
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting

Homer High School
600 E. Fairview Ave., Homer, 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:

Mrs. LaDawn Druce	Ms. Pegge Erkeneff
Dr. Allen Gee	Mrs. Laurie Olson
Mrs. Margie Warner	Mr. Tim Whip
Mr. Bruce Johnson	Mr. Tim Peterson
Ms. Suzanne Haines	Mr. David Larson
Mrs. Debbie Turkington	Mr. Jeffrey Ambrosier
Ms. Sara Reinert	Ms. Kiki Abrahamson
Ms. McKibben Jackinsky	Ms. Patty Tilbury

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Downing called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mrs. Downing invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT: Mrs. Crawford read the District’s mission statement.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Joe Arness	Absent/excused
Mr. Marty Anderson	Absent/excused
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Mrs. Liz Downing	Present
Mrs. Sunni Hilts	Present
Ms. Lynn Hohl	Absent/excused
Mr. Bill Holt	Present
Mr. Tim Navarre	Present
Mrs. Penny Vadla	Present
Miss Annaleah Ernst	Absent/excused

- APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda was approved as written.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The School Board Minutes of August 6, 2012, were approved as printed.
- AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:** The Board presented a Golden Apple Award to Ms. Sara Reinert, University of Alaska Math Teacher, for her service to the students of Homer and the district.
- Mr. Bruce Johnson, Executive Director, Alaska Council of School Administrators (ACSA)/Alaska Association of School Administrators (AASA) presented Dr. Steve Atwater with the AASA 2013 Alaska Superintendent of the Year award.
- SCHOOL REPORTS:** Mr. Jeffrey Ambrosier, principal, Ninilchik School, gave a PowerPoint presentation with the assistance of two members of his student council, Miss Kaylee Smith and Mr. Ryan Bear. The presentation addressed test scores; “Power Hour” (a program designed to encourage student attendance); positive management process (PBIS); Success for All (SFA) reading program; after school tutoring; archery club; music program; and math club. He thanked the school staff, parents and community members for their assistance in helping Ninilchik students achieve.
- Ms. Kiki Abrahamson, principal, Fireweed Academy, gave a computer presentation that highlighted the school’s vision; mission; Six Learner Outcomes program; educational programs and plans to support the district goals. She stated that as the school principal, she will guide collaboration, address school improvement and staff development, and she shared her plans for Fireweed Academy.
- COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:** Dr. Atwater reported that the general information packet contains a memo from Assistant Superintendent Sean Dusek concerning the needs of the Soldotna area schools. He stated that the Soldotna area principals, board members and district administration have been meeting to discuss what, if anything, should be done to better meet the needs of Soldotna area students. He announced that a survey has been made available and that the next meeting will be held on September 18. He announced that Ms. Deb Evenson, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder specialist will provide trainings across the district. He offered to answer questions regarding the memo in the general information packet from finance director, Laurie Olson, regarding the grant equipment fund transfer.

**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. LaDawn Druce, KPEA president, congratulated Dr. Steve Atwater for being chosen as the AASA 2013 Superintendent of the Year. She requested that the board support AASB resolution item 2.24 to provide forward funding for education and 4.8, to reestablish a defined benefit retirement program. She discussed the recent and upcoming elections and encouraged the public to research and to support senate candidates Kathy Giesel and Ron Devon, and borough assembly candidate, Hal Smalley. She discussed the state regulations regarding teacher evaluations that are to be presented to the state school board on December 6, 2012 and provided copies of the regulations to the board. She encouraged the district to provide their recommendations to the state school board regarding these regulations.

