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# Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

## Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

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March 5, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.  
Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent

Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley  
Soldotna, Alaska

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**WORKSESSION REPORT:** The Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included proposed revisions to the Policy Manual Revisions, the FY13 Budget, and student transportation. The Board canceled the conference call with Kenai Peninsula legislators and will reschedule it for the next meeting.

**SCHOOL REPORT:** Mr. Alan Fields, Kenai Central High principal, provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting student demographics, school staff, vision statement, job shadow program, Classroom Without Walls partnership with Skyview High, Caring for the Kenai, Modular Underwater Training System (an underwater helicopter crash simulator) operated by Challenger Learning Center, world languages program, and music program. The choir students concluded the report by singing *The Road Home*.

Mr. Lee Young, Connections Homeschool Program principal, introduced Ms. Nancy Kleine and Mr. Riley Justis, who provided a brief history of the home school program and how it benefits students, parents and the community. Mr. Justis gave a computer generated presentation highlighting assessment information in reading, writing, and math. Ms. Kleine provided a YouTube video highlighting several student testimonials in support of the Connections Homeschool Program. Mr. Young concluded by stating that the Connections Program offers benefits for many different types of students.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** On behalf of Dr. Atwater, Mr. Dusek reported that Commissioner Hanley announced that the state will seek a waiver from No Child Left Behind mandates. He announced that Mr. Douglas Hayman was offered a Letter of Intent for the Tustumena Elementary principal position. He reported that interviews for the Nanwalek School principal/teacher position and the Professional Development Coordinator position will take place after Spring Break. He explained that the last day of school before Spring Break for the majority of District students will be March 8 since March 9 is a teacher inservice/work day. He noted that students at the four Russian Old Believer communities as well as Nanwalek School and Port Graham School, will have Spring Break April 16-20. He announced that more than 90 fourth, fifth and sixth grade students participated in the Borough forensics competition on Saturday, March 3. He congratulated the Kenai boys' basketball team for finishing third in Northern Lights Conference, Nikolaevsk School girls' basketball team for finishing second in the Peninsula Conference, the Soldotna High girls' basketball team for finishing third in the Northern Lights Conference, and the Seward girls' basketball team for finishing first in the Southcentral Conference. He congratulated Ms. Druce for being elected as the NEA-Alaska vice president.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Mr. Jones presented the financial report of the District for the period ending January 31, 2012.

**2012-13 TENTATIVE TENURE TEACHER CONTRACTS:** The Board unanimously approved a list of tentative tenure teacher contracts for the 2012-13 school year.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST-CERTIFIED:** The Board unanimously approved unpaid leave of absence requests effective for the 2012-13 school year from Saundra Hudson, social studies teacher, Homer Middle and Timothy Winters, math/science teacher, Susan B. English Elementary/High.

**RESIGNATIONS:** The Board unanimously approved resignations effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year from Benjamin Caswell, school psychologist, Seward Elementary, Christine Crum, Grade 6th – 8th teacher, Chapman Elementary; Colleen Sinnott, special education intensive needs teacher, Tustumena Elementary; Judith Eckert, special education resource teacher, Tustumena Elementary; Justin Hostetter, Title I teacher, Redoubt Elementary; Kriste Simonson, school psychologist, Homer High; Scott Handley, principal/teacher, Nanwalek School; and Susan Wheeler, language arts/math/history, Skyview High School. The Board unanimously approved a resignation, effective February 29, 2012, from Jeana Hayes, math teacher, Soldotna Middle.

**LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACT:** The Board unanimously approved a long-term substitute contract for John Christensen, Soldotna Middle.

**BUDGET TRANSFER:** The Board unanimously approved budget transfers Number 705 for \$92,472 to adjust salary and benefit budgets for the Extended School Year (ESY) Summer School Program held by Pupil Services during summer 2011; Number 712 for \$56,516 to adjust salary and benefit accounts for the anticipated substitute and temporary employees needed during testing at the school locations during the year; Number 850 for \$340,000 to purchase additional Language Arts curriculum materials.

**HSGQE:** The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2012-009.

**HSGQE:** The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2012-010.

**ALASKA STATEWIDE MENTOR PROJECT URBAN GROWTH OPPORTUNITY SUBAWARD:** The Board unanimously approved a recommendation to accept the five-year Alaska Statewide Mentor Project Urban Growth Opportunity Subaward in the total amount of \$1,120,387.56.

**POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS:** The Board unanimously approved revisions to BP 6020, Parent Involvement.

**SEWARD LAND EXCHANGE RECOMMENDATION:** The Board unanimously approved a recommendation to support the Borough's proposed land exchange with the City of Seward.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** The Board failed to approve a recommendation to allow Mr. Bill Holt and Mrs. Sammy Crawford to participate fully in the steps leading up to the deliberations regarding the final collective bargaining agreement, but not allow them to vote on the final document.

**FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS:** The Board heard a first reading of proposed revisions to BP 0210, Vision for Student Learning.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, April 2, 2012, 7:00 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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