

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
 Borough Administration Building  
 Soldotna, Alaska 99669

February 17, 1992

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President  
 Mrs. Marilyn Dimmick, Vice President  
 Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk  
 Mr. Clifford Massie, Treasurer  
 Mr. Joe Arness, Member  
 Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Member  
 Mr. Michael Wiley, Member  
 Mr. Ryan Rogers, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Holmes, Superintendent of Schools  
 Mr. John Dahlgren, Associate Superintendent, Planning,  
 Operations, and Technology  
 Mrs. Mary Rubadeau, Executive Director, Instructional Services  
 Mr. Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Kenneth Meacham	Mrs. Melody Douglas
Ms. Kari Mohn	Mrs. Susan Cain
Mr. Ross Kendall	Mrs. Karen Mahurin
Mr. Ed Pearson	Mr. Henry Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Larry VanRay	Mr. David Spence
Mr. John Kistler	Mr. John Jonas
Mr. Mark Norgren	Mrs. Jan Hall
Mrs. Pam Lazenby	Ms. Nancy Watson
Mr. Dan Carroll	Mrs. Cindi Romberg
Mr. Duane Anderson	Mr. Carl Miller
Mr. Daryl Kellum	Mrs. Linda Schrimers
Dr. and Mrs. Nels Anderson	Mr. Gary Lindeman
Mr. Gordon Griffin	Miss Charity Greene
Mr. Reid Steadman	Mrs. Betsy Staley
Mr. Jeff Foster	Mrs. Kelly Smith
Mr. Dennis Murray	Ms. Carol Mack
Mrs. Becky Moore	Mrs. Nancy Rollins
Others present not identified.	

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Obendorf called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Betty Obendorf	Present
Mrs. Marilyn Dimmick	Present
Mr. Michael Tauriainen	Present
Mr. Clifford Massie	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross	Present
Mr. Michael Wiley	Present
Mr. Ryan Rogers	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of February 2, 1992, were approved as written.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS: Mr. Dan Carroll presented the Board with petitions signed by 784 parents requesting that competitive athletics be reinstated in Kenai Peninsula Borough schools. He noted competitive athletics are supportive of academic classes and serve as an incentive for students to maintain their grades. He felt that competition was important for students to succeed in the world. He stated parents could help their children through this endeavor by transporting students to activities and helping in fund-raising projects.

Mr. Arness commented that schools can elect to have competitive teams if supported by the parents. He noted he favored the current system of intramural activities because it allowed students an opportunity to learn athletic skills and have time to participate on teams. Mr. Carrol responded this arrangement was fine for beginning athletes, but did not address accomplished athletes who needed competition with other schools. He felt competition in some sports should begin at the fourth grade level.

Mrs. Cindi Romberg, parent, told the Board that not all students are the same competitive types but their needs should be addressed. She further commented if the change this year to intramural activities was economic, she felt competitive athletics should not be completely eliminated and some activities are better than none. She noted the 784 signatures indicated a difference in philosophy from that of the school board and stated the Board's role is to serve the public it represents.

Mrs. Gross commented there has been strong support this year for the intramural program. Mrs. Romberg noted that approximately 90% of the people approached signed the petition indicating their support for competitive athletics. Mr. Dahlgren commented there appeared to be misunderstandings with the policy and KPSAA is currently addressing these issues during the process of revising the elementary, junior high and high school activities handbooks. He noted that invitationals are possible between schools when specific arrangements are made for transportation, etc. with no school district funds expended for the event.

NIKISKI JR/SR HIGH P.T.S.A.: Mr. Ross Kendall, Nikiski Jr/Sr High P.T.S.A. President, told the Board their group was concerned with drastic reductions that might be forthcoming if the district is funded at a

NIKISKI JR/SR HIGH  
P.T.S. A. (cont.):

\$60,000 unit value. He distributed information to the Board related to area cost differentials and how the assigned 1.0 cost differential for the Kenai Peninsula Borough School was not in alignment with other districts in the state. He suggested the school board contact the legislature to change the cost differential and seek a supplemental appropriation for this inequity in the foundation formula.

