
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

October 17, 2005 – 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent

Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley
Soldotna, Alaska

OATH OF OFFICE: The Oath of Office was administered to newly-elected School Board members Mrs. Debra Mullins, Mrs. Debbie Brown, and Dr. Nels Anderson, by Notary Public, Mrs. Sally Tachick.

REORGANIZATION OF BOARD: The School Board Officers for the 2005-2006 school year are Mrs. Debra Mullins, President; Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Vice President; Ms. Sandra Wassilie, Clerk; and Mr. Marty Anderson, Treasurer.

ESTABLISH MEETING TIME, DATE AND PLACE: The Board set its meeting time, date and place for 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted) at the Borough Administration Building, Soldotna (unless otherwise noted) and that two meetings be scheduled in Homer and Seward in the fall and spring.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS: The Board presented the Polar Robotics Team and the parents of Mr. Dallas Seavey with Spirit of Youth Award Nomination Certificates. The Robotics Team was nominated for improving handicap access to the Kenai River and Mr. Seavey was nominated for being the youngest person to race the Iditarod Sled Dog Race.

SCHOOL REPORT: Mr. Larry Nauta, Aurora Borealis Charter School Administrator, noted that the school is operating in its 9th year. ABC students, Mr. Will McDermid and Mr. Alex Kauffman narrated a computer-generated PowerPoint presentation highlighting assessment scores, school goals, parent participation and input, curriculum, and academic competitions. The Polar Bear Robotics Team presented the robotic lift which was developed for a competition and was designed to allow disabled persons to access the Kenai River for sports fishing. The students performed a skit illustrating the creation of the lift.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Peterson explained that no applicants filed for the School Board vacancy for Seat 2 and that the process for filling the seat will be to reopen the application process from October 18 until 12:00 p.m. on October 24. She reported that interviews would be conducted at 12:00 p.m. on October 26 with a special board meeting to follow at 1:00 p.m. She commented that it is hoped that the newly selected member can attend the AASB Annual Conference New Board Training in November. She reported that Sterling Elementary and Nikiski North Star were 2 of 50 schools nationwide named as NASA Explorer Schools. She noted that the program is designed to bring science and technology to students. She reported that the District Office recently received Critical Incident Training. She reported that the District Office administration has conducted 95 site visits for the month of September. She invited the Board to attend the Kenai Middle School Leadership Class Holiday Card-making Party at Soldotna Elementary. She commended the KCHS football team for placing first in the small schools state football championship and noted that the team also won the academic award.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mrs. Douglas presented the financial report of the District for the period ending September 30, 2005.

BUDGET TRANSFER REPORT: Mrs. Douglas reported on budget transfers Numbers 1 through 66 for various schools and departments within the District.

NEW TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS: The Board unanimously approved teaching assignments for Andrew Rothenberger, generalist at Kachemak-Selo School; Tanya Erwin (temporary) Title I teacher at Mt. View Elementary; Krista Holman, science teacher at Ninilchik School; and Ronanda Liberty, generalist at Susan B. English School.

NONTENURE TEACHER FOR TENURE: The Board unanimously approved Erik Larson, a nontenure teacher, for tenure.

RECOMMENDATION TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH KPEA AND KPESA: The Board approved a recommendation to provide opportunities for public comment on the issues to be addressed in the collective bargaining process under the public presentation portion of regular School Board meetings. The Board also approved a recommendation to open negotiations with Kenai Peninsula Education Association and Kenai Peninsula Education Support Association no later than February 15, 2006.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED: The Board unanimously approved an unpaid leave of absence for Catherine Kibling, special education/resource teacher, Kenai Peninsula Youth Facility, (effective December 19, 2005 through the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year).

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT: The Board unanimously approved student transportation contracts for a five-year period to Laidlaw Transit for Service Areas I, II, and III.

STUDENT EXPULSION 2005-06-001: The Board approved the expulsion of a student for violation of Policy BP5131.6, Alcohol and Other Drugs and Selling, Offering for Sale or Distributing.

2006 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES: The Board approved a list of 2006 state and federal legislative priorities. The Board approved an amendment to correct the grammar of the state priority list.

SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY REPLACEMENT FOR DISTRICT SEAT 2: No action was taken since there were no applicants for Seat 2.

SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY REPLACEMENT FOR DISTRICT SEAT 8: Two applications were received for the Seat 8 Board vacancy. The Board selected Ms. Elizabeth Downing to fill the vacancy until the next general election in October 2007, and the Oath of Office was administered to her by Notary Public, Mrs. Sally Tachick.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, November 7, 2005, 7:00 p.m., **Homer High School, Homer, Alaska.**

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