

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

August 5, 1996

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, President
Mr. Joe Arness, Vice President
Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk
Mr. Emery Thibodeau, Treasurer
Dr. Nels Anderson, Member
Mrs. Joyce Fischer, Member
Mrs. Deborah Germano, Member

STAFF PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Melody Douglas
Mrs. Vickie Leach
Mr. Paul Fischer
Others present not identified.

Mrs. Karen Mahurin
Mr. John Kistler
Mr. Wes Newcomb

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Gross called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 3:39 p.m., Mr. Arness 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. Specifically, the Board would evaluate the Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Thibodeau seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:30 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the Board adjourn the executive session. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Mrs. Susan Larned	Absent - Excused
Mr. Emery Thibodeau	Present
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Mrs. Joyce Fischer	Present
Mrs. Deborah Germano	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved as printed with the addition of Item 10f, Approval of Resignations/Retirement Incentive Program.

- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The School Board Minutes of the regular meeting of July 8, 1996, and the special meeting of July 22, 1996, were approved as written.
- COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:** Mrs. Gross acknowledged receipt of three letters from Voznesenka parents requesting additional bilingual aides at the Voznesenka School.
- She also noted a letter had been received from McNeil Canyon parents requesting reinstatement of a half-time position which was eliminated this year.
- SOLDOTNA ELEMENTARY PTA:** Mrs. Vickie Leach, Soldotna Elementary PTA Chairperson, expressed appreciation to the Board for their support in the wiring of the school's computers and exterior painting. She also thanked Mr. Thorpe for his help with the end of the year picnic. She extended an invitation to the Board to visit their school during the next school year.
- SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Bromenschenkel presented the Superintendent's Annual Report for the 1995-96 school year. He presented an analysis of various district ad hoc and standing committees with composition of committee members.
- The superintendent presented a listing of identified items for future worksessions. These worksession items included graduation requirements, assessment process, frontier schools, staffing formula FY 97, and the School-to-Work Program.
- Dr. Bromenschenkel announced a special school board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, August 7, 1996, at 7:00 p.m. to finalize the district's position on unresolved negotiations issues.
- Superintendent Bromenschenkel presented the superintendent's implementation plan for the 1996-97 school year. The plan was comprised of ten goals for the superintendent to complete during the coming school year.
- SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (continued):** Dr. Bromenschenkel announced the State Board of Education will meet in Soldotna, September 11-13, 1996. He noted the district will have an opportunity for comments on the morning of September 12. A visit to Tustumena Elementary School is scheduled for the morning of September 13. Board members were urged to attend part or all of these meetings.
- Dr. Bromenschenkel invited Board members to attend the first administrator meeting of the year, August 15-16. The sessions will begin at 8:00 a.m. on the 15th and will be held at Skyview High School.
- SIX-YEAR PLAN/ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS AND SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION NEEDS REPORT:** Mr. Dahlgren presented the Six-Year Plan of Enrollment Projections and School Construction needs for 1996-97 through 2001-02. He noted a worksession was conducted prior to the meeting to review the information. The plan will be presented for adoption at the August 19 meeting. Projects for future construction were not presented in prioritized ranking.
- CONSENT AGENDA:** Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Hazardous Bus Routes, 1996-97 Teacher Assignments, Resignations, Leave of Absence Requests/Certified, and 1996-97 Tentative Non-Tenured Teacher Assignments.

HAZARDOUS BUS ROUTES: Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve resolutions establishing 1996-97 hazardous bus routes for North Star Elementary, Nikiski Elementary, Seward Elementary, Redoubt Elementary, Soldotna Elementary, Sears Elementary, Mt. View Elementary, Homer Intermediate, Paul Banks Elementary, and Kalifornsky Beach Elementary. Hazardous bus routes are established on roads within 1.5 miles from these schools where walking conditions for students are considered hazardous.

