Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

January 16, 2006 – 7:00 p.m. Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley
Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent Soldotna, Alaska

SCHOOL REPORTS: Mr. Lee Young, Connections Program principal, gave a computer generated PowerPoint listing the reasons why the Connections Program is the best choice in home school programs. He listed the program's philosophy, accountability requirements, available resources, mission statement, curricular options, and noted that students are issued a Dell computer and upon completion of the high school program, are issued a KPBSD high school diploma. Assessment and AYP information was provided. Mr. Aleks Pfaffe, Connections Program student, concluded the presentation by reporting on his positive home schooling experience through the Connections Program.

Mr. Mark Norgren, Cooper Landing Elementary principal, gave a computer-generated presentation highlighting the school staff, students, community involvement, volunteers, and the success of multi-grade education. Mrs. Joyce Koppert explained her approach to teaching at a multi-grade school. She highlighted art projects, noted that she has 14 regular volunteers who help with physical education, math, reading, art, school plays, and a music festival. Ms. Michelle Stewart, parent, and her daughter, Miss Jessica Stewart, praised the staff and community volunteers for the high-quality education being provided to students at Cooper Landing Elementary.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS: Dr. Marilynn Jackson, Community Action Coalition and Dr. Matt Dammeyer, Central Peninsula General Hospital, provided information about a prevention needs assessment to be given to students who have parent permission. The grant-funded survey will tentatively be given February 22, 2006 and is designed to identify risk factors and protective factors.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Stewart presented the 2005-2006 Midyear Report on Goals. The report includes current progress on goals, current progress on work plans, an update on other work plans, a list of other unanticipated issues, and a timeline graphic to illustrate the District Office workload for the second semester. He reported that Dr. Peterson is currently on family medical leave. He reported that on January 17 and again on January 18 Gary Marx will give a presentation for District staff titled, Trends in Education. The public is invited to attend the presentation at 7:00 p.m. on January 17 at the Challenger Learning Center. He reported that Budget Forums will be held on January 23 at Seward High, January 25 at Skyview High, and January 30 at Homer High. He reported that the Site Council and Parent Group Training will be held at the Soldotna Sports Center on January 24. He noted that there will be a special administrator meeting on January 20. He noted that schools south of Ninilchik were closed on Friday, January 13 because of ash fallout from the eruption of Mt. Augustine.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mrs. Douglas presented the financial report of the District for the period ending December 31, 2005.

BUDGET TRANSFER REPORT: Mrs. Douglas reported on quarterly budget transfers Numbers 49 through 187 for various schools and departments within the District.

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER CONTRACT: The Board unanimously approved a long-term substitute teacher contract for Steve Wolf, science, Vozneseka School.

REVISIONS TO AR1330: The Board unanimously approved revisions to AR 1330, Use of School Facilities and Properties, to address liability concerns as recommended by the Borough attorney.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE-SUPPORT: The Board unanimously approved an unpaid leave of absence for Yvonne Hakkinen, instructional aide, Kaleidoscope (effective February 2 through 28, 2006).

BUDGET TRANSFER: The Board unanimously approved budget transfer Number 193 for $21,000 to pay for teacherage rental costs; Number 194 for $25,000 to fund school intervention programs; Number 188 to move summer school funds into the appropriate accounts for summer school 2006 needs; Number 156 and 185 for $10,000 and $17,000 respectively to pay the contract and health care costs for the consultant who helped negotiate the transportation contract; and Number 195 to accommodate a change within the Student Nutrition Services program allowing Sterling Elementary to do more of their own food purchasing.

NEW TEACHER ASSIGNMENT: The Board unanimously approved a teacher assignment for Lisa Fellows, (temporary) .50 FTE school counselor, Homer High.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING OUTSOURCING OF COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: The Board unanimously approved KPSAA recommendations regarding the outsourcing of cocurricular activities for the 2005-2006 spring activity season. The recommendation included approval of agreements for Soldotna Softball Association/Girls' Fast-pitch Softball at Soldotna High School; Jack Gist Recreational Park Association/Girls' Fast-pitch Softball at Homer High School; Sons of the American Legion/Boys' Baseball at Homer High School; and Seward Softball Association/Girls' Fast-pitch at Seward High School. The Board approved an amendment not to allow the outsource agreement for the American Legion Post 5/Seward High Boys' Baseball unless a head coach is stipulated by the February 20, 2006 Board meeting.

RESIGNATIONS: The Board unanimously approved the resignations of Dan Bartos, art, Homer High and Alan Olson, French, at Homer High.

POLICY REVISIONS: The Board approved all recommended revisions and adoptions to Policy Manual Section 6000 except BP 6161.13, Student Fees For Instructional Materials, which was tabled.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, February 6, 2006, 7:00 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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