

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
148 N. Binkley Street

Soldotna, AK 99669

August 3, 1998

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, President

Mr. Joe Arness, Vice President

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS:

Mrs. Debra Mullins, Treasurer

Dr. Nels Anderson, Member

Ms. Deborah Germano, Member

Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Member

Mr. John Dahlgren, Superintendent of Schools

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Patrick Hickey, Assistant Superintendent, Operations and
Business Management

Mr. Ed McLain, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

Mrs. Sharon Radtke, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Mr. Mick Wykis Ms. Shana Loshbaugh

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Gary Hondel Ms. Terri Woodward

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Gross called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE:

Mrs. Gross invited those present to participate in the Pledge of
Allegiance.

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross Present

Mr. Joe Arness Present

Mrs. Susan Larned Present

ROLL CALL: Dr. Nels Anderson Present

Mrs. Sammy Crawford Present

Ms. Deborah Germano Present

Mrs. Debra Mullins Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved with a change.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of July 6, 1998, were approved as printed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:35 p.m., Ms. Germano 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. Specifically, the executive session was to discuss hiring. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:15 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the executive session be adjourned. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Dahlgren announced that Rita Platt was selected to receive the 1998 Sallie Mae First Class Teacher award for Alaska.

Mr. Dahlgren reported that the Assembly is scheduled to introduce an ordinance for the adjusted budget and will vote on it during the following meeting.

Mr. Dahlgren reminded those present of the upcoming new administrator orientation on August 12, the administrator meeting on August 13 and 14 and the Districtwide inservice on August 19 at Kenai Central High.

ASSESSMENT REPORT:

Mr. McLain presented the Assessment Report for the 1997-98 school year. Mr. McLain thanked Mick Wykis for the presentation at the Board worksession, which was held prior to the regular meeting.

Ms. Germano asked why student test scores were trending downward. Mr. McLain suggested that there are many factors to consider and that one explanation might be that the transient rate is higher than thought in the past. He stated that he will be meeting with the building administrators and asking them to look at their individual scores. He stated that if test scores are down principals will be asked to develop a plan to improve them.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Gross reported that she had received a letter from Shirley Holloway, asking her to serve on the Miliken Foundation awards committee on August 21.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Hazard Bus Route Resolutions, Furniture and Equipment List, 1998-99 Teacher Assignments, Resignation, and Leave of Absence Extension Request/Support.

Hazard Bus Route Resolutions:

Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve hazardous bus routes for North Star, Nikiski, Seward, Redoubt, Soldotna, Sears, Mt. View, West Homer Elementary, Paul Banks and K-Beach elementary schools for the 1998-99 school year.

Furniture and Equipment List:

Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve the purchase of furniture and equipment for the Ninilchik Elementary/High School addition in the amount of \$99,324.

1998-99 Teacher Assignments:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve 1998-99 teacher assignments for Tamie Bebee, Special Education/resource, West Homer Elementary; Brenda Jones, (half-time), Susan B. English; Catherine Kibling, Special Education/resource, Skyview High; Deborah Langford, Grade 3, Redoubt Elementary; Karen Murdock, Special Education/severe, West Homer Elementary; Pat Shields, vocational education (three-quarter time), Homer High; Jocelyn Shiro-Westphal, (temporary), District Wide physical therapist; Lisa Wiley, language arts, Nikiski Middle/High; Brian Bailey, (half time) QUEST, North Star Elementary; and Jenifer Cameron, Districtwide art specialist.

Resignation:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve a resignation effective at the end of the 1997-98 school year from Stephanie Tausell-Roberts, math, Nikiski Middle/High School.

Leave of Absence Extension
Request/Support:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence request for the 1998-99 school year for Marya Kalugin, bilingual/migrant tutor, Voznesenka School.

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Number 2, 4, 5. Ms. Germano seconded.

ACTION

Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION

Ms. Germano moved the Board approve the hazardous bus resolutions as presented. Mrs. Larned seconded.

