Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2006 – 7:00 p.m. | Borough Administration Building
Regular Meeting | 148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, Alaska

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:
Mrs. Debra Mullins, President
Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Vice President
Ms. Sandra Wassilie, Clerk
Mr. Marty Anderson, Treasurer
Dr. Nels Anderson
Mrs. Debbie Brown
Mrs. Liz Downing
Mr. Bill Hatch
Mrs. Sunni Hilts
Miss Kelly King, Student Representative

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Sandy Miller	Mrs. Donna McIntyre
Mrs. Norma Holmgaard	Mr. Jim White
Mr. Sean Dusek	Mrs. Paula Christensen
Mr. Dave Carey	Mr. Phil Hermenak
Mr. Joe Nicks	Mrs. Cathy Carrow
Mrs. LaDawn Druce	Mrs. Sharon Moock
Mr. Randy Creamer	Mr. Tim Peterson

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:
Mrs. Mullins called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. A quorum of School Board members, Mrs. Mullins, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Downing, Ms. Wassilie, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Hilts, Mr. Hatch and Dr. Anderson were in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
At 5:01 p.m. Mrs. Crawford 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 Borough. Specifically, the executive session was to discuss negotiations. Mr. Hatch seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:
At 5:30 p.m., Mrs. Hilts moved the executive session be adjourned. Ms. Wassilie seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

CALL TO ORDER:
(7:00:37 PM)
Mrs. Mullins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
(7:00:48 PM)
Mrs. Mullins invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:
(7:01:17 PM)

Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Ms. Sandra Wassilie	Present
Mr. Marty Anderson	Present
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Mrs. Debbie Brown	Present
Mrs. Liz Downing	Present
Mr. Bill Hatch	Present
Mrs. Sunni Hilts	Present
Miss Kelly King	Present/Arrived at 7:38 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
(7:01:58 PM)

The agenda was approved with a revision to 11a.(2) Approval of Resignations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
(7: PM)

The School Board Minutes of April 3, 2006, were approved with revisions.

SCHOOL REPORT:
(7:02:27 PM)

Mrs. Sandra Miller, Tebughna Elementary/High School principal, and Ms. Jamie Myers, Project GRAD coach, gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting transportation to and from the school, the staff, the community and culture, school activities, subsistence activities, Native Youth Olympics, AYP information, school goals, Project GRAD activities, field trips, the Move It Math Program, the Consistency Management and Cooperative Discipline Program (CMCD), the Peacemakers Program, family night, and the Head Start Program (a Village program).

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:
(7:17:12 PM)

Ms. Carol Strickland, Nikiski Middle/High School PTSA president-elect, acknowledged the need for a wellness and nutrition policy but explained that with continuous budget cuts, money from snack and soda sales has helped PTA subsidize student activities.

Miss Siri Larson, KCHS student body president and representative for the leadership class, stated that the student body feels that as young adults, they should be able to make their own decisions about what to drink. She noted that money earned from soda machines help pay for Future Problem Solving, Academic Decathlon and other similar competitions. She asked the Board to consider a compromise such as lowering the cost of juice and keep the cost of soda.

Mr. Dave Carey, coach and former teacher, acknowledged federal and state mandates imposed on schools that take away academic freedom and asked if it is fair to develop rules that will make it more difficult for a teacher to teach. He asked the Board not to limit the right to offer food incentives for students and added that parents should decide what their child can eat.

Mr. Todd Syverson, Soldotna High School principal, thanked the Board for postponing the wellness policy and the administration for the language in the new proposal and noted that the Soldotna High School staff is in favor of the new exceptions. He thanked the administration for language in 5141.6(b) that allows for the individual needs of the school.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:
(continued)

Mrs. Pam Bullerdick, K-Beach resident, asked the Board to reconsider their choice for the new principal and stated that the new principal should be someone who has administrative experience.

Mrs. Vicky Leach, parent, asked the Board to address the student obesity issue by reviewing school lunches, stop reducing school nurses, provide more physical education classes and require it all 4 years of high school. She asked the Board not to take away the parent's right to choose what their children can eat.

Mrs. Betty Seaman, health care provider, stated that good nutrition makes a difference and noted that there has been a 200% increase in the rate of diabetes. She stated that she was a member of the wellness and nutrition policy committee and commended Mr. Hamburg, Student Nutrition Services Director, for his work with the group. She stated that she liked the idea of making more profit on soda than on juice and water.

