

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
148 N. Binkley Street

Soldotna, AK 99669

August 2, 1999

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Joe Arness, President

Mrs. Debra Mullins, Vice President

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

Ms. Deborah Germano, Treasurer

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Member

Dr. Nels Anderson, Member

Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Member

Miss Charise Calvert, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools

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

Mr. Ed McLain, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

Mr. Todd Syverson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Gene Dyson

Mr. Pete Sprague

Ms. Robin Williams

Mrs. Karen Mahurin

Mrs. Sue Liebner

Mr. Tim Peterson

Ms. Terri Woodward

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Arness called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Arness invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:	Mr. Joe Arness	Present
	Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
	Mrs. Susan Larned	Absent/Excused
	Ms. Deborah Germano	Present
	Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross	Present
	Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
	Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Absent/Excused
	Miss Charise Calvert	Absent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved with the deletion of Item Number 10f., Approval of Six-Year Enrollment Projections and Plan and School Construction Needs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of July 12, 1999, were approved with a correction.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS: Dr. Peterson stated that she received seven letters: one from the Kenai Peninsula Borough regarding a FEMA mitigation grant for \$200,000, one from the Homer Hockey Association soliciting support for the Homer ice hockey program, one from the Alaska Association of School Business Officials requesting support for Melody Douglas's participation in a national leadership role, one from DOEED regarding SB125 requiring each district to have a crisis response plan, one from DOEED regarding HB70 requiring written parental permission before students may participate in surveys, one from a parent expressing frustration over the ticket seating procedure for graduation ceremonies, and one from Mr. Eric Weatherby requesting that a District staff member and Board member be appointed to the Juvenile Detention Facility Committee.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Peterson listed trainings and meetings recently attended by District administration and reviewed changes to central office department locations. She announced that a professional/technical contract has been issued to a retired District administrator for administrative services for Hope Elementary/High School. She noted that Rosemary Bushon has been hired as the director of the After the Bell program, which is funded through a grant awarded to the Community Schools Program and the Boys and Girls Club. Dr. Peterson announced that Mr. Sarge Truesdell was named the 1999 Sallie Mae First Class Teacher Award winner from the state of Alaska. She announced that there will be a special School Board meeting August 19, 1999, at 2:00 p.m. Dr. Peterson presented a list of worksessions and reports to be presented at future Board meetings from October 4 through June 5, 2000.

Mr. Arness asked why the administration decided to contract administrative services at the Hope Elementary/High School. Dr. Peterson explained that the Hope site council specifically wants an educator and not a teacher who also performs administrative duties. She stated that since they were unable to fill the position, the District decided to contract with a retired administrator for one day per week for one year. Dr. Peterson stated that the difference in a teacher salary and the cost of the administrative contract is approximately the same as hiring a principal/teacher.

## BOARD REPORTS:

Ms. Germano reported that she recently attended the technology committee meeting. She stated that she felt that it was a good meeting and that she expected more progress at the next meeting. She announced that Mrs. Crawford and Assembly members, Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Scalzi, were also in attendance.

## CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Hazardous Bus Route Resolutions, Resignations, 1999-2000 Teacher Appointments and Leave of Absence/Certified.

## Hazardous 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 1999-2000 school year.

## Resignations:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve the resignation of Heidi Farrand, music, Seward Elementary.

## 1999-2000 Teacher Appointments:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve teacher assignments for the 1999-2000 school year for Janet Boyce, (temporary) Title I reading, Soldotna Elementary; Kristin Cannava, QUEST, Soldotna Middle; Lee Chadwick, computer application/accounting, Nikiski Middle/High; Christopher Cowans, Grades 5/6, Tustumena Elementary; Thomas Gossard, (half permanent, half temporary) Grades 1/2, Tustumena Elementary; Robert Hassen, math, Seward Middle/High; Shae Hollandsworth, Grade 6, K-Beach Elementary; Gweni Hurd, English, Kenai Central High; Carrie Robbins, (temporary) English, Skyview High; Loretta Swanson, special education/preschool, Seward Middle/High.

Leave of Absence/Certified: Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a one-year, unpaid leave of absence for the 1999-2000 school year for Anita Hakkinen, Grade 2, Redoubt Elementary.

ACTION Ms. Germano moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 2, 3 and 4, and to approve Item Number 1 separately. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

CONSENT AGENDA (continued): Dr. Anderson objected to the wording used in the hazardous bus resolutions and noted that he would vote against them.

VOTE ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 10a.(1):

YES: Germano, Gross, Mullins, Arness

NO: Anderson

Motion carried.

Consent agenda Items Numbers 2, 3, and 4 carried unanimously.

SUBSTITUTE AND TEMPORARY PAY SCHEDULE: Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve the pay schedule for substitutes and temporary employees for the 1999-2000 school year. A new salary range was added to accommodate temporary help that is used regularly such as employees hired for summer work.

Mr. Arness asked whether substitutes will work for the proposed rates. Mr. Syverson stated that the District has a fairly good pool of substitutes and that more will be added to the list after the upcoming training is conducted.

ACTION Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve the pay schedule for substitutes and temporary employees for the 1999-2000 school year. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

POLICY REVISIONS: Mr. Ed McLain recommended the Board approve revisions to AR 6141, Curriculum Development and Evaluation, which updates the District time line for curriculum review and revision.

