved the FY 1998-99 annual budget in the amount of \$84,059,605. Included in the budget is a request for Kenai Peninsula Borough contributions for in-kind and local appropriation to the "cap" for the general fund in the amount of \$29,139,010 and dedicated funding "outside the cap" for the cocurricular fund in the amount of \$1,175,000. The Board approved an amendment to increase in the staffing formula by .25 at the 7-12 high schools and .5 at the 9-12 high schools.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING - The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, April 20, 1998, 7:30 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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