

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
148 N. Binkley Street

Soldotna, AK 99669

John Dahlgren, Superintendent

February 1, 1999

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Kenai Middle School choir sang "The Star Spangled Banner", directed by Mrs. Rosemary Bird.

School Reports - Mr. Paul Sorenson, Kenai Middle School principal, stated that his middle school is unique because it houses 6th through 8th grade students. He reported that Kenai Middle School receives \$73,000 in Title I money, which is used to fund staff to operate the After-School and Summer School Programs. He stated that the school goals this year are to work on reading and language arts and that next year the school will work on math skills. Mr. Tim Peterson gave a computer-generated presentation and with the assistance of Mrs. Bird they highlighted the exploratory curriculum courses which include band, physical education, home economics, technology, metals, drama as well as other classes. Ms. Connie Wirz explained that the After-School Program is not a remedial program but rather a support program and a place for students to study and get caught up in their classes with the assistance of tutors. She explained that last year the Summer Program offered language arts, math, reading and the ASSETS program. Mrs. Bird concluded by directing the choir in a song titled, "Spread Your Wings and Fly."

Awards and Presentations - Mr. Arness presented an award of appreciation to Mr. Brad Langvardt, Kenai Middle School head custodian for his outstanding service and dedication to the District.

Superintendent's Report - Mr. Dahlgren announced that budget hearings begin this week at 7:00 p.m. according to the following schedule: Wednesday, February 3 at Kenai Central High; Thursday, February 4 at Homer High; Tuesday, February 9 at Seward High; Wednesday, February 10 at Soldotna High; Thursday, February 11 at Nikiski High.

Mr. Dahlgren announced that the School Board meeting scheduled for February 15, 1999 has been cancelled in observation of President's Day. He stated that the next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, March 1, 1999, in Homer.

Mr. Dahlgren announced that Dr. Roland Goode will give a presentation to the Board on the

DIBELS Program on February 18 at 9:00 a.m. in the Borough administration conference rooms A and B. Dr. Goode will travel to the Homer area for presentations the following day.

Mr. Dahlgren reported that the Superintendent Search Committee will review applications this week. He stated that there will be a special School Board meeting on Monday, February 8, beginning at 5:30 p.m. to discuss who will be invited for interviews, which are tentatively scheduled for February 24-25.

Mr. Dahlgren reminded those present that administrative meetings are also scheduled for February 24-25.

Public Input for the Selection of a New Superintendent - Mr. Dahlgren solicited suggestions and comments from those present regarding qualities necessary for the new superintendent. No one spoke.

Mentor Program - Ms. Dorothy Gray gave a computer-generated presentation with the assistance of Mr. Sargeant Truesdell, Soldotna Middle School teacher and Mr. Dave Larson, Kenai Central High teacher, which included comments and suggestions from new teachers who are participating in the mentor program. Mrs. Radtke explained that during the new teacher induction in the fall, the teachers are invited to participate in the program, which is ongoing throughout the year.

Resignations - The Board unanimously approved resignations for Vince Wagner, speech pathologist, districtwide Special Services and Catherine Szabo-Bendock, Grade 6, Sterling Elementary.

Vocational Education Curriculum - The Board unanimously approved the vocational and technical education curriculum for Grades 6-12. The Board approved an amendment that adds the following text to the end of the second sentence on page ii: "...student needs and demonstrated abilities. Course placement will be made based on student needs and demonstrated skills."

Social Security Modification for Student Workers - The Board unanimously approved agreements with Social Security that will allow the District to exempt student hires from future Social Security and Medicare reporting effective June 30, 2000.

Reconsideration of Board Directive 99-01 - The Board approved the reconsideration of Board Directive 99-01 from the January 18, 1999 School Board meeting. The Board did not approve Board Directive 99-01, which would have mandated a seven period schedule for all high schools.

POLICY REVISION - The Board unanimously approved the adoption of BP 3310.1, Equipment

Fund Transfer. The policy provides language that governs the use of the equipment reserve fund.

POLICY REVISION - The Board approved revisions to BP and AR 5145.12, Search and Seizure. The revisions clarify that searches may involve vehicles or other property on school grounds, owned or controlled by students; identify conditions to be considered in determining if a search is warranted; clarify that students are expected to cooperate with school officials conducting a reasonable search as described or allowed by this policy; and provide penalties for refusal to permit a reasonable search as described or allowed by this policy.

First Reading of Policy Revisions - The Board heard a first reading of BP 3120, Transfer of Funds. The proposed revision changes the reporting of budget transfers to a quarterly cycle.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING - The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, March 1, 7:30 p.m., at **Homer High School, Homer, Alaska**. A special School Board meeting will be held Monday, February 8, 1999 at 5:30 p.m. at the Borough Administration Building.

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