
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting

Borough Administration Building
148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, Alaska

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

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Sean Dusek, Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Todd Syverson Mr. Bob VanDerWege
Mrs. Laurie Olson Mrs. Doris Cannon
Mr. Doug Cannon Mr. John Mills
Mrs. Pauline Mills

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Joe Arness called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
(7:00:13 PM)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Arness invited those present to participate in the Pledge of
(7:00:29 PM) Allegiance.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT: Ms. Hohl read the District's mission statement.
(7:00:55 PM)

ROLL CALL: Mr. Joe Arness Present
(7:01:22 PM) Mr. Marty Anderson Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford Present
Mrs. Liz Downing Absent/Excused
Mrs. Sunni Hilts Present
Ms. Lynn Hohl Present
Mr. Bill Holt Present
Mr. Tim Navarre Present
Mrs. Penny Vadla Present
Miss Julie Rang Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved with the inclusion of a revision to
(7:02:01 PM) Item 10a.(3), Approval of 2011-2012 Administrator Contracts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of February 21, 2011 were approved
(7:03:00 PM) with a correction.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:

(7:03:48 PM)

(7:08:03 PM)

The Board presented a Golden Apple Award to Elizabeth Siemion, for her volunteer service to Tustumena Elementary School.

Mrs. Debbie Harris, District Visual Arts specialist, presented the Governor's Proclamation of March as Alaska Arts Education Month and shared a list of upcoming art events throughout the District. She distributed small books of student-created artist trading cards.

SCHOOL REPORT:

(7:14:46 PM)

Mr. Bob VanDerWege, Tustumena Elementary principal, introduced a special edition of the school's KLNK morning show created by the sixth grade class. The show highlighted student activities, new after school clubs (archery and running), the preschool program, cross-country skiing, and technology. He introduced two students who were involved in the production of the show. Mr. Mick Audette directed fourth grade students in a musical performance of the song, *This Land is Your Land*, including singing and instruments.

RECESS

(7:30:43 PM)

At 7:30 p.m. Mr. Arness called a recess.

RECONVENE

(7:35:24 PM)

At 7:35 p.m. the Board reconvened in regular session.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

(7:36:18 PM)

Mr. Arness recognized Soldotna High School students in the audience.

Mr. Dusek noted that Dr. Atwater is attending the Alaska Association of School Administrators Fly-In in Juneau. He reported that there are administrator vacancies at Voznesenka School, Soldotna Middle School, and Mt. View Elementary. He noted that in a memo to the Board, Dr. Atwater outlined the reassignment of duties within the Leadership Team, which leaves a vacancy for the director of secondary education position. He reported that the vacancy has been advertised with interviews to be held March 21. He noted that District staff will give a presentation during the AASB Boardmanship and Legislation Fly-In using Skype technology to broadcast the PowerPoint to Juneau. He reported that the presentation will be a review of what the District is doing to help primary students have success on the third grade standards-based assessments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

(7:38:15 PM)

Mr. Dusek reported that Sterling Elementary staff received the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education Inclusive Practice Award. He noted that First Student was the only transportation contractor to submit a bid for student transportation. He reported that school equipment fund requests were reviewed and \$700,000 was allocated for a variety of needs that met the fund's criteria. He announced that spring break begins for students after Thursday, March 10 for most District schools. He reported that Russian Old Believer schools will have Spring Break beginning April 25. He reported that the Districtwide forensics meet was hosted by Sterling Elementary on Saturday, March 5 for grades 4 through 6. He announced that the regional basketball tournaments were held and that the Soldotna High

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

(continued)

School girls placed third in the 4A Division, Seward boys placed first in the 3A Division, the Seward girls placed second in the 2A Division and the Susan B. English girls placed second in the 2A Division.

FISCAL YEAR 2012 BUDGET:

(7:43:12 PM)

Mr. Jones presented the FY12 Preliminary School District budget of \$137,311,226 for the General Fund and revenue funds totaling \$133,787,000, requiring \$3,524,000 from the fund balance.

BOARD REPORTS:

(7:48:36 PM)

Mrs. Crawford reported that she participated in Read Across America at Redoubt Elementary and Mt. View Elementary and will continue at K-Beach Elementary on March 10. She reported that she testified during the House Finance Committee teleconference. She reported that she sent a letter of support from the Board regarding SB84, increasing the student base allocation. She reported that she attended the Policy Review Committee meeting and that the group examined changes to the policy regarding site councils and fund balance. She reported that she attended the Budget Forum which was held at Soldotna High.

Mrs. Hilts reported that she attended the Homer Budget Forum and the joint Board and Borough Assembly worksession. She commended Mr. Jones for his two presentations of the District's proposed budget and related information.

Mr. Navarre reported that he attended the Kenai Middle School vice principal interviews where three candidates were interviewed.

