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# Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

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August 9, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.  
Regular Meeting

Borough Administration Building  
148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, Alaska

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**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:** Mr. Joe Arness, President  
Mrs. Liz Downing, Vice President  
Mrs. Sunni Hilts, Clerk  
Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Treasurer  
Mr. Marty Anderson  
Ms. Lynn Hohl  
Mr. Bill Holt  
Mr. Tim Navarre  
Mrs. Penny Vadla

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Sean Dusek, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Margie Warner Mr. Joe Nicks  
Mr. Todd Syverson Mrs. Cathy Carrow  
Mr. Tim Peterson Borough Mayor Dave Carey

Others present not identified.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mrs. Downing called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.  
(6:59:58 PM)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mrs. Downing invited those present to participate in the Pledge of  
(7:00:04 PM) Allegiance.

**DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:** Mr. Tim Navarre read the District's mission statement.  
(7:00:43 PM)

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Joe Arness Absent  
(7:01:11 PM) Mrs. Liz Downing Present  
Mrs. Sunni Hilts Present  
Mrs. Sammy Crawford Present  
Mr. Marty Anderson Present  
Ms. Lynn Hohl Present  
Mr. Bill Holt Present  
Mr. Tim Navarre Present  
Mrs. Penny Vadla Present

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda was approved as written.  
(7:01:43 PM)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The School Board Minutes of July 12, 2010, were approved as  
(7:02:14 PM) printed.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:**

*(7:03:14 PM)*

Dr. Atwater reported that the District administration is working with the Borough administration to provide information to the public on the upcoming bond initiative. He announced that new teachers will be involved in three days of training at the Challenger Learning Center. He announced that village schools at Razdolna, Voznesenka, and Kachemak Selo started on Thursday, August 12. He reported that Razdolna School secondary students will be housed in a portable building for the beginning of this school year.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

*(7:04:41 PM)*

Dr. Atwater presented the 2009-2010 Superintendent's Annual Report. He announced that preliminary information regarding the curriculum audit has been received and a summary report will be provided to the Board in September. He reported that the District received a notice that the Title program allocation has been lowered by \$138,000 due to the elimination of the Title IV Program.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

*(7:05:59 PM)*

Mr. Jones presented the financial report of the District for the period ending July 31, 2010.

**QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT:**

*(7:08:38PM)*

Mr. Jones reported on budget transfers Numbers 938 through 1551 for various schools and departments within the District.

**BOARD REPORTS:**

*(7:09:56 PM)*

Mrs. Crawford reported that Policy Committee met prior to the Board meeting and discussed changed language in the superintendent job description, risk management, and requirements for individuals with exceptional needs.

**BOARD WORKSESSION REPORT:**

*(7:11:00 PM)*

Mrs. Downing reported that the Board conducted worksessions on the bond referendum; proposed AASB Resolutions; District goals; new standards for Performance-based Schools; and the Adequate Yearly Progress results and Board discussion focusing on the Connections Homeschool Program and she noted that Mr. Gary Turner joined the Board for dinner.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*(7:13:24 PM)*

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Substitute and Temporary Pay Schedule; Nontenure Teacher Contracts; and New Teacher Contracts.

**SUBSTITUTE AND TEMPORARY PAY SCHEDULE:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve the pay schedule for substitutes and other temporary employees for the 2010-2011 school year.

**NONTENURE TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve nontenure teacher contracts for Eric P. Knudtson, (temporary) technology coach, Homer Area Schools; Holly D. Boyle, Read 180, Nikiski Middle/High; Danaya DeVold, kindergarten/first grade, Nikiski North Star Elementary; Melinda Michener, (temporary) .50 FTE Title I teacher, Ninilchik School; and Michelle Fournier, (temporary) Grade 2 and 3 teacher, Razdolna School.

**NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve teacher contracts for Trina Uvaas, school psychologist, Central Peninsula Area; Amanda S. Adams, (temporary) technology coach, Central Peninsula & Seward Area; Stephanie D. Belger, primary grade teacher, Redoubt Elementary; Sarah N. Swaney, special education intensive needs teacher, Soldotna High School; Thomas F. Cavanaugh, intermediate grade teacher, Sterling Elementary; Bethany J. Nyboer, special education resource teacher, Sterling Elementary; Amanda Painter, primary grade teacher, Tustumena Elementary; and Robert F. Thompson II, special education resource teacher, Voznesenka School.

**MOTION**

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 3. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

**POLICY REVISIONS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve the proposed revisions to BP 1250 (Volunteer Assistance), BP 5111 (Admission), and BP 6162.71 (Acceptable Use Policy/Internet Safety Policy).

**MOTION**

Mr. Navarre moved the Board approve proposed revisions to BP 1250, BP 5111, and BP 6162.71. Mr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Downing recognized and welcomed Borough Mayor Carey.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/  
COMMENTS:**

*(7:16:08 PM)*

Mayor Carey told the Board he supports the roof repair bond issue and will vigorously promote it, which is allowed in his capacity as Borough Mayor. He stated that if the bond issue does not pass, Borough funds may be needed to pay for the entire cost of the project which could mean an increase in property tax or sales tax. He stated that if the bond issue passes the debt will have almost no effect to the tax payers because state and federal money will be used and this year, the Borough will make the last payment on a previous bond issue. He reported on his recent trip to Japan and described the mentor program used with kindergarten students in Japanese schools.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

*(7:24:32 PM)*

Mr. Holt reported that he attended the administrator meeting on August 4 and commended Mrs. Linton on her presentation regarding teacher evaluation.

Mrs. Vadla thanked Ms. Kelly Reisig for the Superintendent's Annual Report; Mr. Gary Turner for joining the Board for dinner, and Mayor Carey for his support of the bond issue. She suggested that the mentor project mentioned by Mayor Carey be incorporated in the District's middle and high schools.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

*(continued)*

Mrs. Crawford expressed appreciation for the worksessions held prior to the Board meeting and added that she was pleased with the new format of the Superintendent's Report. She thanked Mr. Syverson for promoting AP classes and noted that enrollment in AP has risen 33% Districtwide since 2005.

Mrs. Hilts thanked Dr. Atwater for the quick response to the data that was discussed during the worksession. She thanked Mrs. Tachick for her professionalism in reporting the minutes.

Mr. Navarre stated that the District is ready to begin another school year. He thanked the Board and administration for their tolerance of his numerous questions during the past year.

Ms. Hohl reported that she attended the Seward Prevention Coalition meeting and the Alaska PTA Summer Board meeting. She also attended the welcome and farewell events for the City of Seward Sister City Exchange Program. She was unable to attend the dedication ceremony of the Roger Steinbrecker Field at Seward High but thanked the Board for approving the waiver of Board Policy allowing the field to be named. She reported that she has just returned from a trip to Cordova to visit a friend and while there was able to tour the elementary school renovations, spoke to the superintendent about the Public School Lands Trust, attended the new community convention center/museum/library ground breaking. She reported that Representative Thomas from Haines was also in attendance and reminded him that the Board would visit him in Juneau during the AASB Fly-In. She thanked Mayor Carey for his support of the roof repair bond issue and for the idea of mentoring.

Mrs. Downing reported that she spent six weeks on the East Coast and was able to speak to teachers from Connecticut to Richmond to learn about programs being offered in their schools. She commented that the Russian Old Believer schools will be in session in a few days. She wished those present a great start to the school year.

**ADJOURN:**  
(7:32:41PM)

At 7:32 p.m., Mrs. Downing adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mrs. Liz Downing, Vice President

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Mrs. Sunni Hilts, Clerk

The Minutes of August 9, 2010,  
were approved on September 13, 2010  
as written.