

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Homer High School Auditorium
Homer, Alaska 99603

September 18, 1995

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Vice President
Dr. Nels Anderson, Clerk
Mr. Joe Arness, Treasurer
Mrs. Susan Larned, Member
Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Member
Mr. Emery Thibodeau, Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Walter Bromenschenkel, Superintendent
Mr. John Dahlgren, Associate Superintendent, Planning,
Operations, and Technology
Mrs. Sharon Radtke, Executive Director, Personnel
Mr. Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Atz Kilcher	Mrs. Joyce Fischer
Mr. Richard Patton	Mrs. Catherine DeLacee
Mr. Harry Gregoire	Mr. Lance Peterson
Mr. Hal Spence	Mr. Joe Gallager
Mrs. Angela McKinney	Mrs. Karen Mahurin
Mr. James Simeroth	Mr. Mark Leal
Mr. Lewis McLin	Mrs. Deborah Germano
Mr. Glen Szymoniak	Mrs. Ann Bayes
Mrs. Mary Toutonghi	Mrs. Diane Borgman
Mr. Wayne Kessler	Mr. Rick Ladd
Mr. Frank Garrity	Mr. Paul Fischer
Mrs. Barbara Dahl	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. The McNeil Canyon student council officers, Arinda Brooks, Lindsay Horst, Sara Holt, and Sarah Boone, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Betty Obendorf	Present
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross	Present
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Absent - Excused
Mrs. Susan Larned	Present
Mr. Michael Tauriainen	Present
Mr. Emery Thibodeau	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board Minutes of August 21, 1995, were approved with a correction.

McNEIL CANYON SCHOOL
REPORT:

Mr. Glen Szymoniak, Principal of McNeil Canyon Elementary School, welcomed the Board to Homer and complimented retiring School Board President Betty Obendorf on her many years of dedicated service to the school district. He introduced the PAC Chairperson, Deborah Germano, and the student council, who reported on school activities for their organizations. The program concluded with the student chorus, under the leadership of Atz Kilcher, singing a tribute in memory of Betty Leonard.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Tammy Anderson, Homer parent, questioned the district's attendance policy related to part-time and full-time students. She noted this information was not provided in the student handbook, however, she was provided information related to enrollment procedures for students on correspondence taking classes at district schools. She noted her son enrolled in classes, but later disenrolled in classes except band. She stated there was a five day ruling, but on the eighth day of school her son disenrolled. She felt the administration was hiding behind the policy, claiming it would create chaos otherwise. She requested her son be allowed to continue in the band class and that the five day rule did not apply to her situation. She requested this information be printed in the student handbooks.

PAUL BANKS ELEMENTARY PTO:

Terry Plant, Paul Banks Elementary PTO President, introduced the officers of the organization, and apprised the Board of fund-raising and ongoing activities of the group. She questioned whether the PTO would be involved in decision making on the configuration of the new West Homer Elementary School. Dr. Bromenschenkel responded that school based decision making councils affected will be involved in the process, and Mr. Dahlgren will formalize a schedule for persons involved and timelines of meetings. Mrs. Plant thanked the Board for extending the hazardous bus routes for this year.

CHAPMAN ELEMENTARY PTA:

Mrs. Angela McKinney, Chapman Elementary PTA Vice President, requested a meeting with the school board related to the transition of the 7th and 8th grade students. She read a letter from Dr. Bromenschenkel to Mr. Garrity and the School Based Decision Making Council explaining the Board's action on the one-year moratorium. She commented it was the parents' understanding that there are other options for this situation, and invited the Board to meet with the parents to discuss these options. Mrs. Gross suggested a written request be made for this meeting. Mr. Tauriainen commented a meeting should be held prior to the budget cycle.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Bromenschenkel reported a task force has been formed by Governor Knowles to design a new school funding formula. In addition, the Alaska Association of School Administrators has formed a finance formula committee to oversee the work of the governor's finance task force. To date, the funding formulae developed have not been favorable to the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, where the KPBSD would lose between \$1.8 million and \$9.2 million annually. He felt the current funding formula, with modifications to the area cost differential, would best serve the district. He encouraged the Board to become involved in this effort to protect funding for the KPBSD. A meeting is scheduled for September 23, and he encouraged board members to be in attendance with the district's business manager.

