Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting Seward High School 2100 Swetmann, Seward, Alaska

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Joe Arness, President

Mrs. Liz Downing, Vice President

Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk Ms. Lynn Hohl, Treasurer Mr. Marty Anderson Mrs. Sammy Crawford Mrs. Sunni Hilts

Mr. Bill Holt Mr. Tim Navarre

Miss Annaleah Ernst, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Sean Dusek, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Larry Nauta Mrs. Sherry Nauta Representative Mike Chenault Mayor David Seaward Ms. Martha Fleming Mrs. LaDawn Druce Mr. Jason Bickling Mrs. Margie Warner Ms. Pegge Erkeneff Mr. Trevan Walker Mr. Jim White Mrs. Laurie Olson Mr. Tim Peterson Mr. David Kingsland Mr. Jim Hunt Mrs. Sue McClure

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Arness called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. A quorum of School Board members, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Downing, Mr. Navarre, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Hilts, Mr. Holt, Ms. Hohl, Mrs. Vadla and Mr. Arness were present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 4:33 p.m., Mrs. Hilts moved the Board go into executive session to discuss matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the School District Specifically, the executive session was to discuss negotiations strategies and tactics, the FY13 Budget, and the superintendent's contract. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Due to a conflict of interest, Mr. Holt and Mrs. Crawford joined the executive session at 5:10 p.m.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:45 p.m., Mr. Navarre moved the executive session be adjourned. Mr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

At 5:45 p.m., the Board recessed for dinner.

Mr. Arness called the meeting back to order at 7:00 p.m. CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Arness invited those present to participate in the Pledge of PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Allegiance.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:

Ms. Hohl read the District's mission statement.

Mr. Joe Arness Present **ROLL CALL:** Mr. Marty Anderson Present (PM) Mrs. Sammy Crawford Present

Mrs. Liz Downing Present Mrs. Sunni Hilts Present Ms. Lvnn Hohl Present Mr. Bill Holt Present Mr. Tim Navarre Present Mrs. Penny Vadla Present

Miss Annaleah Ernst Absent/Excused

The agenda was approved as written. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The School Board minutes of April 2, 2012, were approved as APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

printed.

Representative Mike Chenault presented Mrs. Sally Tachick with a AWARDS AND legislative citation in recognition for her service to the District. PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Larry Nauta, Aurora Borealis Charter School (ABCS) SCHOOL REPORT:

administrator, introduced Miss Katie Delker and Miss Hannah Delker who sang, Anything You Can Do I Can Do Better, and Miss Olivia Brewer, sang O Mio Caro. Mr. J.D. Uponen, teacher,

accompanied the students on the piano.

Mr. Russ Maddox, grandparent, recommended the Board consider PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: revising Board Policy 3290 (Gifts, Grants And Bequests) and asked

that gifts given to schoolchildren be screened prior to distribution.

Ms. Linda Ferkinhoff asked the Board to consider increasing the

paraprofessional substitute pay.

Ms. Deb Bond, Seward Boys and Girls Club director, thanked Mr. David Kingsland, Seward Elementary principal, and the staff for the strong partnership with the District for the past 10 years. She read the Boys and Girls Club mission statement and core beliefs and provided information about after-school activities,

including the Project Learn Program.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Dr. Atwater reported that Response to Intervention will expand to high school. He stated that the Strategic Plan Goals were written and that the focus is on academic success, organizational excellence, and community and family engagement. He explained that once the goals are finalized, teams of teachers and principals will meet in June to write goals specific to their schools.

announced that, because sufficient funds for student transportation were received from the state legislature, no changes are necessary for next school year. He clarified that the money can only be used for transportation. He announced that Governor Parnell has proclaimed May as Water Safety Month.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SITE COUNCIL AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A, BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:

Mrs. Margie Warner, KPESA president, congratulated Mrs. Tachick on 34 years of service to the District and welcomed Mrs. Tressler to her new position. She announced that May 6 begins National Teacher Appreciation Week. She agreed with the comments regarding the need for an increase in substitute pay, especially paraprofessionals, and urged the Board to consider an increase.