Mrs. Jenny Hammond, Nikiski parent, commended the work of the Nikiski North Star principal and noted that the school is growing. She noted that the administration has hired two excellent administrators for Nikiski Middle/High School. She stated that the wellness plan takes the responsibility away from the principal. She stated that the diet of children is the responsibility of the parents and guardians. She stated that all-day kindergarten has plusses and minus and may not be the best choice for young 5-year old students. She expressed the need for continuous improvement in the area of relationships and communication between the school staff, PTAs, Site Councils and parents and suggested that everyone work as a team. She stated that student wellness should begin with the food services program. She told the Board about the Soar into Shape Program at Nikiski North Star Elementary which provides exercise during recess.

Miss King arrived at 7:38 p.m.

Mrs. Katie Burcham, K-Beach Elementary parent, expressed concern regarding the possible school boundary changes which would exclude Ciechansky Road and asked the Board to consider alternatives to the overcrowding situation.

Mr. Mike Peek, Nikiski parent, stated that he was glad to see a nutrition policy but that removing soda from middle schools and high schools is not reasonable and that that schools are trying to regulate too much.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:
(7:46:14 PM)

Dr. Peterson, reported that the General Information Packet contains numerous secondary principal reports to the Board for career development trips. She stated that the administration has received several emails and contacts regarding issues facing the District which have been copied to the Board. She noted that the Five-Year Graduate Follow-Up Study for students who graduated in 2000 was included in the information packet.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:
(continued)

Dr. Anderson stated that he was interested to know how many graduates that have not completed their college education within five years have returned after taking time off. Mr. Dusek responded that the questionnaire does not ask high school graduates whether they stopped their college education and then resumed later. Dr. Anderson stated that he would like to know what percentage of those who have completed, attempted to complete, or were continuing to work on getting an advanced degree.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SITE COUNCIL AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A, BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:
(7:48:04 PM)

Mrs. Cathy Carrow, KPEA president, stated that the negotiations process has been collaborative; a better method of communication with the general membership needs to be developed; stated that the student nutrition and physical education policy issue is very complicated and will affect the teachers' ability to teach and suggested that the Board phase in the changes to current practice.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:
(7:55:09 PM)

Dr. Peterson reported that the administration is in continuous contact with legislators and state department staff regarding changes to the area cost differential. She announced that interviews were conducted for the Seward High School principal position. She announced that the Masonic Outstanding Student awards ceremony is April 20; judging for the Caring for the Kenai projects is April 21; and that the Administrator Meeting is April 27 at the Soldotna Sports Center. She reported that she will speak at the Girl Scout Leadership Banquet on April 27.

FINANCIAL REPORT:
(7:56:30 PM)

Mrs. Douglas presented the financial report of the District for the period ending March 31, 2006.

Mrs. Brown asked about information presented in a memo from Mr. Craig Chapman, Borough Finance Director. Mrs. Douglas explained that there was a miscommunication and she has not spoken with the Borough Finance Director but plans to at the Assembly Meeting on April 18. The information that has been presented to the Board and that the Board has acted on is correct in relationship to the District Budget.

Mrs. Brown asked if the administration still maintains that, without Borough funding to the cap, there will be 41 fewer teachers. Dr. Peterson explained that the loss of 41 teachers represents the increased pupil-teacher ratio by 3 students and that the difference in Borough funding teachers equals a loss of 18 teachers. Dr. Peterson explained that originally the impact statement reported a loss of 25 teachers but the Borough lowered the in-kind amount which equals 18 teachers. She explained that a reduction of 41 teachers will be needed to balance the budget including the increased pupil-teacher ratio.

Mr. Anderson stated that the documents he took to the AASB Legislative Fly-In in Juneau reflected a teacher reduction of 25 and added that he had not heard about a possible reduction of 41.

QUARTERLY BUDGET TRANSFER REPORT:
(8:01:09 PM)

Mrs. Douglas reported on third quarter budget transfers Numbers 188 through 315 for various schools and departments within the District.