Additionally, Superintendent Bromenschenkel reported student enrollment stands at 10,271, which is 121 students below projection. He noted this could result in reduction to the 95-96 budget of approximately \$600,000-\$700,000.

- FINANCIAL REPORT:** Mr. Swarner presented the financial report of the district for the period ending August 31, 1995.
- CONSENT AGENDA:** Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Extended Field Trip Request, Resignation, 1995-96 Teacher Assignments, Leave of Absence Request/Support, Tustumena Furniture and Equipment List, Early Graduation Request, Hazardous Bus Route Resolutions and Tentative Non-Tenure Teacher Assignments.
- EXTENDED FIELD TRIP REQUEST:** By memorandum, Mr. Thorpe recommended the Board approve an extended field trip request for six Kenai Central High School students to travel to Kansas City, Missouri, November 7-12, 1995, to participate in the National Future Farmers of America Leadership Conference.
- RESIGNATION:** Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve the resignation of Debra Sanders, Psychologist, Districtwide, effective October 9, 1995.
- 1995-96 TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS:** Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve 1995-96 teacher assignments for Margaret Barron, Special Education/Resource, Kenai Middle, Temporary; Dana Edwards, Mathematics/Physics, Soldotna High; Jody Hagen, Grade 4, North Star Elementary, Temporary; Mark Kessler, Social Studies, Homer Junior; Taryn King, Mathematics, Skyview High, Temporary; Marilyn Kirkham,
- 1995-96 TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS(cont.):** Grades 3-4, Nikolaevsk Elem/High, Temporary; Todd Knutson, Psychologist, Districtwide; Wade Marcuson, Science, Skyview High; Andrea Messenger, Special Education/Educationally Handicapped, Seward Elementary/Seward Jr/Sr High; Holly Morris, Spanish, Homer High; Colleen O'Brien, Grade 2, Soldotna Elementary; Jennifer Pfleuger, Psychologist, Districtwide; Hans Sowder, Grades 7-12, Bartlett Elem/High; Susan Sowder, Grades 3-6, Bartlett Elem/High; Elizabeth Sprankle, English, Kenai Central High; Stephanie Tauzell-Roberts, Mathematics, Nikiski Jr/Sr High; Penny Tinker, Grades K-2, Bartlett Elem/High; and Laurie Cowgill, Library (.75 time), Sears Elementary, Temporary.
- LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/SUPPORT:** Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for the 1995-96 school year for Sally Langston, Special Education Assistant, Mountain View Elementary.
- TUSTUMENA FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT LIST:** Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve the purchase of furniture and equipment for the Tustumena Elementary addition in the amount of \$27,812.55.
- EARLY GRADUATION REQUEST:** By memorandum, Mr. Thorpe recommended the Board approve an early graduation request for a Homer High School senior to graduate at the end of the first semester of the 1995-96 school year.
- HAZARDOUS BUS ROUTE RESOLUTIONS:** Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve hazardous bus route resolutions which will be submitted to the Department of Education. The resolutions for North Star Elementary, Nikiski Elementary, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary, Redoubt Elementary, Soldotna Elementary, Seward Elementary, Sears Elementary, Mt. View Elementary, Homer Intermediate, and Paul Banks Elementary were the result of board action at the August 21 meeting. Hazardous routes are roads 1.5 miles from schools that are heavily traveled.

TENTATIVE NON-TENURE
TEACHER ASSIGNMENT:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve the following tentative non-tenure teacher assignment for the 1995-96 school year:

Voznesenka Elementary

Johanna Idzerda

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items #1 through #6 and #8. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION

Mr. Thibodeau moved the Board approve the hazardous bus route resolutions. Mrs. Gross seconded.

CONSENT AGENDA (cont.):

Dr. Anderson commented there were numerous "whereas" sections which could be eliminated since they were not pertinent.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved to amend the motion to eliminate Whereas sections #2 through #7, and rewrite the #7 "Whereas, the Board of Education has determined there are existing hazards which place students in danger." Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YES - Anderson, Larned, Tauriainen

NO - Gross, Thibodeau, Obendorf

Amendment failed.