Mrs. LaDawn Druce, KPEA president, urged the Board to support the proposed teacher hires. She called attention to the proposed teacher resignations and loss of experience to the District. She thanked the teachers that taught her youngest son and added that he will graduate from high school at the end of the school year. She announced that May 8 is National Teacher Appreciation Day and thanked the Board for supporting District teachers. reported that she will join Mr. Dusek on May 23-24 as a member of Team presenting at the Labor Management Alaska Collaboration Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. She explained that she and Mr. Dusek will profile the District's Effective Instruction Committee and process. She thanked House Speaker Chenault for his vote regarding K-12 education funding and the recognition of Mrs. Tachick for her service to the District. She noted that she will miss the June meeting. She thanked the Board for their service.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Atwater announced that bids for school roofing projects were lower than expected and as a result, more schools were added. May 8 is National Teacher Appreciation Day and he thanked districtwide teachers for their hard work. He urged those present to post a message on Facebook or tweet a thank you. He commended Kenai Middle School students for competing in the national Math Counts and the national Future Problem Solving teams. He announced that Spring Creek High School will relocate to the Anchorage School District and thanked the school staff and the correctional center superintendent, Mr. Craig Turnbull, for their work. He thanked Mrs. Sally Tachick for her years of service and welcomed Mrs. Debbie Tressler, her replacement.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Jones presented the financial report of the District for the period ending March 31, 2012.

QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT:

Mr. Jones reported on budget transfers Numbers 529 through 1043 for various schools and departments within the District.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Vadla reported that she attended the BP Teachers of Excellence Ceremony and congratulated the selected teachers (Sean Campbell, Melissa Cloud, Pat Nolden, and Shellie Worsfold). She reported that she brought cookies to Cooper Landing Elementary School.

Mrs. Hilts reported that she attended the NSBA Annual Conference in Boston and participated in the success track sessions. She stated that the KPBSD Board is already doing the things that were being covered. She added that it is exciting to meet other educators.

Mr. Navarre reported that he attended the BP Teachers of Excellence Ceremony. He reported that he attended the Administrators Evaluation Review Committee meeting and noted that the group suggested some changes. He added that the same evaluation process will include assistant principals next school year.

Mrs. Downing attended the Districtwide Wellness Committee meeting where the Alaska at-risk survey results were reviewed. She stated that she was pleased to attend the BP Teachers of Excellence Ceremony since 3 of 4 teachers were from the Homer area. She reported that she has already posted her appreciation for teachers on Facebook.

Mr. Holt reported that he attended the final Career and Technical Education meeting of the year. He reported that the group discussed ways to use approximately \$400,000 in additional funds for junior high schools and whether it should include 6th grade students. He reported that the group also selected scholarship winners. He reported that he attended the Kenai Peninsula Student Activities Association meeting and that the discussion included participation in borough track, cross-country running, and cross-country ski meets. He reported that KPSAA executive board member, Mark Robinson, is retiring and that his participation will be missed. He reported that he attended the Soldotna Area Schools meeting and the BP Teachers of Excellence Ceremony. He reported that he participated in the Seward Math Bowl.

Mrs. Crawford reported that she attended the BP Teachers of Excellence Ceremony. She attended the NSBA Annual Conference in Boston and highlighted speeches by the National Teacher of the Year, Michelle Shearer, and Sal Kahn, a former hedge fund analyst and now founder of the Kahn Academy.

Ms. Hohl reported that she attended the BP Teacher of Excellence Ceremony. She attended the Administrator Evaluation Review Committee. She reported that she attended the NSBA Annual Conference and highlighted the sessions regarding population trends and the impact on schools, community budget conversations, use of dashboards, board self-evaluation, boards practicing good governance, summer online programs as well as others.

BOARD WORKSESSION REPORT:

Mr. Arness reported that the Board conducted worksessions regarding the proposed establishment of a Health Care Internal Service Fund, Policy Manual revisions and KPSAA Boroughsponsored events. All Board members were present.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Tentative Nontenured Teacher Contracts 2012-13; Contract and Tenure for Nontenured Teachers 2012-13; Resignations; Leave of Absence Request-Certified; Long-term Substitute Contract; New Teacher Contracts 2011-12; New Teacher Contracts 2012-13 and Budget Transfer.