BOARD REPORTS:
(8:01:56 PM)

Mr. Anderson reported that he attended National School Boards Association Annual Conference (NSBA) in Chicago, Illinios. He highlighted sessions held regarding dual language learners, No Child Left Behind, an American Indian and Alaskan Natives (AIAN) business meeting and Pow Wow. He reported that he attended the Human Relations dinner where he met with Board members from California and New York and discussed topics in common. He reported that he met with Mr. David Baird, Kentucky School Boards Association executive director and discussed Alaska's faulty area cost differential. He heard speeches from General Colin L. Powell, David McCullough, and Jane Goodall.

Mrs. Crawford reported that she attended the NSBA Annual Conference and highlighted information from speeches by General Colin Powell, Jane Goodall, Richard Simmons, and Alfie Kohn. She reported that she attended several sessions that described how education is getting very narrowed and that the arts, languages and vocational education are being lost. She reported that she and Mrs. Hilts attended the Board Boot Camp where it was stressed that Boards and must work together and once a decision has been made they all must support it even if they voted against it. She announced that the new NSBA president-elect is Norm Wooten from Kodiak, Alaska.

Mrs. Hilts reported that she attended the NSBA Annual Conference and that languages were a major topic. She highlighted sessions dealing with language difficulties. She reported that she attended a session involving Hispanic parents of children who are English language learners and summarized the topics discussed. She was pleased that Norm Wooton was elected as the NSBA president-elect. She noted that there were approximately 8,000 to 10,000 Board members in attendance. She reported that she attended two sections on technology and announced that blogging has become a major communication choice of young people throughout the world, as a tool to counter media difficulties, and as electronic journals.

WORKSESSION REPORT:
(8:14:13 PM)

Mrs. Mullins reported that the Board heard the summer school program update where it was announced that summer school will be offered for students in kindergarten through Grade 6 but not at the middle school and high school level. She reported the Board held a discussion regarding possible boundary changes for K-Beach Elementary School which transitioned into a discussion regarding the Kaleidoscope Charter School space request. She reported that the Board reviewed three boundary option changes as well as considered the strict enforcement of boundaries. She announced that the superintendent will provide a recommendation to the Board regarding the K-Beach Elementary School boundaries. She reported that many options and scenarios were discussed regarding space issues at Sears Elementary, Kaleidoscope Charter School and Mt. View Elementary. She reported that Dr. Peterson will provide a recommendation to the Board after thorough research has been completed. She reported that the Board discussed recommended changes to the nutrition and wellness policy. She reported that the Board was given an overview of the programs and policies relating to English language learners (269 students).

RECESS:
(8:20:38 PM)

At 8:20 p.m., Mrs. Mullins called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER RECESS:
(8:25:44 PM)

At 8:25 p.m. the Board reconvened in regular session.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(8:26:34 PM)

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Number 2006-02; Resignations; and Requests for Leave of Absence-Certified.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION QUALIFYING EXAM WAIVER NUMBER 2006-02:

Mr. Stewart recommended the Board approve High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver request Number 2006-02.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mr. Szymoniak recommended the Board approve resignations (effective at the end of the 2005-2006 school year) for Joyce Koppert, K-8, Cooper Landing Elementary; Susie Franklin, librarian, Kenai Middle/Kenai Central High; Sara Hepner, Quest, Redoubt Elementary and Soldotna Middle; Charlie Crangle, Grade 5, Seward Elementary; Paula Patterson, school psychologist, Seward Elementary; Jason Fantz, science/math, Seward High; Mark L. Larson, science, Skyview High; Elizabeth H. Lennon, speech pathologist, Tustumena Elementary; and Penny Brett Vadla, English, Ninilchik Elementary/High.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED:

Mr. Szymoniak recommended that the Board approve unpaid leave of absence requests for the 2006-2007 school year from Abby Smola, counselor Soldotna High and Skyview High and Darcia Dierick, statewide teacher mentor.

MOTION

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 3. Mr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

POLICY REVISION:
(8:27:24 PM)

Mr. Stewart recommended the Board approve the adoption of BP 5141.6, AR 5141.6, Student Nutrition and Physical Activity. He explained that the policy is required by Federal regulation as part of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (Section 204: Local Wellness Policies) and must be in place in all school districts nationwide by June 30, 2006.