1996-97 TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS: Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve 1996-97 teacher assignments for Robert Ermold, Special Education/ Educationally Handicapped, Skyview High; Rondi Marsh-Whitney, Music/Dance (.9), Sterling Elementary and Skyview High; Bethany Rice, Language Arts/Drama (half-time), Soldotna Middle; William Craine, Mathematics, Homer High; Lisa Hall, Grades 3-6, Bartlett Elem/High; Gail Moore, Special Education/QUEST, Districtwide; Clay Poindexter, Lead Teacher, Port Graham Elem/High; and Melinda Poindexter, Grades K-3, Port Graham Elem/High.

RESIGNATIONS: Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve resignations effective the end of the 1995-96 school year for Hans Sowder, Grades 7-12, Bartlett Elem/High; Dean J. Castimore, Business Education, Nikiski Jr/Sr High; Amy Lakin, Science, Soldotna High; Lana Esposito, 1995-96 Leave of Absence; Andrea Deutsch, Grade 6, Kenai Middle; and Mary Armstrong, Coordinator, Grants and Staff Development.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS/
CERTIFIED: Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve unpaid leave of absence requests for the 1996-97 school year for Lynn McNamara, Library, Nikiski Jr/Sr High; Alana Haider, Grade 3, Redoubt Elementary; and Sherry Nauta, Kindergarten, Kalifornsky Beach Elementary.

1996-97 TENTATIVE NON-
TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS: Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve the following tentative non-tenure teacher assignments for the 1996-97 school year:

<u>Districtwide</u>	<u>Redoubt Elementary</u>
Connie Miller	Colleen O'Brien

Mt. View Elementary
Jody Hagen

ACTION Mr. Thibodeau moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Mrs. Fischer seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

RETIREMENT INCENTIVE
PROGRAM:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve Resolution 96-97-1 authorizing the school superintendent to enter into agreement with the administrator of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) to fund the cost of participation in the program, and Resolution 96-97-2, authorizing the school superintendent to enter into agreement with the administrator of the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) to fund the cost of participation in the program. He noted an analysis indicates that over a five-year period, as defined by law, the district would save \$16,991,037 among certificated personnel and \$487,028 among support personnel if all eligible personnel participated in the program. He noted, on a realistic assessment, it appeared the district would save approximately \$4,181,864 over the next five years. Eligible staff members will need to declare their intent to retire on or before November 15, 1996, 4:00 p.m., with retirement prior to August 1, 1997.

RETIREMENT INCENTIVE
PROGRAM (continued):

Mrs. Fischer noted that one of the requests for the Retirement Incentive Program was a support person retiring at mid-year. Mrs. Radtke responded that support personnel will be allowed to retire early, however, teachers and administrators will need to complete their contracts for the 1996-97 school year. She added that the early support personnel retiring will make for a smoother transition for new personnel trained and hired for these positions.

Mrs. Fischer questioned where the funding for the retirement program would come from. Dr. Bromenschenkel explained the resolutions were for the authorization to enter into agreement for the retirement programs. Waivers will be obtained from eligible employees not entering into the program. A 1% administrative fee will come from the district's savings account or from next year's budget.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve Resolution 96-97-1 and Resolution 96-97-2 as presented. Mr. Arness seconded.

Mrs. Fischer expressed concern related to the program costs and administrative costs listed for participation in the retirement program. Mr. Swarner explained the amounts listed were maximum amounts, however, he anticipated the amounts to be lower after the number of actual participants is known.

ACTION

Mrs. Fischer moved to amend the motion to add "maximum" to both resolutions, sections #3 and #4. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Amendment carried unanimously.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

POLICY REVISIONS:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve revisions to policies BP 5141.4, Child Abuse and Neglect; BP 6168, Health Curriculum Opt Out Provisions; AR 6168, Health Curriculum Opt Out Provisions; AR 5111 (a) & (b), Early Entrance; AR 6161.11, Supplementary Instructional Materials; BP 6146.11 Early Graduation; AR 6146.11, Early Graduation; and AR 6155 (a)-(d), Guidelines for Challenging a High School Course. He noted the revisions were presented at the last meeting and reviewed in previous worksessions.