TENTATIVE NONTENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS 2012-13: Mr. Jones recommended approval of tentative nontenured teacher contracts for the 2012-13 school year for Jennifer Riddall, teacher/regular, Aurora Borealis Charter School; Jon Kulhanek, teacher/regular, Fireweed Academy; Mark Putney, teacher/regular, Homer High School; Darcy Mueller, teacher/regular, Homer Middle School; Hannah Toporek, teacher/federal, K-12/Assessment; Ryan Miller, teacher/regular (temporary), Kachemak Selo School; Kendra Rupp, speech therapist, Kaleidoscope Charter; Darcy Marcou, teacher/regular, K-Beach Elementary School; Joseph Pazar, teacher/regular, K-Beach Elementary School; Laura Fourtner, guidance counselor, Kenai Central High School; John Marquez, teacher/regular, Kenai Central High School; Meredith McCullough, teacher/regular, Kenai Central High School; John Morton, teacher/regular, Kenai Central High School; Lacey Wisniewski, teacher/regular, Kenai Middle School; Corise teacher/regular, McNeil Canyon Elementary School; Kathrine Abraham, teacher/regular (temporary), Moose Pass School; Kevin Hilton, teacher/regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Shannon Hoffbeck, teacher/regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Shawna Vlasak, teacher/regular (temporary), Mountain School; Valerie Verdries, teacher/regular, View Elementary Mountain View Elementary School: Elizabeth teacher/regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Jacob Doth, teacher/regular, Nikiski Middle/High School; Jake Eveland, teacher/regular (.50 FTE), Nikiski Middle/High School; Christine Snow, guidance counselor, Nikiski Middle/High School; Anna Widman, teacher/regular, Nikiski Middle/High School; Michelle Green, teacher/regular, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Katy Settlemyer, teacher/regular (.50 FTE), Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Thor Jones, teacher/regular, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Emily Mayberry, teacher/regular, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Brianna Redfern, teacher/regular, North Star Elementary School; Jennifer teacher/regular, Paul Banks Elementary School; Michelle Fournier, teacher/regular (perm .50 FTE/temp .50 FTE), Razdolna School; Liviu Rizea, teacher/regular, Razdolna School; Stephanie Belger, teacher/regular, Redoubt Elementary School; Bethany Epplin, Redoubt Elementary School; Carol Hutto, teacher/regular, teacher/regular (temporary), River City Academy; Deanne Pearson, teacher/regular, River City Academy: Denvse Hurst, teacher/regular. Secondary Ed/Student Activities: Helen Lindemuth, librarian (.50 FTE), Seward Elementary School; Jenna Fabian, teacher/regular, Seward Elementary School; Leigh Ray, teacher/regular, Seward Elementary School; Wesley Andrews, guidance counselor, Skyview High School; Karen Hamlow, librarian Skyview High School: Deborah (.50)FTE), Jacobson, teacher/regular, Skyview High School; Kyle McFall, teacher/regular, Skyview High School; Gary Wertz, guidance counselor, Skyview High School: Elizabeth Edwards.

teacher/regular, Soldotna Elementary; Holly teacher/regular, Soldotna Elementary School; Bristol Whitmore, teacher/regular, Soldotna High School: James Harris, teacher/regular. High Soldotna School: Brian Dandliker. teacher/vocational education, Soldotna Middle School: Jeffrey Vincent, teacher/regular, Soldotna Middle School; Stephanie Dennis Blair, teacher/regular, Soldotna Middle School; Thomas Cavanaugh, teacher/regular, Sterling Elementary School; Tiffany Gray, teacher/regular, Sterling Elementary School; Justin Derks, teacher/regular (temporary), Susan B. English School; Christina Granger, teacher/regular (temporary), Tustumena Elementary School; Amanda Painter, teacher/regular, Tustumena Elementary School; Isaiah White, teacher/regular, Voznesenka School; and Emily Putney, teacher/regular, West Homer Elementary School.