Mrs. Margie Warner, KPESA president, congratulated Dr. Steve Atwater for being chosen as the AASA 2013 Superintendent of the Year. She thanked Ninilchik School and Fireweed Academy for their presentation, progress and achievements. She urged the board and administration, with negotiations still not settled, to visit the schools and spend time talking to the support staff in order to help understand what they do and how the employees feel about their jobs. She urged the board and administration to settle and provide for a fair contract.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:**

Dr. Atwater congratulated West Homer Elementary for receiving the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School Award. He reported that Soldotna Elementary, Kaleidoscope Charter, Seward Elementary and Paul Banks Elementary earned Bronze Awards in the U.S.D.A Healthier Schools Challenge and that program representatives from San Francisco will be in Kenai on September 20, 2012 to present their awards. He announced that the year-end financial audit was completed and that there were no exceptions noted on the audit. He thanked Mrs. Laurie Olson and Mrs. Elizabeth Hayes for their excellent work in preparing for the audit. He thanked three district custodians and school principal, Todd Syverson, for their clean-up efforts at Soldotna High School after recent vandalism.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Jones presented financial reports of the District for the periods ending July 31 and August 31, 2012.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Crawford reported that she attended the district's recent Analytical Writing Assessment (AWA) meeting and reported on the plans for the AWA program in district schools.

Mrs. Vadla reported that on August 14 she attended the regional district-wide inservice and participated in a writing calibration workshop for high school teachers. She stated that on August 20 she attended the Skyview High School Site Council meeting and learned about the school's new discipline program, and on August 30 she attended the Soldotna schools administrators' meeting where they discussed enrollment and meeting student needs. She stated while traveling to today's board meeting (September 10, 2012), she visited Tustumena Elementary and Ninilchik School.

BOARD REPORTS:

(Continued)

Mr. Holt reported that he attended the September 4, 2012 Borough Assembly meeting with Dr. Atwater where they presented the district quarterly report. He stated the he appreciates working with the current borough assembly members.

Mrs. Downing also attended the regional district-wide inservice meeting on August 14, 2012 and commented on use of technology for the meeting.

BOARD WORKSESSION REPORT:

Mrs. Downing reported that the Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting regarding board policies: internal service funds, equipment fund, budget development calendar; assessment report/Federal Programs/AYP; Homer Flex School Report - Ms. Karen Wessel; and AASB Resolutions. She reported that all members currently at the meeting attended the worksessions.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Resignations, New Teacher Contracts 2012-13, Board Meeting Date Change (February 4), Resolution 12-13-1, Participation in AML/JIA Loss Control Incentive Program, Long Term Substitute Contract, and Budget Transfers.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a resignation from Stephanie Dennis Blair, Soldotna Middle School, effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve new teacher contracts for Adrian Hurst, School Psychologist, Seward Area; Alayne Tetor, Art/Computer Applications Teacher, Homer High School; Amy Angleton, Language Arts Teacher, Soldotna Middle School; Andrew Scrivo, Temporary Kindergarten/1st Multi Grade Teacher, Seward Elementary School; Cassandra Peterson, Special Education Resource Teacher, Soldotna Montessori Charter School; Deborah Pollock, Temporary 2nd Grade Teacher, Redoubt Elementary School; Holly Alston, Temporary (.75 FTE) Social Studies/Vocational Education Teacher, Homer Middle School; Holly Jones, School Counselor, Nikiski Middle/High School; Irma Alvarez, Temporary (.40 FTE) Criminal Justice Instructor, Kenai Central High School and Soldotna High School; Jennifer Gilbertson, Temporary Pre-Kindergarten Teacher, Mt. View Elementary; Jeremy Anderson, Music Teacher – Vocal and Instrumental, Nikiski Middle/High School; Judy Odhner, Temporary (.20 FTE) Food Instructor, Seward High School; Karen Sheets, Temporary 5th -6th Grade Teacher, Soldotna Elementary School; Kristin McGlothen, Science Teacher Skyview High School; Mary Tierney, Computer Technology/Spanish Teacher, Skyview High School; Monica Mullet, Temporary Kindergarten Teacher, Mt. View Elementary School; Natali Jones, Itinerant Counselor, Homer Area; Rebecca Arness, Temporary 1st Grade Teacher, Sterling Elementary School; Sarah Burris, 5th - 6th Multiage Teacher, Soldotna Elementary School; Serina Montgomery, Temporary Pre-Kindergarten/Title I Teacher, Sterling Elementary School; Susan Smith, Special Education Intensive Needs Teacher, K-Beach Elementary School; and Wendy Foster, Temporary (.20 FTE) Dental Assistant Instructor, Skyview High School.

CONSENT AGENDA:

(Continued)

BOARD MEETING DATE CHANGE:

Dr. Atwater recommended the Board approve a change of the February 4, 2013 regular board meeting date to February 11, 2013.

