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

April 13, 2009 – 7:00 p.m. Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley
Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent Soldotna, Alaska

SPECIAL MEETING: A special School Board meeting was held Wednesday, March 11, 2009, to interview superintendent candidates to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. Donna Peterson, current superintendent of schools.

WORKSESSION REPORT: The Board held two worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included an update regarding the instruction proposal and stimulus funding and the FY10 Budget.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS: The Board thanked Mr. Steve Wendt, plant manager, Agrium US Inc., for the donation of funds that was used to purchase equipment for the Workforce Development Center.

The Board presented Golden Apple Awards to Ria Fandel, Student Nutrition Services; Fran Stetson, Special Education Teacher; Carmen Stephl, Parent/Teacher/Student Association; and Sally Tachick, Administrative Assistant, School Board/Superintendent, for their service to the District.

SCHOOL REPORTS: Ms. Sheryl Kaye, Tebughna Elementary/High School principal, gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the school, community, student activities, Head Start Program, distance learning programs, monthly awards assembly, Stone Soup Behavior Program, family night, Project GRAD Program and the Summer Institute, moose restoration field trip, Shirleyville/Chevron Oil Exploration Career Day, AVTEC Center student visitation, after-school tutoring, parent-teacher conference participation, and assessment scores.

Mr. Bob Ermold, Kenai Alternative High School principal, gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting student activities, life skills lessons, community Thanksgiving Dinner, hot breakfast program, local community support, Grinch Day activity, survival activities, stomp out tobacco activities, educational moose hunting and dressing-out skills, art lessons, guitar class, yearbook and digital technology, young parent program, joint activities with the District preschool program, March of Dimes grant, grants to purchase school equipment and supplies, and increased number of graduates. Two students provided testimony about their positive experiences at the Alternative School and expressed their appreciation for the family atmosphere.

Mr. Alan Fields, Kenai Central High School principal, introduced the school's drumline directed by Mrs. Deborah Sounart, music teacher. The students marched in and performed several selections. Mr. Fields gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the new school vision and mission statements, results from surveys of parents and students, and the helicopter rescue training equipment. He recognized Mr. Lincoln Wensley, student, for receiving the Prudential Spirit of Community Award. Mr. Wensley provided information about the project that won him the award. Miss Alex Kiel, student, provided information regarding the school leadership program activities.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS: Mrs. Eliza Eller, Alaska Peer Support Consortium representative, provided information about the May 11 and 12 Mental Health Recovery Education Conference and one of the featured speakers, Dr. Yvonne Butler, and invited the Board to attend.

Mrs. Pam Howard, school nurse, and student members of Teens Against Tobacco Use provided information about the program and their activities. A You Tube video was presented which was created by the students.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Peterson reported that interviews for the Nanwalek School principal/teacher position will be held April 14; interviews for the Tebughna School principal/teacher position will be held April 15; and reminded the Board of the joint Assembly worksesson on April 21. She announced that 2 of the 10 June Nelson scholarships were awarded to District students.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mrs. Douglas presented District financial reports for the periods ending February 28 and March 31, 2009. She noted that the report reflects the new software format.

QUARTERLY BUDGET TRANSFER REPORT: Mrs. Douglas reported on third quarter budget transfers Numbers 476 through 859 for various schools and departments within the District.

RESIGNATIONS: Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve resignations from Carolyn Window, music, Chapman School; Walter T. Ward, Workforce Development coordinator, Curriculum; Don Schindler, resource, Homer Flex; Marica Lee, librarian, Homer High; Jan Spurkland, credit recovery, Homer High; Jason Nissly, music, Homer High; Erin Briscoe, speech/language pathologist, Homer Middle; Beverly Wisdom, language arts, Homer Middle; Raymond Bailey, Grade 4/5, Kachemak-Selo; Janice Hagan-Delaney, Grade 1, K-Beach Elementary; Judith E. Downs, Drug Free Schools specialist, Kenai Central High; Jacob Munyer, resource, Kenai Central High; Raven Puente, kindergarten, Mountain View Elementary; Denise L. Cox, pre-kindergarten/media specialist, Nikiski North Star Elementary; Ann Kendall, Grade 6, Nikiski North Star Elementary; Judith A. Shields, Grades 1/2, Nikiski North Star Elementary; David Legg, assistant director, Pupil Services; Lynn Dusek, Grade 2, Redoubt Elementary; Patricia Springer-Hann, speech/language, Redoubt Elementary; Michael J. Richards, science, Seward Middle School; Kevin Freedman, language arts, Skyview High School; Lisa Lybrand, counselor, Skyview High School; Gigi Banas, intensive needs, Soldotna Elementary; M. Jayne McFarland, speech-language pathologist, Soldotna Elementary; Rachel Pioch, social studies, Soldotna Middle School; and Holly Alston, generalist, Susan B. English School.

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACTS: Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve long-term substitute contracts for Marsha Gustkey, Seward Elementary; Helen E. Lindemuth, Seward High School; Jennifer Tabor, Soldotna Middle School; and Paul Zobeck, Soldotna Middle School.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS: Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve teacher contracts for Heidi Stokes, (temporary), .50 FTE K-6 teacher, Chapman School; and Bridget M. Clark, (temporary), Title I teacher, Ninilchik School.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED: Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for Karlene Meyers, Grade 6, Soldotna Elementary, effective January 10, 2010 for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year.

NEW ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT: Dr. Peterson recommended the Board approve an administrator contract for the 2009-2010 school year for John Hurley, principal, West Homer Elementary.

TEACHER TERMINATIONS: Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve the termination, at the end of the 2008-09 school year, of Lee Chadwick, vocational education, Nikiski Middle/ High and Judy Graham, Emotionally Handicapped, Soldotna Middle School; for failure to return a signed contract for the 2009-2010 school year.

REQUEST TO ASAA FOR BYLAW WAIVER: The Board unanimously approved the authorization of a Waiver Request to ASAA Bylaw Article 7 Section 9 B Cooperative School Programs to pursue the ability for students in the Head of the Bay Schools being allowed to play for the Homer High School Hockey team.

BUDGET TRANSFER: The Board unanimously approved budget transfer number 874 in the amount of $57,600 to pay for the actual cost of certified salaries at Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Sciences Charter School.

RIVER CITY ACADEMY GRADE LEVEL EXPANSION: The Board approved a request from River City Academy (RCA) to expand its enrollment guidelines to accept students in Grades 7 and 8.

FY10 BUDGET: The Board unanimously approved a FY10 general fund budget of $123,739,902 and special revenue funds totaling $18,085,300 for a total FY10 budget for all funds of $141,825,202 as presented. The recommendation includes local effort funding at the cap and an allocation of fund balance in the amount of $1,245,667. The Board unanimously approved an amendment allowing provisional approval for the District to reissue nontenure contracts at the administration's discretion.

2009-2010 TENTATIVE BOARD MEETING DATES: The Board approved a tentative meeting schedule for Board meetings for the 2009-2010 school year along with a direction to the administration to research a plan that would allow public testimony during Board meetings from outlying communities.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board meeting is Monday, May 4, 2009, 7:00 p.m., **Seward High School, Seward**, Alaska.

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