The Board complimented Mr. Kendall on his extensive research data presented to them.

MOUNTAIN VIEW  
ELEMENTARY P.T.A.:

Mrs. Pam Lazenby, Mountain View Elementary P.T.A. Chairperson, told the board a lower PTR was a prominent concern for parents. She noted that not all children receive family support and encouragement, thus disruptive and needy students require additional attention from teachers who are already burdened with large classes. She commented that although teachers are highly qualified and do a very good job, the large class loads require extra of the teacher and average children are losing out. She commented that she fully supported the teaching staff, but noted that PTR should be lowered. In view of this she requested that negotiations be open to the public.

SOLDOTNA ELEMENTARY  
P.T.A.:

Mr. Dennis Murray, Co-chair of the Soldotna Elementary P.T.A., announced a Soldotna Area Facilities Meeting would be held on March 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the Borough Assembly Room. He requested the board delay the March 2 budget adoption in order that parental input could be received on school configurations which could affect the 1992-93 budget.

K.P.E.A.:

Mr. Henry Anderson, K.P.E.A. President, questioned whether the administration had reviewed with the borough's emergency services the use of schools as emergency shelters during the recent chlorine leak and whether problems could be solved on services in the schools at that time. He questioned whether employees would be paid for the day off when they showed up at school. Mr. Dahlgren responded he had attended two interagency debriefings and information is being compiled related to meals served by the Red Cross. Employees who directly worked to help the evacuees at the schools, such as secretaries and custodians, will be paid either by the City of Soldotna or Red Cross. Dr. Holmes added that May 1 will be a make-up day for those schools closed due to the chlorine leak.

AWARDS AND  
PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Obendorf presented a Plaque of Appreciation to Mrs. Rosanne VanRay, Head Secretary at Soldotna Junior High School, for her 13 years of dedicated service to the district. A Plaque of Appreciation will be sent to Mrs. Patricia Chitty, Librarian/Counselor, Nikolaevsk Elem/High, who was unable to attend the meeting. The plaque recognized Mrs. Chitty's professionalism in education and her recent award as Alaska's Counselor of the Year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:

Dr. Holmes reminded the board of the March 10 Facilities Meeting in Soldotna. He noted this meeting was organized by the Soldotna area parent groups to discuss school facilities.

He announced a student count was conducted on February 14 as it relates to budget purposes. Data from the count will be presented at the March 2 meeting.

PRESENTATION OF 1992-  
93 SCHOOL BUDGET:

Dr. Holmes officially presented the 1992-93 school budget to the school board. He noted the operating budget of \$69,319,755 has been built on a \$63,000 unit value. Adoption of the budget is scheduled for March 2, 1992.

SOLDOTNA HIGH SCHOOL  
REPORT:

Mr. Ken Meacham, Soldotna High School Principal, reported to the Board on events at his school. Following Mr. Meacham's introduction the Board was entertained by the Soldotna High School Swing Choir in two musical numbers. This was followed by a slide presentation narrated by students Reid Steadman and Charity Greene on activities at their school.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Sick Leave Draw Requests/Certified; Sick Leave Draw Request/Support; Leave of Absence Request/Support; Inservice Release Request; Extended Field Trip Request; and Resignation.

SICK LEAVE DRAW  
REQUESTS/CERTIFIED:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve draws from the K.P.E.A. Sick Leave Bank for Judy Klunder, Grade 2, Tustumena Elementary, 10 days; Marlene Sledge, Special Education/Severe Education, Soldotna Jr. High, 10 days; and Lynda Minogue, Grade 1, Sears Elementary, 10 days.

