
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

May 3, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent

Seward High School
2100 Swetmann, Seward, Alaska

WORKSESSION REPORT: The Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included the physical education curriculum, administrative tasks, the teacher evaluation system, and funding to the cap.

SCHOOL REPORT: Mr. John Hersrud, Seward Middle School, introduced Mrs. Beck who directed the choir in a song titled, *Bless the Broken Road*. Mr. Hersrud stated that the school focused their work on the three District goals: using and implementing the quality learning model, collaborating, and integration of technology. He featured several student-created web pages. He reported on the six pillars of character in which examples of each were created by the students. He noted that Seward Middle students raised \$3700 for Haiti earthquake relief. He distributed copies of the school's weekly newspaper.

Mr. Trevan Walker, Seward High School, reported that the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges accreditation self-study report was used to develop the school's goals. He explained the process used to rewrite the school's mission statement, guiding principals, and vision statement using input from students, staff, parents and community members. He provided a video documenting student interviews and an explanation by Mr. Walker. He thanked the Board for their support of music at Seward High School and introduced the concert choir who sang, *Now is the Month of May*, directed by Mr. Kyle Schneider. Two students each reported on their senior service learning projects.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS: Ms. C.J. Rea, Kenai Fjords National Park education specialist, reported that she is charged with the promotion of conservation, education, and stewardship and credited District teachers with many of the educational ideas which are then piloted in Seward. She provided booklets titled, *Environmental Education Programs for K-8th Grade Groups* and *A Teacher's Guide to Exit Glacier*.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Atwater reported that the curriculum audit has been concluded and that the final report is due in July. He reported that the Information Services Department has completed an upgrade to the District's storage capacity. He reviewed actions taken by the state legislature and noted that there is no new funding plan for education. He announced that the legislature passed the Governor's Performance Scholarship and that more details will come. He reported that the Borough Assembly passed a resolution to set a funding floor for the School District for the 2010-2011 school year which results in a \$4 million reduction and noted that he has taken a series of measures to meet the reduction and asked the Board for their support.

BUDGET PLAN: The Board unanimously approved support for the superintendent's proposed funding plan.

FINANCIAL REPORT: On behalf of Mr. Jones, Dr. Atwater presented District the financial report for the period ending March 31, 2010.

QUARTERLY BUDGET TRANSFER REPORT: On behalf of Mr. Jones, Dr. Atwater reported on third quarter budget transfers Numbers 471 through 937 for various schools and departments within the District.

RESIGNATIONS: The Board unanimously approved resignations, effective at the end of the 2009-2010 school year, from Lourdes Link, resource, K-Beach Elementary; Oakley Cothran, physical education, Kenai Central High; Allan Miller, science, Kenai Middle; Gregg Wilbanks, principal, River City Academy; Abby Smola, counselor, Soldotna High School; Linda Lemco, resource, Voznesenka; and Marilyn Kirkham, Grade 6, West Homer Elementary. Mr. Jones also recommended the Board approve the resignation of Jamilyn Harper, program coordinator, Pupil Services, effective June 4, 2010.

HSGQE: The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2010-09.

SUBSTITUTE CONTRACT: The Board unanimously approved a long-term substitute contract for Deanne Pearson, Skyview High School.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved teacher contracts for Amy Sundheim, School Psychologist, Homer Area; Ryan Miller, (temporary) science/math teacher, Kachemak-Selo School; Lindsey Pender, language arts teacher, Kenai Central High; Denis Gardella, science/math teacher, Nanwalek School; and Joyce Gardella, (temporary) language arts/social studies teacher, Nanwalek School.

NONTENURE TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved a nontenure teacher contract for the 2010-2011 school year for Elizabeth Reiter, at-risk youth teacher, Kenai Youth Facility; Shawna Vlasak, (temporary) pre-kindergarten, Mountain View Elementary; Seanna Gunn, primary, Paul Banks Elementary; and Helen Lindemuth, .50 FTE librarian, Seward Elementary.

NONTENURE TEACHER FOR TENURE, 2010-11: The Board unanimously approved a contract and tenure for Jamie Meyers, (temporary) technology integration specialist.

ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved administrator contracts for the 2010-2011 school year for Jason Bickling, principal/teacher at Seward Middle School; Marilyn K. Johnson, principal/teacher at Tebughna School; and Raymond E. Marshall, principal at West Homer Elementary.

BUDGET TRANSFERS: The Board unanimously approved budget transfers Number 1013 for \$120,000 to pay for internet charges and Number 1014 for \$524,008 to pay for Aruba Networks equipment used to provide wireless connectivity throughout District schools.

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

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