VOTE:

YES - Arness, Crawford, Germano, Larned, Mullins, Gross

NO - Anderson

Motion carried.

ACTION

Mrs. Larned moved the Board approve the 1998-99 Teacher Assignments. Mr. Arness seconded.

ACTION

Ms. Germano moved the Board approve an amendment to approve each teacher appointment separately. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YES - Anderson, Crawford, Germano

NO - Arness, Larned, Mullins, Gross

Amendment failed.

Ms. Germano expressed her concern that the District follow established policies and procedures as they relate to hiring.

VOTE:

Leave of Absence Extension
Request/Support (Continued):

YES - Arness, Crawford, Larned, Mullins, Gross

NO - Anderson, Germano

Motion carried.

Certified Diploma
Recommendations:

Mr. McLain recommended the Board approve the proposed certified diploma definition, statement of charge, four committee action plans for 1998-99 and six recommendations and statements.

Mr. McLain gave an overview of each section within the report. He stated that according to the assessment results some students will need some serious remediation in order to ensure success in achieving a certified diploma.

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve the certified diploma recommendations as presented. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

ACTION

Motion carried unanimously.

Six Year Enrollment
Projections and Plan:

Mr. Hickey presented the Six-Year Enrollment Projections and Plan for 1998-1999 through 2003-2004. He noted a worksession was conducted prior to the meeting to review the information. Projects for major maintenance and future construction needs were presented in prioritized ranking.

Mrs. Larned moved the Board approve the Six-Year Enrollment Projections and Plan for 1998-1999 through 2003-2004.

Mrs. Mullins seconded.

ACTION

ACTION

Ms. Germano moved the Board approve the addition to the school construction list between Items Number 5 and 6 to add a covering to the Homer Middle school ice rink. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Ms. Germano stated that in warmer areas such as Homer the ice is too difficult to maintain because of the rainfall. She added that as long as the District agrees that ice rinks should be covered then all of the Peninsula school ice rinks should be covered.

Mr. Hickey requested the Board amend the school construction list to add an addition to the Nikolaevsk gymnasium between Items Number 7 and 8.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YES - Anderson, Arness,

NO - Crawford, Larned, Mullins, Germano, Gross

Amendment carried.

Six Year Enrollment
Projections and Plan
(Continued):

Ms. Germano moved the Board approve the addition between
Items Number 7 and 8 to construct an addition to the
Nikolaevsk gymnasium. Mrs. Larned seconded.

ACTION

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Arness asked why the gymnasium addition was necessary.
Mr. Hickey explained that it is a safety issue. Mr. Dahlgren
added that when the gymnasium was originally built it was with
the intent that it would be expanded in the future.

Ms. Germano asked about the necessity of constructing
additional elementary schools when the Kenai Elementary
facility is not currently being used. Mr. Hickey stated that it is
difficult to predict student enrollment five years down the road
and he felt that it was prudent to anticipate some growth.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board move Items Number 14 through
18 to the bottom of the list. Ms. Germano seconded.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YES - Anderson, Arness, Crawford, Larned, Germano, Gross

NO - Mullins

Amendment carried.

Mr. Arness expressed his concern over the usefulness of the
priority list. He stated that the list should be confined to
planning for construction that is actually going to happen as
opposed to creating a dream "wish list." He added that covering
the ice rink in Homer just because Kenai has one is a prime
example of why the "wish list" is not a good idea.

Ms. Germano reiterated that if the District believes that
covering ice rinks is a priority then temperature and climate
should be considered.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve Resolution 98-99-
1 appointing John K. Dahlgren as the Registered Agent for the
Kenai Peninsula Building Authority, Inc., effective August 3,
1998. The Kenai Peninsula Building Authority, Incorporated is
a non-profit corporation established to handle the Kenai Central
High vocational house projects.

