Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2008 – 7:00 p.m. | Borough Administration Building
Regular Meeting | 148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, Alaska

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:
Mrs. Sammy Crawford, President
Mrs. Sunni Hilts, Vice President
Mr. Marty Anderson, Clerk
Ms. Lynn Hohl, Treasurer
Mr. Joe Arness
Mrs. Liz Downing
Mr. Bill Holt
Mrs. Penny Vadla
Mr. Gregory Gabriel, Jr.
Miss Theresa Ramponi, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:
Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Melody Douglas, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Steve Atwater, Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Hal Smalley	Mr. Alex Trout
Mrs. Sharon Trout	Mrs. Margie Warner
Mrs. Norma Holmgaard	Ms. Kathy East
Mr. Gregory Gabriel, Jr.	Mrs. Janine Espy
Mr. Tim Peterson	Mr. Ryan Marquis
Mr. John O'Brien	Mr. Dave Spence
Mrs. Doris Cannon	Miss Crystal Hayes
Mrs. LaDawn Druce	Mr. Doug Cannon

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:
Mrs. Hilts called the meeting to order at 2:47 p.m. A quorum of School Board members, Mrs. Hilts, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Hohl, Mr. Arness, Mrs. Downing, Mr. Holt and Mrs. Vadla, were in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
At 2:48 p.m. Mrs. Downing 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 strategies and tactics. Mr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:
At 3:15 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the executive session be adjourned. Mrs. Downing seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

CALL TO ORDER:
(7:00:03 PM)
Mrs. Hilts called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
(7:00:16 PM)

Mrs. Hilts invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY REPLACEMENT FOR DISTRICT SEAT 2:
(7:00:46 PM)

Mrs. Hilts explained that the Board conducted interviews of Board candidates, Mrs. Kathy East, Mrs. Janine Espy, Mr. Gregory R. Gabriel, Jr., and Mr. Ryan Marquis. Mr. Tim Navarre withdrew his name during the worksession prior to the Board meeting. Mrs. Hilts asked that ballots be distributed to Board members so they can vote.

VOTE 1:
Kathy East – 1 vote
Janine Espy – 3 votes
Gregory R. Gabriel, Jr. – 3 votes
Ryan Marquis – 0 votes

Since no candidate received a majority vote Mrs. Hilts requested that ballots be distributed and Board members vote again.

VOTE 2:
Kathy East – 1 vote
Janine Espy – 3 votes
Gregory R. Gabriel, Jr. – 3 votes
Ryan Marquis – 0 votes

Since no candidate received a majority vote Mrs. Hilts requested that ballots be distributed and Board members vote again.

VOTE 3:
Kathy East – 0 votes
Janine Espy – 2 votes
Gregory R. Gabriel, Jr. – 5 votes
Ryan Marquis – 0 votes

Mr. Gregory Gabriel, Jr. was selected as the replacement Board member for Seat 2 (Kenai).

OATH OF OFFICE:
(7:07:12 PM)

The Oath of Office was administered to newly selected School Board member Gregory Gabriel, Jr., by notary public, Mrs. Sally Tachick.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:
(7:09:27PM)

Mr. Bill Holt read the District's mission statement.

ROLL CALL:
(7:09:58 PM)

Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Absent/Excused
Mrs. Liz Downing	Present
Mr. Marty Anderson	Present
Mrs. Sunni Hilts	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Mr. Gregory Gabriel, Jr.	Present
Ms. Lynn Hohl	Present
Mr. Bill Holt	Present
Mrs. Penny Vadla	Present
Miss Theresa Ramponi	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
(7:10:45 PM)

The agenda was approved as written including a revision to Item 11c., Approval of 403(b) Retirement Plan Document.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
(7:11:58 PM)

The School Board Minutes of November 3, 2008 were approved with a correction.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:
(7:13:00 PM)

Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) Boardsmanship certificates were awarded by Mr. Arness to Ms. Hohl, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Downing, and Mrs. Hilts.

Mr. Anderson left the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

SCHOOL REPORT:
(7:14:12 PM)

Mr. Alex Trout, Voznesenka School principal, gave a student-created PowerPoint presentation highlighting the school facility and playground, classroom activities, club activities, extracurricular activities, and an out-of-state field trip to Washington D.C and New York. He invited the Board to visit the school.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:
(7:22:32 PM)

Mrs. Hilts explained that although the Board will hear testimony at any Board meeting regarding the negotiated contracts, in order to be in compliance with Alaska Statute 23.40.235 the Board shall provide opportunities for public comment on the issues to be addressed in the collective bargaining process before commencing bargaining.

