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

January 11, 2010 – 7:00 p.m. Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley
Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent Soldotna, Alaska

WORKSESSION REPORT: The Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included the District curriculum audit, weighted grades, and the Read 180 update. The Board postponed the administrative tasks update for the next meeting.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS: The Board presented a Golden Apple Award to Mrs. Patricia Tilbury, Ninilchik School secretary, and Ms. Cindy Schnabl, Ninilchik School volunteer, for their service to the school and the District.

Ms. Debbie Harris and Ms. Laura Forbes presented the District with a certificate and framed poster from the Kenai Visitor's and Cultural Center in recognition of assistance with the summer art show and for providing the educational component.

SCHOOL REPORT: Mr. Terry Martin, Ninilchik School principal, introduced Miss Sabrina Ferguson, student. They took turns highlighting information about the school including the instructional day, assessment results, Adequate Yearly Progress, Project GRAD, enrollment information, staffing information, course offerings, cocurricular competition accomplishments, academic competitions, after school programs, graduate information, District and statewide leadership roles filled by former staff and students, and community support. Miss Ferguson invited those present to the school's centennial celebration next year.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS: Ms. Kris Holderied, NOAA Kasitsna Bay Laboratory Director, told the Board about the education programs available at the lab. She explained that their mission is to improve understanding of how subarctic coastal ecosystems respond to changing conditions, in support of coastal management.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Atwater thanked the Information Services Department for reimaging and placing 998 computers in various schools during the winter break. He thanked the Borough Maintenance staff for installing the new Smart Boards on classroom walls throughout the District. He noted that the District is in the process of revising the teacher evaluation system and a meeting will be held January 13 to discuss the project and answer questions. He explained that the project will include 10 principals who participate in a mini-pilot program in January in place of the District's present evaluation tool. He reported that interviews are being conducted for those interested in the Aspiring Principals Program. He reported that Nanwalek School and Port Graham School are on holiday break until January 20. He announced that the Board will conduct joint workessions with the Borough Assembly on February 16 and April 6. He commended the Finance Department for generating the retroactive checks so quickly.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Jones presented the financial report of the District for the periods ending November 30, 2009 and December 31, 2009.

QUARTERLY BUDGET TRANSFER REPORT: Mr. Jones reported on quarterly budget transfers Numbers 212 through 470 for various schools and departments within the District.

BOARD WORKSESSION REPORT: Mr. Arness reported that the Board conducted worksessions regarding the upcoming District curriculum Audit; weighted grades and heard updates regarding administrative tasks and Read 180.

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved long-term substitute teacher contracts for James Bennett, Nikiski Middle/High School; Jennifer Carr, Seward Elementary School; and Sharon Stevens-Ganser, Seward Elementary School.

2010-11 AND 2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS: The Board unanimously approved revisions to the 2010-11 and 2011-12 school calendars.

RESIGNATIONS: The Board unanimously approved resignations from Diane Patch, kindergarten, McNeil Canyon (effective at the end of the 2009-10 school year); and Shonna R. Bilyeu, language arts, Voznesenka School (effective January 14, 2010).

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved new teacher contracts for Shawna R. Vlasak, (temporary) pre-kindergarten teacher/Title I teacher, Mountain View Elementary; Jane M. Dunn, (temporary) kindergarten teacher, Paul Banks Elementary; and Christina S. Granger, (temporary) pre-kindergarten teacher, Tustumena Elementary.

FY10 BUDGET REVISION: The Board unanimously approved changes to the FY10 general fund revenue and expenditure budgets to reflect a revision from $125,306,531 to $126,370,162 for an increase of $1,063,631.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, February 1, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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