SICK LEAVE DRAW  
REQUEST/SUPPORT:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve a draw of 23 days from the K.P.E.S.A. Sick Leave Bank for JoAnne Zimmerman, Cashier/Food Service, Seward Elementary.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE  
REQUEST/SUPPORT:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for the Fall semester of the 1992-93 school year for Karen Brewer-Fair, Community Schools Coordinator, Skyview High School.

INSERVICE RELEASE  
REQUEST:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve inservice release days on March 6 and April 6, 1992, for Nikiski Jr/Sr High School staff to work on their self-study for accreditation.

EXTENDED FIELD TRIP  
REQUEST:

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve an extended field trip request for four Susan B. English High School students to travel to Washington, D.C., April 4-11, 1992, to participate in the Close-Up Program.

RESIGNATION:

Dr. Holmes recommended the Board approve a resignation effective the end of the 1991-92 school year for Michael Ainsworth, Director, Special Services.

ACTION

Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items #1 through #6. Mr. Wiley seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

RECONSIDERATION OF  
INSTRUCTIONAL  
MATERIALS COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDATION:

Mrs. Rubadeau reported the Reconsideration of Instructional Materials Committee met to review the book, "Killashandra" by Anne McCaffrey after receiving a request from a parent for the book's reconsideration. The consensus recommendation of the committee members was to accept this book as appropriate literature for the secondary school libraries.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve the recommendation of the Reconsideration of Instructional Materials Committee. Mr. Wiley seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

RELOCATION OF  
PORTABLE CLASS-  
ROOMS:

Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board request the Borough Assembly to appropriate \$23,000 for relocation of three portable classrooms this summer for use during the next school year.

ACTION

Mrs. Dimmick moved the Board approve Mr. Dahlgren's recommendation on relocation of portable classrooms. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

1992-93 ADMINISTRATOR  
ASSIGNMENTS:

Dr. Holmes recommended the Board approve administrator assignments for the 1992-93 school year as follows: Bartlett Elem/High, Terry Myrick, Principal/Teacher; Chapman Elementary, Serve Wilson, Principal; Cooper Landing Elementary, vacant; English Bay Elem/High, Bernadette Wensley, Principal/Teacher; Homer High, Dennis Dempsey, Principal; Homer High, Mike Bundy, Assistant Principal; Homer Intermediate, Rick Ladd, Principal; Homer Junior High, Lincoln Saito, Principal; Hope Elem/High, Paul Kubena, Principal/Teacher; Kalifornsky Beach Elementary, Gary Jackson, Principal; Kenai Central High, Mick Wykis, Principal; Kenai Central High, David Spence, Assistant Principal; Kenai Middle, Paul Sorenson, Principal; Kenai Middle, vacant, Assistant Principal; McNeil Canyon Elementary, Vacant; Moose Pass Elementary, Glen Szymoniak, Principal/Teacher; Mountain View Elementary, Tom Thorpe, Principal; Nikiski Elementary, Elizabeth Leonard, Principal; Nikiski Jr/Sr High, Vacant, Principal; Nikiski Jr/Sr High, Don Glaze, Assistant Principal; Nikolaevsk Elem/High, Bob Moore, Principal; Ninilchik Elem/High, Ken Satre, Principal; North Star Elementary, Jan Hall, Principal; Paul Banks Elementary, Lewis McLin, Principal; Port Graham Elem/High, Joseph Deutsch, Principal/Teacher; Razdolna Elementary, Robert Bell, Principal/Teacher; Redoubt Elementary, Larry Nauta, Principal; Sears Elementary, Jacquie Imle, Principal; Seward Elementary,

1992-93 ADMINISTRATOR  
ASSIGNMENTS (cont.):