Ms. Jaymi Brewer, First Student employee, explained the labor situation with her employer and that talks are at a standstill. She stated that she represents over 80 drivers who voted to authorize a strike and urged the Board to ask First Student to come to an agreement.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:
(7:26:35 PM)

Dr. Peterson reported that the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation has announced an intent to award financing for the second duplex in Tyonek. She reported that the Board received information regarding the energy conservation program and the amounts rebated back to schools. She announced that Peninsula Optional High School will be relocated to Skyview High school. She noted that the Board received information about NSBA's Magna award. She noted that administrators have submitted career development reports.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SITE COUNCIL AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A, BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:
(7:27:30 PM)

Mrs. Warner, KPESA president, reported that she attended the Budget Development Committee meeting. She noted that the building visits have been completed and that interest based bargaining begins on January 9, 2009. She wished those present a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mrs. Druce, KPEA president, attended the Budget Development Committee meeting. She noted that building visits have been completed. She reported that on November 10 she attended the NEA National Staff Association for the Improvement of Instruction National Conference where the focus was on instruction and professional development. She expressed appreciation for Mrs. Meyers' presentation on the AVITAR System for professional

development. She expressed appreciation for the discussions with Mrs. Douglas regarding the tax deferred annuities and the 403 (b) plans. She reported that December 13 at 10 until 12:00 p.m. NEA-Alaska, KPEA and the Labor Coalition will host a forum at the Soldotna High School Library to discuss returning the teachers and state employees to a defined benefit retirement system. She wished those present a Happy Holidays.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:
(7:30:48PM)

Dr. Peterson reported that she recently spoke at the Soldotna Rotary Club meeting, attended the Department of Education and Early Development Education Summit, and attended the U.S. Senator Murkowski hearing on student drop outs. She commended the school staff for their magnificent response regarding the critical incident at the Central Peninsula General Hospital involving a gunman and noted that the administration will debrief with the Soldotna Police Department. She wished those present a Happy Holidays and noted that the District Office will be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and New Years Day.

CLASS SIZE REPORT:
(7:32:06 PM)

Dr. Atwater presented the 2008-2009 Class Size Enrollment Report that included a comparison of pupil-teacher ratios throughout District schools.

FINANCE REPORT:
(7:36:08 PM)

Mrs. Douglas presented the financial report of the District for the period ending October 31, 2008. She noted that the Finance Department is in the process of revising the FY09 budget which will be brought to the Board for approval at the January meeting.

BOARD REPORTS:
(7:36: 49 PM)

Mrs. Vadla reported that she participated in the Budget Development Committee meeting which met on November 17 and 20. She thanked Mrs. Douglas and Mr. Jones for the thorough explanation of the budget. She reported that she attended the Board Policy Development Committee meeting. She reported that she attended the AASB Annual Conference in Anchorage in November and added that she will provide a written report in the future. She reported that she attended the Soldotna Middle School Site Council meeting on November 17 and that the highlights were the mission and vision statement revision, enrollment projections discussion, and the Fortnightly canned food drive of 279 cans for the Food Bank.

Mrs. Downing reported that she attended the Policy Review Committee meeting prior to the Board meeting. She reported that she attended the AASB Annual Conference and highlighted the Candidates Breakfast on November 6. She stated that she was honored to be among the quality applicants for the AASB Executive Board. She congratulated Mrs. Hilts for being selected and Mrs. Crawford who will serve as president. She reported that she attended the Education Summit "Building Alaska's Future One Student at a Time" which included students, teachers, parents, superintendents, school board members, legislators, the commissioner of education, and statewide experts. She reviewed the topics of discussion at the Summit and added that there will be an opportunity for the public to look at the work of the group and to provide further input in order to refine the strategic planning process.

BOARD REPORTS:
(Continued)

Ms. Hohl reported that she attended the AASB Annual Conference and participated in the Resolutions Committee meeting and reported that the public school land trust resolution was retained and a resolution regarding parental involvement was approved. She reported that she attended the Seward Schools Site Council meeting in which the group was developing goals. She expressed disappointment that the Cooper Landing Site Council meets on the same night. She reported that she toured the Peninsula Optional High School.

Mr. Holt reported that he attended the AASB Annual Conference and commended the keynote speaker on poverty and the speaker on using technology creatively. He reported that he participated in the Budget Development Committee meeting and thanked Mrs. Douglas and Mr. Jones facilitating the meeting. He announced that he was unable to attend the Kenai Peninsula Student Activities Association meeting but was able to review the agenda with Mr. Spence. He reported that he attended the Tustumena Elementary School Site Council meeting and the Academic Policy Committee meeting at Kaleidoscope Charter School.