RESOLUTION 12-13-1:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve Resolution 12-13-1 authorizing the district to participate in AML/JIA Loss Control Incentive Program.

LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACT:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a long term substitute contract for Mary Knudsen, Kaleidoscope Charter School.

BUDGET TRANSFERS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve budget transfer 124 to move student activity travel funds to the school locations.

MOTION:

Mr. Navarre moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 6. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

EQUIPMENT FUND TRANSFER:

Mrs. Downing reminded those present that the Board postponed the following motion at the August 6, 2012 meeting.

Mr. Navarre moved the Board approve that \$1,000,000 from the FY13 state capital budget grant be transferred into the district's equipment fund and be allocated in the same manner. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

MOTION:

Mr. Navarre moved the Board amend the motion by striking all previous language and replacing it with "The administration will establish a separate special revenue fund to administer the \$1,000,000 FY13 state capital budget grant and to administer purchases in accordance with the same board policy and administrative regulations that govern the current equipment fund." Mr. Holt seconded.

Amendment carried unanimously.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

AASB CORE RESOLUTIONS:

Dr. Atwater recommended the Board approve the proposed administrative recommendations regarding the 2012 AASB Core Resolutions.

MOTION:

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve the proposed 2012 AASB Core Resolutions with the proposed KPBSD administrative recommendations and the AASB Board recommendations. Mr. Holt seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Holt congratulated Dr. Steve Atwater for being chosen the AASA 2013 Superintendent of the Year and expressed appreciation for his work as the district's superintendent. He thanked Fireweed Academy and Ninilchik School for their presentations.

Mrs. Vadla congratulated West Homer Elementary for earning the U.S. Blue Ribbon Award and Dr. Steve Atwater for being selected as the 2013 AASA Superintendent of the Year. She thanked Fireweed Academy and Ninilchik School for their presentations and good work. She thanked assembly members, Mr. Mako Haggerty and Mr. Bill Smith, for joining the board for dinner. She thanked Mrs. Margie Warner and Mrs. LaDawn Druce for their comments and thanked the Homer High School Culinary Arts class for preparing and serving dinner for the board.

Mrs. Hilts commented on the high quality of education in south peninsula schools and thanked Homer High School for their hospitality.

Mrs. Crawford congratulated Dr. Steve Atwater for being selected as the 2013 AASA Superintendent of the Year and thanked him for his leadership. She commented on the productive worksessions and thanked Fireweed Academy and Ninilchik School for their presentations. She congratulated West Homer Elementary for earning a federal Blue Ribbon Award.

Mr. Navarre congratulated West Homer for earning the U.S. Blue Ribbon Award. He thanked Homer High School for their hospitality, the students for the use of the library to conduct the Board worksessions, and the Culinary Arts class for preparing and serving a delicious meal. He thanked assembly members, Mr. Mako Haggerty and Mr. Bill Smith, for joining the board for dinner and congratulated Dr. Steve Atwater for being selected as the 2013 AASA Superintendent of the Year

Mrs. Hilts commented on an article in "First Alaskan" magazine regarding the Homer Rotary Club. She thanked Mr. Bruce Johnson for attending.

Mrs. Downing stated that Homer is always her favorite meeting and thanked those in attendance. She expressed appreciation for the Golden Apple Award presented to Ms. Sara Reinert. She congratulated Dr. Steve Atwater for being selected as the 2013 AASA Superintendent of the Year and commented on the accomplishments of the district including Dr. Atwater's Superintendent of the Year award, the 2011 Outstanding School Board of the Year award, and West Homer Elementary's selection for the U.S. Blue Ribbon award. She announced that the Homer track renovation is complete and thanked the Homer community for their efforts in this project. She noted that three board members were absent from the meeting; one due to health issues and two to attend the births of grandchildren. She thanked the Homer High School Culinary Arts class for preparing and serving dinner for the board and thanked Mr. Bruce Johnson for attending.

UNAPPROVED

ADJOURN:

At 8:31 p.m., Mrs. Downing adjourned the School Board Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Liz Downing, Vice President

Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk

The Minutes of September 10,
2012 have not been approved
as of October 15, 2012.