Registered Agent/Kenai
Peninsula Building Authority,
Inc.:

Registered Agent/Kenai Peninsula Building Authority, Inc. (Continued):

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve Resolution 98-99-1 appointing John K. Dahlgren as the Registered Agent for the Kenai Peninsula Building Authority, Incorporated, effective August 3, 1998. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

ACTION

Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Appointment:

Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve the appointment of Steven Jones, principal, Susan B. English School.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve the appointment of Steven Jones, principal, Susan B. English School. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Ms. Germano asked how the interview process went in Seldovia. Mr. Dahlgren stated that he and Mrs. Radtke accompanied Mr. Jones to Seldovia. He stated that after attending the Alaska Teacher Job Fair in Anchorage, it was very difficult to find someone who was interested. He stated that he had interviewed Mr. Jones last year and felt that he was a viable candidate. Mr. Dahlgren stated that the Seldovia site council and a large community group was in attendance. He stated that the District offered Mr. Jones a contract pending some further reference checks.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS:

The Board heard a first reading of BP 5131.6, Alcohol and Other Drugs. The proposed revisions update the policy section on refusal to submit to testing; clarifies the intent of the policy related to repeat offenses; clarifies that suspension is part of the consequences for selling or distributing alcohol or other drugs and requires a recommendation for expulsion for distribution or sale; and recognizes and states the requirement that there will be a due process hearing (pursuant to established school board policies) before imposing a suspension.

Mrs. Gross asked whether prohibitive behavior included a student's refusal to take a Breathalyzer test. Mr. McLain explained that legal council recommends the District continue working on the refusal aspect and that a separate policy providing more detail will be forthcoming.

Mrs. Gross noted that the last sentence under the section titled, Selling, Offering for Sale, or Distributing is unclear and asked that it be divided into a two sentences. Mr. McLain explained that legal council suggested that the sentence clarify that due process will still occur prior to suspension.

FIRST READING OF POLICY
REVISIONS (Continued):

Mr. Arness asked if students caught selling, offering for sale or distributing an illegal substance will be recommended for expulsion on a first-time offense. Mr. McLain replied that students caught selling or distributing drugs or alcohol shall be recommended to the Board for expulsion. Mr. Arness asked whether it would be considered distributing if one student shares drugs or alcohol with a friend. Mr. McLain replied that from the administration's perspective if a student gives an illegal substance to another student it will be considered distributing. He stated that the message of the policy is that distribution of drugs or alcohol in this District is a very serious offense.

Mrs. Mullins asked whether the section titled, Selling, Offering for Sale, or Distributing applied to school grounds or school activities as mentioned in an earlier section of the policy. Mr. McLain stated that the intent of the policy was that it applied to school grounds or school activities but not after-school hours or off-school grounds.

Mr. Anderson asked about policies dealing with violence and intimidating behavior occurring in the schools that are not being brought to the Board for expulsion. Mr. McLain stated that the District will be focusing on those policies with school administrators. He stated that the policy manual contains policies that are fairly straightforward but that principals may need to be encouraged to follow them more closely. He stated that there seems to be a wide range of what is appropriate to bring to the Board for expulsion and what is not.

Mr. Arness suggested the wording be changed to read, "students shall be recommended to the central office for expulsion and who may forward that request to the Board of Education." Ms. Germano stated that all students should be treated equitably whether they participate in school activities or not. Mr. Dahlgren echoed Ms. Germano's concern and stated that using the word "shall" versus "may" ensures fair treatment of all students. He stated that student fights are causing serious injuries and encouraged the Board to support stronger policies against drugs and violence.

Dr. Anderson clarified Mr. Arness' suggestion that central office would act as a screen for expulsion referrals, and if the referrals are appropriate, then the Board will consider them; if not, the administration will handle them at the building level.

Mrs. Crawford stated that she liked the "zero tolerance" philosophy but expressed concern about consistency and fairness to all students.

BOARD COMMENTS: Mrs. Crawford expressed concern that the District ensure consistent and fair treatment for all students and also in the area of personnel selection.

ADJOURN: At 9:17 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, President

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

The Minutes of August 3, 1998,
were approved on August 17, 1998,

as written.