Miss Ramponi reported that she attended the AASB Youth Leadership Institute portion of the Annual Conference and noted that the Institute focused on public speaking and leadership skills. She reported that she enjoyed Dr. Beagle's speech on poverty. She thanked the Board for allowing her to attend the Conference.

Mrs. Hilts reported that she attended the AASB Annual Conference and expressed appreciation for the keynote speakers who spoke on poverty and technology. She reported that she attended the Large District Forums and noted that one of the sessions featured Mrs. Holmgaard who presented information on what the KPBSD is doing to reduce student drop outs.

BOARD WORKSESSION REPORT:
(7:49:41 PM)

Mrs. Hilts reported that the Board conducted worksessions regarding the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and proposed policy revisions. She reported that the Board watched a demonstration of the District's professional development software and conducted interviews for the Kenai Board Seat 2 vacancy. All members were present.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(7:51:07 PM)

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of New Teacher Contract; Long-Term Substitute Contract; Resignations; Peninsula Optional High School Name Change; Six-Year Plan and School Construction Needs; and Kenai Peninsula Student Activities Association Outsource Applications.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACT:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a new teacher contract for Megan L. Smith, (temporary) language arts teacher, Nanwalek School.

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACT:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a long-term substitute contract for Laurie Kempf, Kenai Alternative School.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve resignations effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year from Susan Moore, counselor, Homer Middle; Elizabeth Hufford, Grade 3, Nikiski North Star Elementary; and Charlie Stephens, physical education, Soldotna Middle School.

PENINSULA OPTIONAL HIGH SCHOOL NAME CHANGE:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve a request from Peninsula Optional High School staff, students and parents to officially change the school name to River City Academy.

SIX-YEAR PLAN AND SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION NEEDS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve the proposed Six-Year Plan and list of major maintenance and capital improvement projects for FY11.

KENAI PENINSULA STUDENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION OUTSOURCE APPLICATIONS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve outsourced activity applications for Homer High School softball and baseball; Soldotna High School softball and baseball; and Skyview High School softball and baseball, as well as a request from Voznesenka School for an 8-man football program at no expense to the District for the first year.

Mrs. Janine Espy, Peninsula Optional High School parent, provided an explanation of the process used to decide on name change from Peninsula Optional High School to River City Academy. She related her child's positive experience at the school and the opportunity for each student to graduate at a high level.

MOTION

Mrs. Downing moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 6. Ms. Hohl seconded.

Mrs. Vadla removed Number 4.

Ms. Hohl removed Number 5 and Number 6.

Motion to approve Numbers 1 though 3 carried unanimously.

MOTION

Mrs. Vadla moved the Board postpone action on Number 4, Peninsula Optional High School Name Change until January 12. Ms. Hohl seconded.

VOTE:

Advisory Vote – YES
YES – Hohl, Gabriel, Vadla
NO – Holt, Arness, Downing, Hilts

Motion failed.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(Continued)

VOTE ON NUMBER 4 MAIN MOTION:

Advisory Vote – NO
YES – Hohl, Downing, Arness, Holt, Gabriel, Hilts
NO – Vadla

Motion carried.

Motion to approve Number 5 carried unanimously.

Motion to approve Number 6 carried unanimously.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT:
(8:16:34 PM)

Mrs. Douglas recommended the Board approve the acceptance of the FY08 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

MOTION

Mr. Holt moved the Board accept the FY08 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Ms. Hohl seconded.

Motion carried unanimously

APPROVAL OF 403(B) RETIREMENT PLAN DOCUMENT:
(8:17:13 PM)

Mrs. Douglas recommended the Board approve the 403 (b) written plan document provided by Gatekeeper including Resolution 08-09-3, Adopting Restatement and Amendment of Kenai Peninsula Borough School District 403(b) Retirement Plan. Language will be refined further if necessary.

MOTION

Mrs. Downing moved the Board approve the 403 (b) written plan document provided by Gatekeeper including Resolution 08-09-3, Adopting Restatement and Amendment of Kenai Peninsula Borough School District 403(b) Retirement Plan. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously

FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS:
(8:20:51 PM)

The Board heard a first reading of revisions and the renumbering of various Policies, Regulations and Exhibits in Section 3000.

