

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 N. Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

February 21, 2000

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Ms. Deborah Germano, President
Mrs. Debra Mullins, Vice President
Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk
Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Treasurer
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Member
Dr. Nels Anderson, Member
Mr. Mike Chenault, Member
Miss Melinda Haring, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Patrick Hickey, Assistant Superintendent, Operations and Business Management
Mr. Todd Syverson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Dennis Dunn	Mr. John Andrews
Ms. Terri Woodward	Mr. Tim Peterson
Ms. Phillis Halstead	Mrs. Shona Loshbaugh
Mrs. Vicki Leach	Ms. Barb Vogel
Mr. Dave Carey	Mr. Justin George
Mr. LeRoy Heinrich	

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Germano called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Ms. Germano invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Deborah Germano	Present
Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
Mrs. Susan Larned	Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross	Present
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Mr. Mike Chenault	Present
Miss Melinda Haring	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved with revisions to Items 10a.(1), Resignations and 10b., 2000-2001 Administrator Contracts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board minutes of February 7, 2000, were approved as printed.

SCHOOL REPORTS:

Mr. Dennis Dunn, Kenai Alternative High principal, reported that over the past three years the school has grown from an enrollment of 12 students to 63 students. He thanked the administration and School Board for supporting the staffing formula for his school. He stated that money received from the Title I Program and the Quality Schools Initiative will allow the school to open one evening per week. He stated that KAHS only accepts students who are 100 percent unsuccessful at their previous school. He noted that the school offers a flexible student schedule and that the staff continuously works towards developing a program that will meet the needs of the students. He stated that classes are kept at 16 students. He reported that the school has relocated in the new wing of the Kenai Elementary building. He presented a slide show including pictures of students and staff participating in classroom activities, students and staff using the home economics facility, students and their babies, and students participating in physical education activities in the gymnasium.

Ms. Vickie Roney displayed student artwork and explained how art is integrated into the curriculum. Mr. Dunn announced that he expects to have 25 students graduate this spring and invited the Board to attend the ceremony in May. He thanked the local businesses and community for their help and contributions to the school. He reported that school highlights for this past year are the successful physical education program, the Thanksgiving Day feed which served 150 people, the ATOSS Program, the Young Parent Program and the first annual end-of-the-year New Millennium Mardi Gras Ball. KAHS students Darcy Gourley, Chris Casey, and David Hernandez spoke to the Board about how the alternative school has made completing their high school education possible. Mr. Dunn stated that the challenge is to enlarge the program but still maintain the quality and that the mission of the school is to create an environment where students feel that they can accomplish anything they choose.

Mrs. Crawford asked how many students are on the enrollment waiting list.

Mr. Dunn responded that 4 students are on the waiting list.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Dave Carey, Skyview High School teacher and assistant wrestling coach, thanked the administration for the KCHS budget hearing and commented that Mr. Hickey was very thorough and that the presentation was excellent. He asked the Board to consider allowing parents free admission to their children's school events. He added that it is a huge expense for parents to pay for admission to all of the high school wrestling events, personal equipment, food, etc. He noted that he is also a member of the Soldotna City Council and offered his assistance in terms of funding for the Community Schools Program. He thanked Dr. Anderson for conducting the weight certification for the Skyview High School wrestling team. He also stated that during this year's wrestling season, wrestlers were required to participate in a one-hour study hall before each practice. He also noted that during the holiday break in December, Skyview and Soldotna High Schools combined wrestling practices, and afterwards he heard many positive comments from parents.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Dr. Peterson reported that she received letters from Leroy Heinrich, Kenai Alternative High School Steering Committee Chairperson, commending the KAHS school staff and thanking the Board for their support; from Nazary Basargin, Voznesenka Elementary/High School PAC President, requesting a full-time principal; and from Bruce Johnson, DOEED Deputy Commissioner, thanking Mrs. Gross for agreeing to serve on the School Designator Committee.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SITE COUNCIL, AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A.:

Ms. Vicky Leach, Skyview PTSA-Site Council representative, invited the Board to attend their March 9 general meeting. She distributed meeting agendas to the Board and announced that the open-table discussion topics will include open campus, project reward, dress code policy, high school qualifying exam, and communications.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Peterson reported that Mr. McLain is now working 6 hours per day. She noted that nomination forms are available for the British Petroleum Teachers of Excellence Program. She reminded the Board that the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Education and Early Development will be visiting the Peninsula, and a schedule of his itinerary has been made available. She announced that February is School Board recognition month, and a cake and certificates were presented to the Board. She congratulated Mrs. Sylvia Reynolds, Soldotna High School principal, for being chosen as the Alaska Principal of the Year.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Hickey presented the financial report of the District for the period ending January 31, 2000. He called the Board's attention to Fund 276; the correct budget amount should read \$10,000.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Crawford announced that the Language Arts Curriculum Committee will hear a final presentation from Scholastic to decide on curriculum materials and that she will attend the Employee Recognition Committee meeting on February 22.

Miss Haring announced that Galen Holt and Allison Senette, Soldotna High School students, were selected as candidates in the 2000 Presidential Scholars Program. She noted that being chosen as a candidate is a very prestigious honor and that finalists (a boy and a girl) are chosen from each state from a list of 500 nominees.

Mrs. Mullins stated that Mr. Hickey did an outstanding job explaining the District budget during the recent community hearings. She stated that she hopes to explain the District budget to legislators next week during the AASB Legislative Fly-In. She commented that attendance at the Kenai Central High School budget hearing was greater than in past years, and she expressed her appreciation for the public's input and for the work of the Budget Review Committee.