MOTION

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve an amendment to substitute the March 13 memo for the April 8 memo regarding BP 5141.6, AR 5141.6. Dr. Anderson seconded.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

Advisory Vote – YES

YES – Hilts, Downing, Hatch, N. Anderson, Crawford, Mullins
NO – Brown, M. Anderson, Wassilie

Motion carried.

POLICY REVISION:
(continued)

MOTION

Dr. Anderson moved the Board amend language in policy and regulation 5141.6 to delete the third paragraph under both sections titled, Nutrition. Mr. Anderson seconded.

Dr. Anderson stated that arguments regarding the proposed policy center around the loss of revenue to the schools. He acknowledged that teachers need to have a reward system for students which is usually sweets. He stated that as a health care provider, diabetes and obesity is a major problem and reported that today's generation will have a shorter life span than the generation before because of dietary and substance abuse problems. He stated that on the other hand, he believes that the public should have free choices. He asked if the Board has the right to enforce quality control when health is concerned. He stated that he is forced to vote against his judgment that sweets should not be given to students and to support the rights of students to choose what to eat.

Ms. Wassilie stated that the policy does not prevent teachers from making choices about what students eat. She stated that the policy provides healthy choices at the school level. She pointed out that there are exceptions at the middle and high school allowing plenty of choices for students and added that students can bring their own lunches, or buy lunches. She noted that the building administrator can make exceptions for teachers who choose to use food as an incentive. She stated that she does not see anything in the present policy proposal that prevents free choice.

Mr. Anderson stated that part of an education is teaching about social responsibility. He stated that when the Board sends the message to high school students that they are not trusted with the choice to drink a soda, then they have not been prepared for life. He stated that he wants good nutrition for his children and acknowledged that elementary-aged students may not have the ability to make a wise choice and supports some of the language.

Mrs. Brown stated that she will not support the proposed amendment because it increases the size of sodas and does more detriment to the good intentions of the Committee and the best interests of children. She stated that she is taking a stand for parents who study nutrition. She noted that not many people become credentialed in nutrition but that there are a lot of parents who put a lot of study into what is the best nutrition for their children. She stated that she was involved in schools when her daughters attended and added that she has a current teaching degree. She stated that teachers do not have to use sweets as motivation for students but can do things differently to suit the needs of parents. She stated that parents do not want to see their children die earlier because the nutritious food is not being made available. She reported that some students do not get adequate nutrition at home but they should at school. She stated that extra curricular activities should not be financed with the purchase of nutritionally unsound snacks. She suggested that the money should be made up in other fund raising methods. She stated that she will vote "no" to the amendment because the Board should not

POLICY REVISION:
(continued)

weaken the policy in regards to nutrition and that the language is not strong enough in the physical activity section. She doubted that the policy matches up with the District physical education curriculum. She stated that parents want to see more mandatory physical education activities during the day.

Mrs. Downing stated that she does not agree with the amendment because it has major ramifications and would contradict other language in the document. She stated that there is a lot of flexibility in the document and noted that sweets in the classroom for special occasions will continue. She reported that according to studies from schools that have imposed similar policies, fund raising was eventually recouped. She stated that there are other money-making ideas which will provide the same level of funding in the future. She reported that the policy is not too strict and does allow for some treats within the nutritional guidelines. She stated that the language allows parents, site councils, and PTAs to further restrict the nutritional guidelines if they choose. She stated the policy should be reviewed at least once a year so that adjustments can be made as necessary.

Mrs. Hilts stated that when she was in school she was allowed to read a book as a reward for finishing her work. She stated that the Board takes away lots of choices from students. She stated the new language will help her grandson.

Mrs. Crawford stated that she does not support the amendment because the choice to purchase some sodas has been added back to the policy at the high school and middle school level. She stated that the amendment changes the entire intent of the document.

Mr. Anderson stated that he wants the Board to make sure that they are considering all affected by the policy. He stated that the amendment takes into consideration the opposing views and meets the requests of both sides of the issue.

Dr. Anderson stated that the proposed policy will markedly limit what teachers can do in the classroom and eliminate PTA bake sales. He stated that he would like the amendment to be approved, but if not, he can live with the decision and acknowledged that the Board will review it in the future. He warned the Board that there will be unintended consequences.

VOTE ON N. ANDERSON AMENDMENT:

Advisory Vote – YES

YES – N. Anderson, M. Anderson, Mullins
NO – Brown, Hatch, Hilts, Downing, Crawford, Wassilie

Motion failed.