Mr. Tauriainen commented he would vote against the resolutions because some of the routes are within Soldotna which he rides and walks and are not hazardous.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

YES - Gross, Larned, Thibodeau, Obendorf

NO - Anderson, Tauriainen

Motion carried.

STUDENT EXPULSION:

Mrs. Obendorf announced the board conducted an expulsion hearing prior to the School Board Meeting. She noted she and Dr. Anderson did not attend the hearing and would abstain from voting.

ACTION

Mr. Tauriainen moved the Board approve the following: "Decision of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District in the matter of expulsion of the student DC.

This matter was heard by the Board on September 18, 1995. Neither the student nor his parents were present. Mr. Rich Patton, Principal of Homer High School, and John Dahlgren, Associate Superintendent, were present for the administration. The administration requested expulsion of the student for the remainder of the fall semester of the 1995-96 school year with authority to readmit the student for district correspondence. The violation for which expulsion is sought is a violation of District Policy 7.12 prohibiting possession of drugs and paraphernalia with drug residue, and a repeated violation of District Policy 7.14 prohibiting possessing or using tobacco products on school grounds.

STUDENT EXPULSION
(continued):

The student and his parents were notified of the hearing by letter mailed September 14, 1995, addressed to DC's parents. Additionally, the parents were verbally advised that a hearing would be held before the Board.

The evidence as presented by Mr. Patton showed that DC is a 16-year old sophomore in his second year of attendance at Homer High School. On August 31, 1995, DC violated School Board Policy 7.14 by possessing tobacco on school grounds. On September 12, 1995, Robert Macaulay, Assistant Principal, discovered DC smoking tobacco on school grounds. DC immediately voluntarily turned over his cigarettes and removed other items from his pockets for Mr. Macaulay. DC behaved unusually and suspiciously. His behavior, coupled with DC's past pattern of frequenting an area behind the school that had previously involved drug use, caused Mr. Macaulay to believe DC had other items in his coat which were in violation of district policies. DC did not consent to a search of his coat. Mr. Macaulay searched the coat later that evening in the presence of DC, both parents and Homer Police Officer Mr. J. Bolt. Officer Bolt's attendance was requested by the administration to preserve the peace. Marijuana and a pipe containing marijuana residue were found in the coat. Other evidence showed DC has displayed very little interest in academics during his attendance at school.

In adopting School Board Policies 7.12, 7.14 and 7.22, the Board has recognized the seriousness of tobacco and drug presence and use in the school setting, and the consequent disruption of the education process. The presence of drugs and those who possess and use them clearly impact the programs.

The Board finds that Mr. Macaulay has reasonable grounds for searching DC's coat, and a reasonable suspicion that a search would uncover evidence that the student was violating district policies. The Board also finds that DC has displayed a pattern of repeated disruptive behavior and continued willful disobedience of reasonable school authority by committing three major violations of board policies within the first three weeks of school. The presence of this student in a classroom setting after these acts would be inimical to the welfare of other students and district programs, and thus requires removal from the classroom setting.

STUDENT EXPULSION
(continued):

The Board therefore finds it necessary to expel the student DC from the schools of the district for the remainder of the fall semester of the 1995-96 school year; provided, however, that the administration may allow limited readmission for district correspondence. DC shall not be permitted to participate in any extracurricular activities during his expulsion. Prior to full readmission DC must complete a suitable drug assessment and counseling program and four correspondence classes with passing grades. DC and his parents shall meet with the school principal prior to readmission for a determination that the conditions for readmission have been satisfied, establishing cause to believe that the behavior leading to the expulsion shall not be repeated. By action of the Board September 18, 1995." Mrs. Gross seconded.

VOTE:

YES - Gross, Larned, Tauriainen, Thibodeau
ABSTAIN - Anderson, Obendorf

Motion carried unanimously.