ACTION

Mrs. Mullins moved the Board approve revisions to AR 6141, Curriculum Development and Evaluation. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ed McLain recommended the Board approve revisions to AR 6146.1, High School Graduation Requirements, which concerns high school credit for home school, private school, or correspondence courses.

ACTION

Mrs. Mullins moved the Board approve revisions to AR 6146.1, High School Graduation Requirements. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Ms. Germano suggested that the Board consider weighted grades since there were so many valedictorians at each of the larger high schools this past year.

ACTION

Ms. Germano moved the Board amend the motion by deleting the Weighted Grades section of AR 6146.1. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Dr. Anderson stated that he was also bothered by so many valedictorians but did not want to penalize students who have worked hard to earn good grades. He stated that he supported the removal of the Weighted Grades section.

Dr. Peterson stated that last year the administrators discussed whether there were other methods to determine the school valedictorian. She recommended the Board leave the Weighted Grades section in the regulation.

POLICY REVISIONS (continued):

Mr. McLain recommended the Board approve the proposed changes as presented. He stated that he intends to speak to the administrators and also has an article to share with them regarding the subject of weighted grades.

Dr. Anderson stated that he would not object to leaving the weighted grades language in the regulation as long as discussion and changes follow.

Mr. McLain advised that if the weighted grades language is removed at this time, there might be some real differences in how schools begin to act ahead of any regulation changes.

Dr. Peterson reported that last year the administrators did not support a change in the weighted grades language and her recommendation would likely follow their suggestion.

Ms. Germano asked how parents and students felt about weighted grades.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YES: Germano, Gross

NO: Anderson, Mullins, Arness

Amendment failed.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ed McLain recommended the Board approve revisions to AR 6153, School-Sponsored Trips, which clarifies District policy and procedure related to school field trips. Mr. McLain noted that legal counsel has advised the District that the requirement for medical insurance is legal and reasonable.

Ms. Germano asked whether student athletic insurance covered field trips. Mr. Hickey stated that the District has a vendor who will cover students 24 hours a day for all activities. He stated that there are vendors who will offer coverage for the length of a specific field trip, which is more cost effective. Mr. McLain stated that he will discuss AR 6153 during the principals' meeting. He stated that the District must be careful not use the insurance requirement in any discriminatory manner and that economics not be a factor.

Mrs. Mullins asked whether there was an age or grade limitation for out-of-state extended field trips. Mr. McLain responded that he was not aware of one.

## ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve revisions to AR 6153, School-Sponsored Trips. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Mrs. Mullins expressed her concern for the District's liability regarding students younger than 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade participating in out-of-state field trips. She questioned how much elementary-aged students benefited from out-of-state trips.

**ACTION** Dr. Anderson moved the Board amend AR 6153 by adding a sentence following Item Number 1 under the heading Medical Coverage and Medical Training for Out-of State Field Trips on page AR 6153(c) that states, "(Medical insurance will be made available for those without private family or individual coverage.)"  
Ms. Germano seconded.

**POLICY REVISIONS (continued):** Mr. Hickey suggested that the proposed language not infer that coverage will be provided at District expense.

Mr. McLain recommended that the sentence, "This will not be paid at District expense." be added to the amendment. Dr. Anderson and Ms. Germano concurred with the suggestion.

Further discussion was held concerning the exact wording of the amendment. Mr. Arness read the proposed amendment to state that "(Medical insurance will be made available for those without private family or individual coverage. This will not be paid at District expense.)"

Amendment carried unanimously.

Ms. Germano asked what the turn-around time was in getting information back to the schools regarding field trips. Mr. McLain stated that he was more satisfied with the process last year than he was the year prior. He stated that there were still occasions when field trip requests were received later than he would like. He stated that e-mailing the approvals has saved quite a bit of time.

Ms. Germano stated that last year there were frustrations expressed regarding routine field trips.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENTS:** Dr. Peterson recommended the Board approve administrator assignments for the 1999-2000 school year for Alex Trout, principal, Voznesenka Elementary/High and Allan Miller, assistant principal, Kenai Middle.

**ACTION** Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve the administrator assignments for the 1999-2000 school year for Alex Trout, principal, Voznesenka Elementary/High and Allan Miller, assistant principal, Kenai Middle. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Karen Mahurin, Sears Elementary secretary, asked the Board to reconsider the category of the Sears Elementary office area remodel. She stated that presently she can not see who comes in or out of the building, and with increasing societal problems she would view the remodel as a safety concern and should be prioritized as such.

Ms. Terri Woodward, Skyview High head custodian, stated that she has no storage space and is concerned that valuable school equipment and materials will be ruined in the current storage shed. She asked the Board for a larger shed and invited them to visit the school to see the lack of storage space.

Dr. Peterson thanked Ms. Woodward for assisting the police who were responding to an alarm that sounded at Skyview High.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mrs. Gross reported that it has been a good summer and added that she feels it will be an exciting school year. She stated that she is excited about the new personnel.

Mrs. Mullins requested an excused absence for the August 16 School Board meeting.

ADJOURN: At 8:30 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Mr. Joe Arness, President

---

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

The Minutes of August 2, 1999,

were approved on August 16, 1999,  
as written.