MOTION

Mrs. Wassilie moved the Board approve an amendment to change the last paragraph of BP 5141.6(a) and the second paragraph of AR 5141.6(b) to read, "Health curricula will include instruction on the benefits of good nutrition and the role nutrition plays in preventing or controlling chronic diseases, maintaining a healthy weight, and supporting ability to learn." Mrs. Crawford seconded.

POLICY REVISION:
(continued)

Mrs. Wassilie explained that the District has many students who already have chronic diseases and added that there are also chronic diseases that are not necessarily linked with nutrition but can be controlled with good nutrition. She stated that the amendment language underlies the whole purpose of the proposed policy.

Amendment carried unanimously.

Mrs. Downing asked whether the approved policy will take effect immediately. Mr. Stewart responded that if the policy is approved, it will immediately be placed into the policy manual but will not be enforced until July 1, 2006.

Mrs. Crawford asked whether language in AR 5141.6(b), Item 4, Portion Sizes, would prevent PTAs from selling certain snacks during the day, such as cookies, frozen deserts, trail mix, etc. Mr. Stewart stated that snack sales that fall within the nutritional guidelines would be allowed.

Mrs. Brown asked what will become of the specialty coffee machines that are owned by certain schools or organizations. Mr. Stewart stated that he could not say and noted that there is no prohibition for sales of specialty coffee outside the student day for fund raising. She asked if specialty coffees could be sold prior to the beginning of the school day. Mr. Stewart responded that coffee could be sold and added that the school administration would have to make the determination about whether it is worth the time. He noted that in his experience as a principal, the machines do not make enough money to make it worthwhile. She stated that she strongly objects to sales of specialty coffee at school. She stated that although the proposed policy moves the District in the right direction, it is inadequate and does not go far enough. She stated that she is not pleased with way the Board is addressing student wellness.

VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION:

Advisory Vote – YES

YES – Downing, N. Anderson, Crawford, Hatch, Wassilie, Hilts, Mullins
NO – M. Anderson, Brown,

Amended motion carried.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/ COMMENTS:
(8:57:50 PM)

Mrs. Agafia Reutov, asked the Board to hire a certified teacher who speaks fluent Russian to teach high school students and to locate a teacher to write lesson plans that highly qualified aides could deliver to the students.

Mr. Fred Martushev, Kachemak Selo, delivered a portion of his testimony in Russian. He thanked the Board for listening to the needs and concerns of the Russian group and added that they understand that the Board is trying to meet their needs.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/ COMMENTS:
(continued)

Mr. Feoktist Martushev, thanked the Board in Russian and in English for listening to the requests of the Russian group.

Ms. Sally Ash, Nanwalek resident, thanked the Board for the English language learners worksession. She stated that the school has a certified teacher and asked the Board for an aide and for a letter regarding additional staffing to take back to the Village Council.

Mrs. Heather Rash thanked the Board for considering the Russian and Sugt'stun language requests and added that it is extremely important to maintain the native and Russian languages in Alaska.

Mrs. Carrow reported that she is a former Nanwalek Elementary/High teacher and provided a history of the staffing reductions and program cuts over the past several years.

BOARD COMMENTS:
(9:09:11 PM)

Dr. Anderson asked Board members who are attending the AASB Legislative Fly-in for current information necessary to rewrite an article regarding the area cost differential for the *Anchorage Daily News*.

Mrs. Downing thanked those who attended the meeting and added that the Board appreciates hearing from the public.

Mrs. Brown stated that she made mistake in voting for the budget. She stated that the Board is not exactly leading the District where the majority of parents want to go. She stated that she is consistently faced with constituents who ask the Board why they passed a budget that cuts teachers and increases classroom sizes, and why the superintendent received a raise after the governor gave education additional money. She stated that $30 to $40 thousand that is spent on other items could be spent on a teacher and added that the public wants teachers in classrooms to teach subjects such as music and physical education. She stated that the custodial staff should not be told that they will receive a raise but that their work calendar has been reduced. She expressed regret for voting for the FY07 budget.