Roger Sampson, Principal; Seward Jr/Sr High, James Fredrickson, Principal; Seward Jr/Sr High, Steve Wilcox, Assistant Principal (half-time); Skyview High, Marlene Benson, Principal; Skyview High, Todd Syverson, Assistant Principal; Soldotna Elementary, vacant, Principal; Soldotna Jr. High, Daryl Kellum, Principal; Soldotna Jr. High, Carl Miller, Assistant Principal; Soldotna High, Ken Meacham, Principal; Soldotna High, Mark Norgren, Assistant Principal; Sterling Elementary, Sam Bushon, Principal; Susan B. English Elem/High, Michael Smith; Tustumena Elementary, Carolyn Cannava, Principal; Voznesenka Elem/High, vacant; Associate Superintendent, Planning, Operations & Technology, John Dahlgren; Executive Director, Instructional Services, Mary Rubadeau; Executive Director, Personnel, Sharon Radtke; Executive Director, Business Management, Richard Swarner; Director, Elementary Education, Diane Borgman; Director, Secondary Education, Paul Epperson; Director, Grants Management, Vacant; Director, Data Processing, James White; and Supervisor, Alternate Schooling/Bilingual Programs, Rick Matiya.

ACTION

Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve the 1992-93 administrator assignments. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING/POLICY  
REVISIONS/AIDS

Mrs. Rubadeau recommended the Board approve policies and regulations developed by the AIDS Policy Committee. These policies and regulations are 004.61/004.61R, Handling and Disposal of Infectious Waste; 005.31/005.31R AIDS-Personnel; and 006.44/006.44R/AIDS-Students. The committee also recommended that education for prevention of HIV/AIDS be expanded to grades K-4 and the health curriculum objectives relating to HIV/AIDS be reviewed in grades 5-12, that inservice training of the policies and regulations be provided for staff members, that the science curriculum be reviewed to add information regarding the immune system in appropriate curricular content areas, that information and training opportunities be provided for community members and parents in the prevention of HIV/AIDS, and a media/resource library be developed which would support a K-12 prevention curriculum with current materials. She noted the policies had been reviewed by legal counsel, and a second reading would be held on March 2 with adoption scheduled for March 16.

Mr. Wiley requested a worksession be held on the policies prior to their adoption.

FIRST READING/POLICY  
REVISIONS/007.12  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

Mrs. Rubadeau presented revisions to Policy 007.12, Substance Abuse. The policy revisions replace Policy 007.12/007.12R, Alcohol Use, and 007.13/007.13R, Drug Use. She reported the policy was developed collaboratively with Tom Boedecker,

FIRST READING/POLICY  
REVISIONS/007.12  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
(continued):

Borough Attorney. She noted the policies would be held for a second reading on March 2 with adoption scheduled for March 16.

FIRST READING/POLICY  
REVISIONS/007:12  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
(continued):  
PUBLIC  
PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Wiley requested this policy be reviewed in a worksession prior to adoption. Mrs. Obendorf announced a worksession would be held on March 2 to review the policies.

Dr. Nels Anderson, parent, stated he would be unable to attend the March 10 meeting, and reiterated his opinion that the board needed to consolidate the Soldotna area high school facilities in an effort to save money in these times of declining revenues. He commented that Skyview High School is a wonderful facility, but that Soldotna High School has suffered with its opening. He urged the board to seriously listen to the public. He also questioned whether teachers were under a basic gag rule where they are not allowed to express opinions.

Mrs. Becky Moore, Soldotna High School P.T.S.A. chairperson, commented as a spokesperson for parents in the audience. She told the board that not everything is fine at Soldotna High and they were concerned about what would happen next year with teacher reductions, class deletions, etc. She urged the board to look at ways to improve the population at Soldotna High next year. She requested the Board delay approval of the budget until a later date.

Mr. John Kistler, parent, stated he favored competition and it appeared there was plenty of competition in the classroom for the attention of the teachers. He commented the number of parents requesting reinstatement of competitive athletics as indicated on the petition presented to the board was insignificant compared to the population of the entire district. He urged the Board to adopt the budget as scheduled for March 2.

Dr. Carla Anderson questioned why the Borough Building was selected as the location to hold the March 10 Facilities Meeting. She noted the location was not the choice of the PAC/PTA presidents when the meeting was organized. She further noted the Borough Assembly Room was not large enough to seat the anticipated crowd.