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

August 5, 1996

Page 5

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve the policy revisions as listed. Mrs. Germano seconded.

POLICY REVISIONS
(continued):

Mrs. Fischer questioned whether high school students could opt out of a portion of the health curriculum course. Mr. Thorpe responded that opting out of a portion of a health curriculum course is viable for the elementary school level due to the more flexible classroom environment, but not allowed at the secondary level due to more complex issues in the curriculum as well as class scheduling and supervision issues. He added that there are currently newly prepared opt out health curriculums for the middle school and high school levels.

Mrs. Germano questioned the date for Early Entrance. Mr. Thorpe responded the date in policy is the date established in state statutes.

VOTE:

YES - Anderson, Arness, Germano, Thibodeau, Gross

NO - Fischer

Motion carried.

AASB LEGAL ASSISTANCE FUND
ALLOCATION:

Dr. Bromenschenkel commented the Board had expressed interest in the topic of the AASB Legal Assistance Fund at their last meeting. The fee for the fund would be \$500 annually. He noted a group administers the fund and oversees issues which affect all districts in the state. Mr. Dahlgren is a member of the administering group.

ACTION

Mrs. Germano moved the Board approve the allocation to the AASB Legal Assistance Fund. Mr. Thibodeau seconded.

VOTE:

YES - Anderson, Arness, Germano, Thibodeau, Gross

NO - Fischer

Motion carried.

BUDGET PREPARATION
CALENDAR:

Dr. Bromenschenkel noted information was presented related to the budget preparation process for the 1996-97 school year. He noted, in reviewing the minutes, the Board requested a worksession on this issue prior to approval of a budget preparation calendar. He advised that this item be delayed and a worksession be held prior to the next meeting.

BUDGET PREPARATION
CALENDAR (continued):

Mr. Kistler commented that in reading the information it appeared there were only two options presented, and he felt there should be other viable options from which to make a decision. He urged that the administration prepare two or three plans that will work.

Mrs. Gross asked the Board for their direction on this issue. Mrs. Germano commented it was her understanding that there would be a worksession on this with several options being considered. The Board concurred with her assessment.

Mrs. Fischer stated she was pleased with the additional days allowed in the budget calendar. She suggested that Zero Based Budgeting also be considered.

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENT
INCENTIVE PROGRAM:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve resignations effective the end of the 1996-97 school year for participation in the Retirement Incentive Program for Diane Borgman, Director, Curriculum and Staff Development (13 years); Lewis McLin, Principal, Paul Banks Elementary (15 years); Carl Miller, Assistant Principal, Soldotna Middle (18 years); Robert Macaulay, Assistant Principal, Homer High (20 years); Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management (effective June 30, 1997) (28 years); and Christine Monfor, Personnel Specialist/Public Information Officer (effective October 31, 1996) (16 years).

ACTION

Mrs. Fischer moved the Board approve the resignations as outlined. Mr. Arness seconded.

Mrs. Germano questioned whether staff members will know whether they are eligible for this retirement. Dr. Bromenschenkel responded additional information will be sent to staff members related to eligibility and details of the retirement incentive program.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mrs. Fischer commented the district would be losing some very fine people. She also commented this would also present some exciting opportunities for visiting alignment not only hiring people at lower salaries, but also combining positions. She felt it would be important for the school board to look at realigning positions in the district this year.

BOARD COMMENTS (cont.):

Mrs. Germano expressed disappointment that school board members did not receive a final student enrollment report for the year or reports for June, July and August. She requested the board receive these reports monthly. Mr. Dahlgren commented the last report was made the first Monday in May, and there are no students in attendance during the summer.

Mrs. Gross commented she attend an AASB Board of Directors meeting in Kodiak two weeks ago. She stated they reviewed resolutions for next year and discussed funding for next year. She noted the next AASB Board of Directors meeting will be held in Kenai. She stated a nice reception was held for the members as well as a tour of one of their new schools.

ADJOURN:

At 8:35 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Germano seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, President

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

The Minutes of August 5, 1996,
were approved on August 19, 1996,
as written.