Mr. Jones recommended the renaming of Section 3000, Business and Noninstructional Operations; the renumbering of BP 3316 Conflict of Interest; E 3316 Request to do Business with the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District; BP, AR and E 3342 Payroll; AR and E 3342 Travel; BP 3411 Checking Accounts; BP 3490 Reserves; BP 3510 Maintenance; BP and AR 3513.4 Pest Management; BP 3520 School Safety and Security; BP and AR 3521 Critical Incident Plan; BP 3521.1 Hazardous Substances; BP 3515.2 Intruders on Campus; BP and AR 3522.5 Campus Disturbances; BP 3522.6 Violent and Aggressive Conduct; BP and AR 3531 Recovery for Property Damage; BP 3541.2 Transportation for Special Education Children; and BP 3550 Food Service; and revisions to BP and AR 3100 Budget; BP 3280 Return, Sale or Lease of School Facilities or Real Property; BP 3290 Gifts, Grants

FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS:
(Continued)

and Bequests; BP 3300 Expenditures/Expending Authority; AR 3310 Purchasing Requisitions/Purchase Orders; BP 3342 (3350) Payroll; AR 3342 (3350) Payroll; BP 3400 Management of District Assets/Accounts; BP 3411 (3410.1) Checking Accounts; BP 3452 Student Activity Funds; BP 3512 Equipment; BP and AR 3515.5 Critical Incident Plan; AR 3522.1 (3515) Access and Keys; BP 3530 Risk Management; BP 3550 Food Service; BP 3580 District Records; BP and AR 3522.5 (BP and AR 5131.4) Campus Disturbances; and BP 3522.6 (BP 5131.41) Violent and Aggressive Conduct.

BOARD COMMENTS:
(8:21:21 PM)

Mr. Holt recognized an article in the *Redoubt Reporter* newspaper regarding the Kenai Watershed Forum and their teaching of the love of outdoors through the adopt-a-stream program, and an article in the *Peninsula Clarion* regarding a book review of The Last Child in the Woods and added that there is a lot to learn out of doors. He reported that the Tsalteshi Trails association is trying to start a ski program for young children.

Mrs. Vadla thanked Mr. Trout for the Voznesenka School report. She commended the Close-up Program. She thanked Dr. Peterson and Mrs. Crawford for the review and loan of the book titled, The Case for Servant Leadership. She reported that the Soldotna Rotary Club distributed free dictionaries to students. She stated that she reads to Redoubt Elementary second grade students, coordinates the photo board at Soldotna High School, and will assist Future Problem Solving team coaches at Soldotna High School and Skyview High School. She wished those present a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Arness wished those present a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mrs. Downing expressed appreciation for the Voznesenka School report. She acknowledged two administrator career development reports and Dr. Peterson's book review of The Case for Servant Leadership. She suggested the Board consider a review of sports, cocurricular and community education activities. She wished those present a Happy Hanukah, Happy Solstice, Merry Christmas, Good Kwanza, and Happy New Year.

Ms. Hohl reported that she attended a Veteran's Day Ceremony at Seward Elementary. She reported that the Seward High School Drama Club presented a play at the Sea Bean Café'. She reported that she attended the Seward Elementary Blue Ribbon Celebration and asked the Board to consider a review of the Blue Ribbon video. She announced that she attended the Seward City Council and reported on School Board business. She announced that there may be another QS2 community meeting in Seward. She commended Mrs. Douglas for the unqualified audit opinion from Mikunda Cottrel and Company and for her patience. She thanked Mr. Trout for the Voznesenka School Report.

Miss Ramponi thanked the School Board candidates for attending and welcomed Mr. Gabriel.

BOARD COMMENTS:
(Continued)

Mr. Gabriel stated that he is humbled and honored to be selected to fill the Kenai Seat 2 vacancy. He acknowledged the other candidates and added that all were well qualified for the job. He stated that he is looking forward to working with the other Board members and Dr. Peterson.

Mrs. Hilts acknowledged the students in the audience who were attending as part of a school assignment. She expressed appreciation for the Voznesenka School report. She stated that she was sorry to hear from First Student employees regarding the labor contract issues. She expressed sadness and offered prayers for those affected by the shooting incident at the Central Peninsula Hospital. She welcomed Mr. Gabriel to the Board.

ADJOURN:
(8:32:37 PM)

At 8:32 p.m., Mr. Arness moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Ms. Hohl seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mrs. Sunni Hilts, Vice President

_____
Mr. Marty Anderson, Clerk

The Minutes of December 1, 2008,
were approved on January 12, 2009
with a correction.