Dr. Holmes responded that the Facilities Meeting was organized by the Soldotna area parent groups and they determined the meeting location. In response to Dr. Nels Anderson question related to a "gag rule" not allowing teachers to express their opinions, Dr. Holmes stated that no gag rule existed. There was a situation where Kenai teachers lobbied about facilities to students in classrooms, which was felt to be improper. He noted their responsibility was to teach students, and the matter would be reviewed.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS  
(continued):

Mrs. Obendorf advised Dr. Anderson to speak to the sponsors of the Facilities Meeting on selection of the meeting site. She noted the school board and administration had no part in organizing the meeting.

Mrs. Becky Moore, Soldotna P.T.S.A. Chairperson, commented their group had strongly opposed the Borough Building as the location for the Facilities Meeting. They felt the meeting should be held on the parents' ground.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Wiley commented that it appeared the wording on the petition was quite broad, one that many people would sign. He noted that parents needed to know the 1992-93 budget included some funds for junior high activities. He did not feel the board needed to respond to the petition since things were in place to take care of the problem.

Mr. Arness announced that Nikiski High School was very proud of their girl's State Basketball Championship.

He requested board concurrence that Mr. Kendall's letter on area differential be sent to the governor and legislators. The board concurred with the request.

Mr. Tauriainen added his congratulations to the Nikiski High School girl's basketball championship.

Mrs. Dimmick suggested the School Board President attach a cover letter to Mr. Kendall's letter on area differential being sent to the legislature.

She commented that 784 parents expressed concern on competitive athletics through a petition presented to the board, but only one parent spoke to the issue of PTR at the meeting. She stated the board hears about the PTR, but not in the numbers as those submitted on the petition. She wondered if those people, like herself, who are most concerned about the PTR were on the wrong track.

Mr. Massie commented he was very pleased with the Soldotna High School Swing Choir presentation.

Mrs. Obendorf reminded the board to attend the March 10 Facilities Meeting.

She noted a joint meeting on general obligation bonds will be held with the borough assembly on Tuesday, February 18 at 5:30 p.m. She stated a four-borough coalition has been formed to pursue funding for capital projects. Additional information will be available on this at the February 18 meeting.

BOARD COMMENTS  
(continued):

Mrs. Obendorf complimented the Soldotna High School group on their presentation at the meeting. She stated she attended the Renaissance Meeting at the school recently and was impressed with this program which recognizes students for their varied accomplishments.

Mrs. Obendorf commented there have been questions from parents related to follow-up on concerns presented to the school board. She stated that in order for an item to be placed on the school board agenda, it must be requested by a school board member or administrator to the school board president and then placed on the agenda.

Mrs. Obendorf challenged Mr. Kendall to have other parent groups send similar letters related to the area differential to the legislature. She added that it is important that many letters be received by the legislators in order to make an impact on them.

She announced that she, Mrs. Dimmick and Mr. Wiley attended meetings in Juneau on restructuring and the AASB Legislative Fly-in. She stated most legislators support \$63,000 unit value funding, but legislation is being revised and legislators are concerned about where the funding will come from.

Mrs. Obendorf stated she listened to Commissioner of Education Covey at the AASB Fly-in who stated he does not support the \$63,000 unit value. Commissioner Covey stated he wanted to wait until the Alaska 2000 Report has been received before making a commitment for increased funding. Mrs. Obendorf stated it is important for parents and interested persons to write to the governor, sending copies to the legislators, on their concerns.

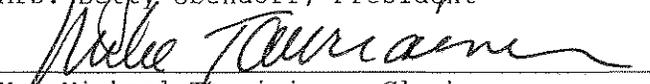
ADJOURN:

At 9:25 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Massie seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President

  
Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Clerk

The Minutes of February 17, 1992,  
were approved on March 2, 1992,  
as written.