CONTRACT AND TENURE FOR NONTENURED TEACHERS 2012-13:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve contract and tenure for nontenured teachers for the 2012-13 school year for Mary Simondsen, teacher/regular, Chapman School; Heidi Stokes, Chapman School: Christopher teacher/regular. teacher/regular, Homer Flex School; Connie Akers, librarian (.50 FTE), Homer High School; Amy Christianson, teacher/regular, Homer High School; Anna Fisher, teacher/regular (temporary), Homer High School; Jennifer Booz, teacher/regular, Homer Middle School; Patricia Truesdell, teacher/regular, Hope School; Kimberly Fields, teacher/regular, Kaleidoscope Charter; Marianne Kasch, teacher/regular, Kaleidoscope Charter: Patricia teacher/regular, K-Beach Elementary School; Douglas Armstrong, teacher/regular, Kenai Central High School; Krista Christensen, teacher/regular, Kenai Central High School; Lenore Swanson, teacher/regular, McNeil Canyon Elementary School; Renee Christensen, teacher/regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Nicole Cunningham, teacher/regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Summer Dallman, teacher/regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Tammy Farrell, librarian, Mountain View Elementary School; Cynthia McKibben, teacher/regular, Mountain View Elementary School; Jesse Bjorkman, teacher/regular, Nikiski Middle/High School; Holly Boyle, teacher/regular, Nikiski Middle/High School; Laura Niemczyk, teacher/regular, Nikiski Middle/High School; Rose Armstrong, teacher/regular, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Karen Pala, teacher/regular (temporary), Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Kimberly Trammell, teacher/regular, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Eric Simondsen, teacher/regular, Ninilchik School; Seanna Gunn. teacher/regular, Paul Banks Elementary School; Kjersten Syth, teacher/regular, Paul Banks Elementary School; Amy Ware, teacher/regular (temporary), Paul Banks Elementary School; Jennifer Keil, teacher/regular, Razdolna School; Carolyn Farmer, teacher/regular, Redoubt Elementary School; Amanda Adams, teacher/regular, Secondary Ed/Student Activities; Steve Cothran, teacher/regular, Secondary Ed/Student Activities; Emanuela Meriggi, teacher/regular, Secondary Ed/Student Bethany Waggoner, teacher/regular, Seward High School; Jesse Settlemyer, teacher/regular, Skyview High School; Erin Neisinger, counselor, Soldotna High School; teacher/regular, Soldotna Middle School; and Cynthia Ussing, teacher/regular, Sterling Elementary School.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve resignations effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year from Amy Balsinger, special education resource teacher, Kenai Middle School; Kathryn Baumstudies/physical language arts/social education, Ninilchik School; Jeffrey Clay, kindergarten - 6th grade teacher, Moose Pass School; Connie Courmier, K-12 intervention specialist, Elementary Education/Curriculum; Laurie Cowgill, librarian/ science teacher, Kaleidoscope Charter; Lana Esposito, special education resource teacher, Seward Elementary School; Candice Goldstein, 1st grade teacher, Redoubt Elementary School; Jonathan Horbacz, math/science teacher, Kenai Middle School; Rochelle Horbacz, science teacher, Kenai Middle School; Callie Hruby, special education resource teacher, Nikiski Middle/High School; Aaron Lohmeyer, music teacher, Soldotna Elementary/ Soldotna Montessori; Timothy McFarland, music teacher, Mt. View Elementary School; Garrett McMullen, special education resource teacher/Title I teacher, Tebughna School; Mary Meconi, intermediate grade teacher, Tebughna School; Melissa Morckel, math teacher, Kenai Central High School; Jessica Pena, interventionist teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary; Dena Pettijohn, 5th grade teacher, Soldotna Elementary School; Mark Robinson, choir teacher, Homer High School; Melody Spangler-Hatch, speech language pathologist, Seward Elementary School; Benjamin Stephens, (currently on a leave of absence), West Homer Elementary; Linda Kay Thompson, special education intensive needs teacher, Homer High School; and Teresa Zinck, 3rd grade teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary School.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST-CERTIFIED:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve leave of absence requests from Mick Audette, music teacher, Sterling Elementary School/Tustumena Elementary School (effective for the 2012-13 school year) and Joanne Frey, special education intensive needs teacher, Seward Elementary School (effective for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year).

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACT:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve long-term substitute contracts for Holly Alston, Chapman School; Wanda Rochelle Brenner, Mt. View Elementary School; Carol Conant, Seward Elementary School; Polly Crawford, Soldotna Middle; Mark Larson, Soldotna High School; and Jill Wagner, Redoubt Elementary School.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS 2011-12:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a new teacher contract for Tammy Taylor, (temporary) kindergarten – 2nd Grade teacher, Nikolaevsk School for the 2011-12 school year.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS 2012-13:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve new teacher contracts for Nick Gilbertson, 2nd/3rd multi-grade teacher, Sterling Elementary; Katy Jurney Scrivo, 4th through 8th grade teacher, Moose Pass School; Amy Maguire, 1st – 4th grade teacher, Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Science; and AnnMarie Rudstrom, kindergarten/1st multi-grade teacher, Sterling Elementary for the 2012-13 school year.