Ms. Germano reported that she recently attended the Technology Work Group Committee meeting and that the Committee is moving towards a request to submit for Assembly approval in March.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Resignations; Long-Term Substitute Contract; Leave of Absence-Support; Early Graduation Request; and Revision to AR 5141.21, Administering Medication.

Resignations:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve resignations effective at the end of the 1999-2000 school year from Heather Lentz, occupational therapist, districtwide special services; Mark Kessler, counselor/teacher, Nikolaevsk Elementary/High; Kelli Kessler, Title I reading specialist, Nikolaevsk Elementary/High; and Robert Boyle, principal, Seward Elementary.

Long-Term Substitute Contract:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a 19-day substitute teaching contract for Cindy Weeks, science, Nikiski Middle/High; and Jim Nelson, special education/resource, Homer High.

Leave of Absence/Support:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a one-year, unpaid leave of absence for the 2000-2001 school year for Dawn Conn, school secretary III, Skyview High.

Early Graduation Request: By memorandum, Mr. McLain recommended the Board approve an early graduation request for a Voznesenka Elementary/High student.

Revision to AR 5141.21, Administering Medication: By memorandum, Mr. McLain recommended the Board approve revisions to AR 5141.21, Administering Medication. He noted that the revisions would correct a management and responsibility problem involving student possession of prescription medication while on school campus.

Dr. Anderson requested the Board remove item Number 10 a.(5), Administering Medication.

ACTION Mrs. Mullins moved the Board approve Consent Agenda items Numbers 1 through 4. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve item Number 10 a.(5), Administering Medication. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Dr. Anderson suggested the Board revise AR 5141.21, Administering Medication, to read, "A signed medication form for long-term medications (greater than 14 days) be on file in the nurse's office." He added that students who receive medication for sore throats or similar illnesses should not be required to have permission on file if they are already allowed to carry medications since that would place an unnecessary burden on staff.

Dr. Anderson suggested the Board revise the policy to add the words "dispensed by nurses or other personnel" after the word "medication" in the second section, Number 2 on the first page of the regulation.

Dr. Peterson stated that she would like to bring the suggestions to Mr. McLain since he has put so much time into writing the proposed revisions.

ACTION Dr. Anderson moved the Board postpone action on item Number 10 a.(5), Administering Medication. Mrs. Larned seconded.

VOTE:

YES – Anderson, Chenault, Crawford, Gross, Larned, Mullins

NO – Germano

Advisory Vote – YES

Motion carried.

2000-2001 Administrator Contracts: Dr. Peterson recommended the Board approve a list of administrator and central office contracts for the 2000-2001 school year.

ACTION Mrs. Larned moved the Board approve a list of administrator and central office contracts for the 2000-2001 school year. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Involvement with Student Expulsions: Dr. Peterson recommended the Board approve a change in procedure requiring the superintendent to be available on an "as called" basis during student expulsion deliberations to answer questions that might arise.

ACTION

Mrs. Mullins moved the Board approve a change in procedure requiring the superintendent to be available on an "as called" basis during student expulsion deliberations to answer questions that might arise. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mrs. Crawford thanked Mr. Dunn and KAHS students for their school report. She congratulated Mrs. Reynolds for being chosen as Principal of the Year.

Mrs. Gross stated that she was excited that the alternative high schools are expanding and that the students are now housed in better facilities. She reported that she was glad to hear concerns from the public during the Seward and Homer budget hearings. She also reported that she attended the regional ski meet and three hockey games during the state tournament.

Dr. Anderson thanked Mr. Carey for attending the Board meeting and added that he would like to speak to some of Mr. Carey's government classes next year. He stated that he appreciated Mr. Carey's offer of assistance as a City Council member and for his promotion of the collegial atmosphere between District wrestling coaches. He noted that, unfortunately, he has heard negative reports regarding some District coaches and suggested that the coaches develop a code of ethics. He congratulated Mrs. Reynolds for being chosen as Principal of the Year.

Mr. Chenault thanked Mr. Dunn for the KAHS school report. He reported that last week he assisted his daughter's class when they made cinnamon rolls as a fundraising project. He noted that math skills were also taught during the fundraising project since it required the use of fractions. He noted that his daughter won the North Star School spelling bee.

Mrs. Larned stated that she was pleased that so many people attended the recent budget hearings. She thanked the administration for their hard work preparing the budget information. She reported that she has visited KAHS and observed the supportive atmosphere, caring and concern among the staff and students. She announced that she twice attended the local production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, which includes many District students and staff, and she urged those present to go.

Mrs. Mullins thanked Mr. Dunn and his students and added that she appreciates the work accomplished by KAHS. She added that she is impressed with the youth who make the commitment to return to school and complete their education. She congratulated Mrs. Reynolds for being chosen as Principal of the Year. She urged the Board to attend some of the meetings listed on Commissioner Cross' itinerary while he is on the Peninsula.

Mrs. Germano thanked the District and Borough for their acknowledgment of School Board recognition month. She congratulated Mrs. Reynolds for being chosen as Principal of the Year. She thanked the Budget Review Committee for their hard work over the past several months.

ADJOURN: At 8:28 p.m., Mrs. Mullins moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Deborah Germano, President

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

The Minutes of February 21, 2000,
were approved on March 6, 2000
as written.