
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting

Borough Administration Building
148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, Alaska

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Mrs. Debra Mullins, President
Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Vice President
Mr. Marty Anderson, Treasurer
Mrs. Liz Downing, Clerk
Dr. Nels Anderson
Mrs. Debbie Brown
Ms. Lynn Hohl
Mr. Bill Hatch
Mrs. Sunni Hilts

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Melody Douglas, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Glen Szymoniak, Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Norma Holmgaard	Mrs. Marnie Bartolini
Mr. Sean Dusek	Mrs. Jenni Hammond
Mr. Joe Nicks	Mr. Phil Hermenak
Mrs. Doris Cannon	Mr. Jim White
Mr. Tim Peterson	Mrs. Colette Thompson
Mrs. Patti Rich	

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Mullins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
(7:00:45 PM)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mrs. Mullins invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.
(7:00:54 PM)

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Mr. Marty Anderson	Present
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Mrs. Debbie Brown	Present
Mrs. Liz Downing	Present
Mr. Bill Hatch	Present
Ms. Lynn Hohl	Present
Mrs. Sunni Hilts	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as written.
(7:01:44 PM)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of July 16, 2007, were approved as printed.
(7:02:04 PM)

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

(7:02:42 PM)

Mrs. Jenni Hammond, Nikiski resident, asked the administration to review staffing at Nikiski North Star Elementary and added that she would not like to have a teacher added after school has started.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

(7:04:42 PM)

Dr. Peterson reported that items in the Board Information Packet are usual to school start up. She noted that the Board was provided with information regarding the Moore versus State of Alaska lawsuit and handouts from Joint Legislative Educational Funding Task Force.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

(7:05:35 PM)

Dr. Peterson reported that the Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Force met on August 1 and 2 and that additional information can be found on the Task Force website. She noted that the Task Force meeting dates have changed and that the next meeting will be August 16 in which public testimony will be taken with a specific time slot reserved for school districts. She noted that the District calendar reflects many start up activities including employee trainings and administrator meetings. She noted that the Mt. View Elementary K-5 Opening Ceremony will be August 21 beginning at 5:00 p.m. and the Port Graham Reconfiguration Ceremony will be August 22. She announced that most schools begin August 22. She announced that the Seward High School football team will play against Barrow High School in Barrow, on newly installed artificial turf, and the event will receive national media coverage.

BOARD REPORTS:

(7:09:05 PM)

Mrs. Hilts reported that she attended the Small Schools Institute on differentiated education and noted that differentiated education is important, especially in small schools.

Mrs. Crawford reported that she attended the Association of Alaska School Boards Board of Directors meeting in Glennallen on July 15-16, and noted that the group reviewed the proposed resolutions. She explained that the resolutions act as marching orders for AASB. She noted that Mr. Carl Rose, AASB Executive Director, is the only non legislator on the Education Task Force.

Mrs. Mullins reported that she attended the AASB Board of Directors meeting and commented that the Kenai Peninsula funding situation is well known throughout the group and a show of support for the full implementation of the ISER findings was made. She stated that the District's membership with AASB is well worth the money.

BOARD WORKSESSION REPORT:

(7:12:23 PM)

Mrs. Mullins reported that the Board discussed proposed changes to the Substitute and Temporary Pay Schedule; changes to Board Policy regarding the budget process; a review of Board bylaws, protocols, and AASB Core Resolutions and Belief Statements. The Board continued a discussion from the July 16 meeting regarding the proposed 2007-2008 Board Goals.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(7:30:41 PM)

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Substitute and Temporary Pay Schedule; Nontenured Teacher Contracts; New Teacher Contracts; Request for Leave of Absence-Support; Additions to Capital Improvement Projects List; New Administrator Contract; and Request for Leave of Absence-Certified.

**SUBSTITUTE AND
TEMPORARY PAY
SCHEDULE:**

Mr. Szymoniak recommended the Board approve the pay schedule for substitutes and temporary employees for the 2007-2008 school year.

**NONTENURED TEACHER
CONTRACTS:**

Mr. Szymoniak recommended the Board approve nontenure teacher contracts for the 2007-2008 school year for Pavla Tyson, .50 FTE temporary Title I/.50 FTE permanent K-6 teacher, Chapman; Gabe Evins, generalist teacher/advisor, Connections; Jennifer Haugh, Grades 4-8, Moose Pass Elementary; Heather Pancratz, language arts/social studies, Ninilchik Elementary/High School; and Lyndi Miller, Grade 3, Redoubt Elementary.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS:

Mr. Szymoniak recommended the Board approve teacher contracts for Tracy E. Brown, school psychologist, District-wide Pupil Services; Linda Schopp, special education resource teacher, Nanwalek School; Dan R. Adair, science teacher, Nikiski High School; Darilynn Caston, kindergarten teacher, Redoubt Elementary; Mary Zika, .75 FTE special education resource teacher/.25 FTE K-12 teacher, Susan B. English School; and Granger H. Nyboer, .50 FTE permanent special education, Resource/.50 FTE temporary Title I teacher at Tebughna School.

**REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF
ABSENCE-SUPPORT:**

Mr. Szymoniak recommended the Board approve a request for an unpaid leave of absence (support) for Dawn Daris, administrative secretary III, District Office-Pupil Services.

**ADDITIONS TO CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
LIST:**

Mr. Szymoniak recommended the Board approve additions to the capital improvement projects list.

**NEW ADMINISTRATOR
CONTRACT:**

Dr. Peterson recommended the Board approve an administrator appointment for Mr. Dave Jones, assistant superintendent, District Office.

**REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF
ABSENCE-CERTIFIED:**

Mr. Szymoniak recommended the Board approve a request for an unpaid leave of absence (certified) for Katie Blossom, kindergarten, Tustumena Elementary (effective August 15 through October 19, 2007).

MOTION:

Mr. Hatch moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 7. Mr. Anderson seconded.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(continued)

Mrs. Crawford removed Number 1, Approval of Substitute and Temporary Pay Schedule. Mrs. Brown removed Number 6, Approval of New Administrator Contract.

Consent Agenda Items 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board amend Number 1 and accept the revised version of the Substitute and Temporary Pay Schedule as presented during the worksession. Mr. Hatch seconded.

Crawford amendment carried unanimously.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

VOTE ON NUMBER 6:

YES – Hatch, Hohl, N. Anderson, M. Anderson, Crawford, Downing, Hilts, Mullins

NO – Brown

Motion carried.

2007-2008 BOARD GOALS
(7:40:54 PM)

Dr. Peterson explained that the proposed 2007-2008 Board Goals were postponed from the July 16 meeting and that a more detailed Goals and Objectives was requested.

MOTION:

Dr. Anderson moved the Board amend the Board Goals presented at the July 16 Board meeting and substitute the more detailed Goals and Objectives that were presented during the worksession. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

N. Anderson amendment approved unanimously.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

At 7:48 p.m. Dr. Anderson left the meeting.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/
COMMENTS:**
(7:49:14 PM)

Mrs. Jenni Hammond, Nikiski resident, explained that once the public understands how the education system or budget process works, they will understand why two assistant superintendents are needed at the District Office.

At 7:50 p.m. Dr. Anderson returned.

BOARD COMMENTS:

(7:50:47 PM)

Mr. Anderson suggested that the Board have a worksession on the differences between a worksession and Board meeting, the advantages of having both and the appropriate formats for each.

Mrs. Brown announced that during the September 10 meeting the Board will take action on the 2007 AASB Belief Statements and Core Resolutions and encouraged those present to carefully review them. She stated that liberal education lobbyists and lobbying entities will support the document and that conservative individuals may want to scrutinize the document and provide input. She stated that the Belief Statements and Resolutions are loaded with highly controversial topics and added that she will oppose them.

Mrs. Hilts reported that the Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Force has shared information about what has been agreed upon by the group and what the future might look like. She acknowledged that, while the proposal has not received official approval by the legislature, it is hopeful. She stated that early Task Force information addresses the Kenai Peninsula funding situation. She thanked Dr. Peterson for doing a masterful job of testifying during the public hearing. She reported that AASB and boards across the state, including the Anchorage School District, have supported adequate funding for education on the Kenai Peninsula. She congratulated the Kenai Peninsula residents for pursuing the inadequate educational funding issue.

Mrs. Downing expressed appreciation for the positive direction of the Joint Legislative Educational Funding Task Force and noted that the District was heard. She stated that it is wonderful to know that there are those on the Kenai Peninsula who care enough to testify and share their expertise with the legislature. She expressed appreciation to Board members and the Human Resources Department for reviewing certified substitute teacher salaries and stated that she is pleased that the daily rate was increased. She stated that she hopes to be able to increase the amount again next year.

Ms. Hohl reported that she participated in the Children's Land Alliance Supporting Schools (CLASS) Annual Conference which was held in conjunction with the Western State Land Commissioner's Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. She reported that the conference included a cross section of educational stakeholders represented. She reported on the conference activities and noted that 15 states sent delegates and several representatives attended from Alaska. She reported that next year's conference will be held in Boise, Idaho.

BOARD COMMENTS:

(continued)

Mrs. Crawford agreed with Mr. Anderson's request for a brief worksession about the history of worksessions, why they have been held, and what the Board tries to accomplish. She thanked the administration for providing a copy of the entire Moore lawsuit decision. She expressed appreciation for the Legislative Education Funding Task Force information. She thanked Dr. Peterson for the weekly Board updates. She stated that she is looking forward to having Mr. Jones as the new assistant superintendent. She thanked the District Office administration and Dr. Peterson for providing outstanding leadership.

Dr. Anderson stated that the Board has a good working relationship with the District Office administration and noted that they have been very helpful in supporting the Board as well.

ADJOURN:

(8:01:14 PM)

At 8:01 p.m., Mrs. Crawford moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Debra Mullins, President

Mrs. Liz Downing, Clerk

The Minutes of August 6, 2007,
were approved on September 10, 2007,
as written.