1996-97 BUDGET CALENDAR:

Dr. Bromenschenkel presented a budget calendar which would be used for preparation of the 1996-97 budget. He noted the calendar was the same as last year's with the exception of public hearings added for Soldotna and Nikiski.

Mrs. Debra Germano requested that more parent representatives be involved in the budget process.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve the Budget Calendar as presented by Dr. Bromenschenkel. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP
FORUM:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board authorize the initiation of a professional leadership forum. He explained the forum is an effort to improve communication and relationships with the various employee groups, the school board and district administration. He proposed there be three representatives from the employee groups and board. He proposed five district administration representatives and the superintendent.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP
FORUM (continued):

Mr. Tauriainen questioned whether the number of participants could be reduced in an effort to make the forum more effective. He also noted the total number of employees attending could be an expense to the district budget. Dr. Anderson questioned whether the people would be paid to attend the meetings. Dr. Bromenschenkel responded he anticipated the meetings would be held after school and the people would not be compensated for their involvement.

ACTION

Mr. Thibodeau moved the Board approve the Professional Leadership Forum as presented. Mr. Tauriainen seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

AASB CORE RESOLUTIONS:

No core resolutions were proposed for the Association of Alaska School Boards.

ADMINISTRATOR ASSIGNMENT: Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve the appointment of Fred Deussing, Principal/Teacher, Nanwalek School for the 1995-96 school year.

ACTION Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve Fred Deussing as Principal/Teacher at Nanwalek. Mrs. Larned seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING/POLICIES 0000, PHILOSOPHY, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Dr. Bromenschenkel presented Policies 0000, Philosophy, Goals, Objectives, and Comprehensive Plan, for first reading. He noted that during the worksession prior to the meeting it was suggested that the policies receive a second reading, and a third reading with adoption. He noted he would prepare a schedule for the Board to follow on the various readings and adoption.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: Mrs. Rachel Roe, parent, questioned whether there were changes on the hazardous bus routes. Mrs. Obendorf responded the routes remained the same as last year, and the resolutions supported those routes approved at the last meeting.

Mrs. Barbara Dahl, Chapman Elementary PAC Chairperson, invited the Board to attend a Meet the School Board Candidate Night at the school on September 28, at 7:00 p.m. She invited the Board to arrive early to visit the classrooms.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS (continued): Mr. Chris Green told the Board he and his family recently moved to Homer from Los Angeles, but he had been denied entry to Homer High School. He added that he had been told that he had arrived too late for admission, and could go on correspondence study or attend the alternative school. He was hopeful he could attend Homer High School. Dr. Bromenschenkel responded the individual student complaint was an inappropriate topic for the meeting, and could be appealed through the appropriate process going through Mr. Thorpe's office.

BOARD COMMENTS: Mr. Tauriainen stated he was concerned about the two student situations reported at the meeting.

Mr. Tauriainen commented the Board should discuss the options with the Anchor Point parents prior to the budget process.

Dr. Anderson concurred with Mr. Tauriainen's comments.

Mrs. Larned expressed appreciation to the students making presentations at the School Board Meeting. She also expressed the hope that the Board would work toward better communications within the district this year.

Mr. Thibodeau urged the Board to begin working with the Chapman parents.

Mrs. Gross expressed appreciation to the Homer residents in attendance.

Mrs. Obendorf thanked the Homer people for attending the meeting. She also thanked McNeil Canyon School for their report.

Mrs. Obendorf requested that Chapman School parents set up a meeting with a specific agenda and invite the Board to attend.

Mrs. Obendorf urged school board members to attend the finance funding meeting in Anchorage on September 23. Mrs. Gross and Mr. Thibodeau offered to attend the meeting. Dr. Anderson will attend if his schedule permits.

Mrs. Obendorf announced the student government organization has invited the Board to sessions at Soldotna High School on September 26.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:00 p.m., Mr. Thibodeau moved the Board go into executive session to discuss subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:05 p.m., Mrs. Gross moved the Board adjourn the executive session. Mr. Thibodeau seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

At 9:06 p.m., Mr. Tauriainen moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President

Dr. Nels Anderson, Clerk

The Minutes of September 18, 1995,
were approved on October 2, 1995,
as written.