Ms. Wassilie stated that it is not necessarily possible to lead the District where the Board wants to go unless they become a revenue-generating body. She noted that the past several months the Board has acted on a number of resignations and added that, although it is difficult to lose friends, she is looking forward to meeting new people. She stated that she hopes the Board can respond to Ms. Ash's request to help Nanwalek with the Sugt'stun language request.

BOARD COMMENTS:
(continued)

Mr. Anderson stated that it is a pleasure to serve on Board with the current administration. He stated that Board service is one of the top two experiences that has changed his life and has broadened his perceptions through school visits. He stated that he does not support a boundary change at K-Beach Elementary as a method to reduce the overcrowding situation and expressed appreciation to the administration for their hard work researching alternatives. He welcomed Mrs. Wassilie. He thanked Ms. Pagano for writing an article that was published in the *Anchorage Daily News*, Sunday, April 9, about educational funding for the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. He encouraged those present to read the article and to write the local paper regarding an equitable cost differential. He thanked the administration for the 2000 Graduate Follow-Up Survey Report. He noted that the survey reported that 38% of the Kenai Peninsula School District graduates continue to live on Kenai peninsula and 42% are no longer living in the State of Alaska. He expressed appreciation to the administration, especially Mr. Szymoniak, for the work on working with alternative education. He noted that information provided by Mr. Szymoniak indicated that in five years the Kaleidoscope Charter School would be the size of or larger than schools such as Ninilchik Elementary/High School, Paul Banks Elementary, Tustumena Elementary, Chapman Elementary and other small schools. He stated that alternative schooling is here to stay.

Mrs. Hilts welcomed back Mrs. Wassilie. She thanked those who attended the meeting. She expressed appreciation for the Tebughna School report and to the Kachemak Selo parents and Nanwalek representatives who came to the meeting. She acknowledged that it is difficult to travel to Soldotna from the rural communities. She told the village representatives that they make the District richer and make the Board see things that they were not aware of. She acknowledged the attendance of the principals from Kachemak Selo School and Nanwalek Elementary/High and Port Graham Elementary/High School. She provided AYP and assessment information for Kachemak Selo School, Port Graham Elementary/High and Nanwalek Elementary/High and commended them for their progress. She reported that several small school teachers from across Kachemak Bay have asked to collaborate with other small school teachers throughout the District.

Miss King thanked the parents and community members for attending the meeting and for showing support for bilingual education, She stated that she was originally concerned about the nutrition and wellness policy but likes the changes approved by the Board and added that it may still need some work. She stated that she is pleased that principals can make individual decisions about food and drinks that are served or sold in the school because every school environment is different. She stated that she is excited to attend the AASB Legislative Fly-In in Juneau and to speak to legislators.

BOARD COMMENTS:
(continued)

Mrs. Crawford stated that she is looking forward to attending the AASB Legislative Fly-In in Juneau and added that she hopes to return with good news about the area cost differential and about budget matters. She expressed appreciation for the pubic testimony and for the worksessions. She acknowledged that the wellness policy is not perfect but added that it is a great start. She expressed appreciation for the positive Tebughna Elementary/High School report. She stated that she is looking forward to representing the District during her visit in Juneau. She welcomed back Mrs. Wassilie. She asked for an excused absence for the May 1 Board meeting because she will be at the Alaska School Activities Association meeting in Unalakleet.

Mr. Hatch expressed appreciation for the positive Tebughna School report. He expressed appreciation for the *Anchorage Daily News* article written by Ms. Pagano and requested those present to contact their legislators and let them know about the huge problems faced by the District. He stated that the wellness policy is a work in progress and felt that the negative predictions expressed during the public testimony will not be a problem.

Mrs. Mullins stated that she was pleased to hear parents talk about their children. She reported that she received numerous emails and noted that some were nasty, others gave important details, and some were enlightening. She stated that the negative messages are not helpful in making an educated decision. She thanked those who testified and offered options. She reported that she will accompany Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Downing, Mr. Hatch, and Miss King to the AASB Legislative Fly-In in Juneau. She stated that she hopes that the area cost differential will be a topic of discussion and added that currently legislators are preoccupied with the pipeline and the oil contract.

ADJOURN:
(9:28:00 PM)

At 9:28 p.m., Mrs. Downing moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Hatch seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mrs. Debra Mullins, President

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Ms. Sandra Wassilie, Clerk

The Minutes of April 17, 2006, were approved on April 21, 2006 as written.