BUDGET TRANSFER:

Mr. Jones recommended approval of budget transfer Number 1077, for \$690,907 to pay for upgrades and modifications of existing buildings to accommodate changes in CTE programs offered at Seward High, Nanwalek, Kenai Central High and Skyview High; Number 1101 for \$104,500 to pay for replacement of CRT monitors with LCD displays; Number 1162 for \$150,822 to pay for fuel at locations that have exceeded their original heating budgets; and Number 1165 for \$90,000 to pay for the purchase of land adjoining the Aurora Borealis Charter School campus.

MOTION

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 8. Mr. Holt seconded.

Mrs. Downing removed Number 3, Approval of Resignations.

Motion carried unanimously for Numbers 1, 2, and 4 through 8.

Motion carried unanimously for Number 3.

AURORA BOREALIS CHARTER SCHOOL LAND PURCHASE:

Mr. Jones recommended approval of the purchase of four lots adjoining the Aurora Borealis Charter School by the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

MOTION

Mr. Navarre moved the Board approve the purchase of four lots adjoining the Aurora Borealis Charter School by the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Ms. Hohl seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT AWARD:

Mr. Jones recommended approval of a five-year contract for transportation services from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2017 with First Student, Inc. at the costs submitted in their RFP.

MOTION

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve a five-year contract for transportation services from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2017 with First Student, Inc. at the costs submitted in their RFP. Mrs. Downing seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

HEALTH CARE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND:

Mr. Jones recommended approval of establishing an Internal Service Fund, which would be retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year.

MOTION

Mrs. Hilts moved the Board approve the establishment of an Internal Service Fund, which would be retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Holt thanked ABCS students for the school report. He thanked Seward for hosting the meeting and the Math Bowl. He wished Mrs. Tachick well on her upcoming retirement.

Mrs. Vadla congratulated Jenna Hanson from Nikiski (winner of the "Caring for the Kenai" competition) and all other students that participated. She thanked Mr. Jones for the health care worksession and his expertise. She expressed appreciation to those who provided testimony during the KPSAA worksession. She thanked and said farewell to Mrs. Tachick. She thanked ABCS and students for their singing talent. She thanked all teachers for their hard work. She thanked Representative Mike Chenault for his work during the last legislative session.

Mrs. Crawford thanked Mr. Nauta for the ABCS report. She thanked Seward for hosting the meeting. She thanked Mrs. Tachick for her service and welcomed Mrs. Tressler.

Mrs. Hilts thanked Mrs. Tachick for her years of service. She thanked ABCS for the musical school report. She reported that she had the opportunity to attend the Project GRAD Showcase on Saturday, May 5 and added that she is noticing a change in student socialization. She reported that while in Boston, she heard Saul Kahn speak and she predicted that he will one day change the world through education.

Mr. Anderson stated that the District will be spending a lot of money on tracks and roofs and he hopes proper maintenance training and inspections will be included in the process. He thanked Mrs. Tachick for her service to the Board.

Mr. Navarre thanked Seward for hosting the meeting and the travel club for providing dinner. He thanked Representative Chenault, Mayor Dave Seaward, City Manager Jim Hunt, and Assistant City Manager Ron Long for attending the meeting. He thanked Mrs. Tachick for her service and welcomed Mrs. Tressler.

Ms. Hohl reported that she attended the Masonic Student of the Year Ceremony and acted as an alternate for the Math Bowl. She reported that she attended site council meetings, the Moose Pass School assembly with Senator Murkowski, and chamber meetings including one where Senator Murkowski was also present. She expressed appreciation for the ABCS student singing. She thanked Mr. Maddox for his testimony and those who spoke to the Board at the worksession. She thanked Mrs. Lori Krier and the travel club for catering dinner. She wished Mrs. Tachick a wonderful retirement.

Mrs. Downing thanked Representative Chenault and the other legislators for their work on behalf of the school district. She thanked the singers from ABCS. She stated that she appreciated coming to Seward. She thanked Mrs. Tachick and welcomed Mrs. Tressler.

Mr. Arness thanked Mr. Nauta for the school report. He thanked Seward for hosting the meeting. He also thanked Mr. Maddox for his comments and assured him that the situation would be investigated. He stated that he is disappointed in the mediation progress and encouraged all parties to continue to find a solution. He thanked Mrs. Tachick for her work and welcomed Mrs. Tressler.

ADJOURN:	At 8:17 p.m., Mr. Arness adjourned the School Board meeting.
	Motion carried unanimously.
	Respectfully submitted,
	Mr. Joe Arness, President
	Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk
The Minutes of, have not been approved as of	