Mrs. Vadla reported that she attended the Analytical Writing Assessment leadership training on February 15. She commended the teachers who are involved with AWA because it helps to improve students' writing abilities. She reported that she assisted with the Future Problem-Solving Program and announced that there are some District students who will compete at the international level. She reported that on March 1 she attended the joint School Board and Borough Assembly worksession and the Budget Forum at Soldotna High. She commended Mr. Jones for his budget presentations. She reported that she recently worked with Whitworth University and Gonzaga University regarding service learning.

Mr. Anderson reported that he attended the Skills USA competition that was held at Soldotna High. He stated that the event provided a high level of competition and that Homer students won overall. He reported that he gave a presentation in his area of expertise. He reported that he was recently in Juneau to attend the Alaska Workforce Investment Board meeting. He reported the Peninsula Training Academy will be held Tuesday through Thursday, March 8-10.

Mr. Arness reported that he attended the Assembly meeting on March 1 to provide the District's quarterly report and to speak on the funding resolution.

**BOARD WORKSESSION
REPORT:**
(7:56:57 PM)

Mr. Arness reported that the Board held worksessions regarding the Read 180 Program and the FY12 Budget and that the Board conducted a conference call with Kenai Peninsula legislators to discuss education legislation. He noted that the Board Policy Review Committee met prior to the worksession. All who are present at the Board meeting also attended the worksessions.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(7:57:41 PM)

Items on the Consent Agenda were Approval of New Teacher Contract; Resignations; and 2011-12 New Administrator Contracts.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACT:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a new teacher contract for Lisa K. Schmitter, (temporary) .80 FTE school counselor, Mountain View Elementary.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve resignations, effective at the end of the 2010-2011 school year, for Joshua M. Brege, vocational education, Homer High School; Brent Hammer, intermediate, Nanwalek School; Cynthia A. Capra, Grade 1, Seward Elementary; Richard E. Forcum, vocational education, Soldotna Middle School; and Kenneth Westfall, intensive needs, West Homer Elementary.

**2011-12 NEW
ADMINISTRATOR
CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve administrator contracts for the 2011-2012 school year for Conrad Woodhead, principal/teacher, Chapman School; Jeffrey P. Ambrosier, principal, Ninilchik School; and Daniel J. Beck, assistant principal, Kenai Middle School.

MOTION

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

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS:
(7:59:47 PM)

Mr. Holt thanked the Tustumena Elementary students and staff for the school report.

Mrs. Crawford thanked Tustumena Elementary students and staff for the school report and for the recognition of Ms. Elizabeth Siemion. She thanked Ms. Harris for bringing forward the Governor's proclamation declaring March as Alaska Arts Education Month.

Mr. Anderson announced that he will travel to Juneau on March 25 to attend the AASB Boardmanship Academy and Legislative Fly-in. He thanked the students in the audience for attending.

Ms. Hohl thanked Mr. Arness for attending the Seward Budget Forum in her absence and added that she received comments that Mr. Jones' presentation was well received and helpful. She announced that on March 8 she will travel to Washington DC on behalf of Alaska PTA to lobby federal legislators. She congratulated Sterling Elementary staff for the Inclusive Practices Award. She told Ms. Harris that she was happy to see McNeil Canyon Elementary School art displayed in the State Capitol building. She expressed appreciation for the Read 180 progress information.

BOARD COMMENTS:

(continued)

Miss Rang thanked Tustumena Elementary students and staff for the school report and congratulated Ms. Siemion for receiving the Golden Apple Award and thanked her for her volunteer work. She wished good luck to District soccer and track teams and those basketball teams headed for state tournaments.

Mrs. Vadla thanked Mr. Kircher for the Read 180 presentation. She thanked Ms. Siemion for her volunteer work and Ms. Harris for the arts education presentation. She commended the Tustumena Elementary students for their presentation. She thanked the Soldotna Middle School for the individual thank you card honoring Board members as part of Board Appreciation Month.

Mrs. Hilts reported that Assembly Member Mako Haggerty stated that he was impressed with the District students who were in Juneau as part of the Native Youth Leaders because they approached legislators, introduced themselves, and asked questions. She commended Mrs. Holmgaard for her work as director for Federal Programs, her support for small schools, and for providing opportunities for KPBSD Alaskan Native students. She wished good luck to the Susan B. English girls' basketball team who will compete at the state tournament.

Mr. Navarre encouraged the students in the audience to educate themselves on the District budget. He announced that the FY12 budget will be available for public hearing and Board approval at the April 4 Board meeting. He thanked Ms. Harris for the arts education information. He expressed appreciation for the Tustumena Elementary School report.

ADJOURN:

(8:07:57 PM)

At 8:07 p.m., Mr. Arness adjourned the School Board Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Joe Arness, President

Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Clerk

The Minutes of March 7, 2011,
have not been approved as of
March 23, 2011.