

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
148 N. Binkley Street

Soldotna, AK 99669

John Dahlgren, Superintendent

March 15, 1999

NEWS IN BRIEF

**School Reports** - In lieu of a formal report, the Soldotna High School presentation was held at 1:00 p.m. at the school and included classroom visitations and performances by the swing choir, band and Star Sensation dance team.

**Awards and Presentations** - The Board presented awards of appreciation to Soldotna High School staff members Sharon Sauer, Dan Gensel, and Stuart Laurion, for their outstanding service to education and the District.

**Superintendent's Report** - Mr. Dahlgren reminded the Board about the Assembly worksession on March 16 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mr. Dahlgren reported that he recently attended a conference sponsored by the United States Department of Education concerning the class size grant funds. He stated that the District could possibly qualify to apply for \$430,000. He noted that the intent of the grant is to lower pupil-teacher ratios to 1:18 in Grades 1-3. Mr. Dahlgren stated that the District is also considering applying for Reading Excellence grant funds offered by the federal government.

**Presentation of the FY 1999-2000 Budget** - Mr. Hickey presented the 1999-2000 budget to the Board. The Board will consider adoption of the budget at their April 5, 1999, meeting.

**Student Nutrition Services Audit Report** - Mr. Hickey presented the results of a recently concluded audit of the Student Nutrition Services program conducted by the State of Alaska. He stated that the review found only one discrepancy and otherwise stated that the Student Nutrition Services is "operating an excellent nutrition program."

**Nikiski Elementary Reconfiguration Cost Report** - Mr. Hickey presented the results of the Nikiski Reconfiguration Committee cost estimates to convert the Nikiski Elementary School to a middle school. The lists of improvement costs were categorized into a high priority list totaling \$628,000 and a low priority list totaling \$343,000.

**Financial Report** - Mr. Hickey presented the financial report of the District for the periods ending January 31, 1999, and February 28, 1999.

**Budget Transfer** - The Board unanimously approved budget transfer Number 256 for \$15,000 to cover costs for contracted services to assess and evaluate the operation, design and staff of Aurora Borealis Charter School.

**Resignations** - The Board unanimously approved the resignation of Susan Lepry, math/science, Homer Charter School; Jeannette Sorrels, special education/severe, Sears Elementary; Leona Oberts, lead teacher, Aurora Borealis Charter School; Ann Riedel, music, Chapman Elementary; and Liesl Davenport-Wheeler, music, Seward Middle/Sr. High.

**Leave of Absence Requests/Support** - The Board unanimously approved a one-year, unpaid leave of absence for the 1999-2000 school year for Masha Yakunin, bilingual instructor, Nikolaevsk Elementary/High School; and Robert Harwood, truck driver, warehouse.

**Leave of Absence Request/Certified** - The Board unanimously approved a one-year, unpaid leave of absence for the 1999-2000 school year for Hilary Matthews, English, Skyview High School; and Jacqueline Bock, special education/preschool, Sears Elementary.

**Substitute Teacher Contract** - The Board unanimously approved a 19-day substitute teaching contract for Susan Nabholts, Grade 7 science, Kenai Middle School; and Shelli Colligan, Grade 1-2, Sears Elementary.

**1999-2000 Administrator Appointment** - The Board approved the appointment of Richard Patton, principal, Homer High School.

**Seward Bus Route Bus Purchase** - The Board unanimously approved the lease/purchase of four buses in the amount of \$299,932. The expenditures are expected to be reimbursed at 100% with Department of Education appropriations through the Pupil Transportation fund.

**Disposition of Kenai Elementary Facility** - The Board postponed action until the April 5 meeting on the transfer of the Kenai Elementary building to the Kenai Peninsula Borough with the recommendation that the administration and Borough mayor reach an agreement concerning the future use of the facility.

**Request for Re-appropriation of Revenue to the Equipment Fund** - The Board unanimously approved a request that the Assembly redirect \$266,607 in currently appropriated revenue for the express purpose of funding the Equipment Reserve Fund. This transfer will help mitigate \$536,391 in equipment reductions required to balance the budget.

**Bayview Charter School Contract Termination** - The Board tabled action on the recommendation to terminate the Bayview Charter School's contract until the May 3 meeting and requested that a worksession be scheduled with the Academic Policy Committee prior to the meeting.

**POLICY/REGULATION REVISIONS** - The Board unanimously approved revisions to BP and AR 5119, Access to District Schools By Private School Correspondence and Other Programs. The revisions bring the District policy into compliance with state law regarding part-time student enrollment and removes priority for full-time students in the selection and availability of classes. The revision in the administrative regulation removes the delayed enrollment process for part-time students.

**Technology Referendum/Upgrades** - The Board unanimously approved an amended recommendation to ask the Assembly their conceptual preference of bonding or cash to fund technology upgrades so that the District may design an appropriate technology program within those parameters.

**First Reading of Policy Revisions** - The Board heard a first reading of AR 5144, Due Process. The proposed regulation changes are recommended in the interest of student safety and to bring the District into compliance with current practice.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING** - The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, April 5, 1999, 7:30 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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