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# Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

## Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

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January 16, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.  
(Rescheduled from January 14, 2013)  
Regular Meeting

Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley  
Soldotna, Alaska

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**WORKSESSION REPORT:** Mr. Arness reported that the Board conducted a Policy Committee meeting and several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting on the Correspondence Program Curriculum, Policy Manual Revisions, School Security, and the FY14 Preliminary Budget.

**SCHOOL REPORTS:** Mrs. Robin Dahlman, Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Science (KSAS) administrator, spoke briefly about the school and then introduced Mrs. Elaine Larson, music teacher, and her students. The students performed an English, winter solstice, sword dance to various musical instruments played also by KSAS students. Miss Molly McMillan, student, spoke about the attitudes and values of the school. Miss Valerie Villegas, student, explained the school's yearlong themes and stated that this year's theme is "The World From Where We Stand." Mr. Hudson Jackson, student, discussed the school's conceptual key points such as the 5/6 grade key point called "systems." Miss Darby McMillan, student, reported on the school's integrated learning or "mashing" everything together. The students concluded their performance by singing *Auld Lang Syne*. Mrs. Dahlman closed by recognizing and thanking the school staff, family members, and community members and expressing appreciation for being a part of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

Mr. Mike Sellers, Nikolaevsk School administrator, was unable to attend the meeting. In his stead, Mr. John Jones, student, offered the school's report and began by thanking the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District for allowing him to represent his school. He presented a PowerPoint highlighting the school's enrollment and demographics, appreciation for the school staff, sports, lunch and breakfast program, "Code of Cooperation," school rules and expectations, school climate, "Git-R-Done" lab for make-up work, vision, student test scores, library, and technology.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Atwater announced that after a recent visit to the district's Student Nutrition Services (SNS) department, the State of Alaska Child Nutrition Program reported that the District is meeting all of the standards set for the program and is one of the highest performing in student nutrition and services in the state. He commended Mr. Dean Hamburg, SNS administrator, and the SNS staff for their hard work and success. He reported that after the January 10, 2013, meeting regarding the Soldotna area schools, the district will be promoting a reconfiguration to two grade 7-9 junior high schools, and one grade 10-12 high school for the Soldotna area. All effected Soldotna schools will hold community meetings on this topic on February 11, 2013, and District administration will present a final recommendation to the Board at a worksession in March. He announced that most schools will be closed on Monday with a few noted exceptions. He stated that the BP Teacher of Excellence program is now accepting nominations and encouraged those in attendance to nominate an exceptional teacher. He announced that Dr. Doris Cannon, Director of Elementary Education, has submitted her resignation and wished her the best.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Mr. Jones presented the financial reports of the District for the periods ending November 30, 2012 and December 31, 2012.

**QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT:** Mr. Jones reported on budget transfer numbers 225 through 560 for various schools and departments within the District.

**LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACT:** The Board unanimously approved a long-term substitute contract for Mary Knudsen, Kaleidoscope Charter School.

**NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS 2012-13:** The Board unanimously approved new teacher contracts for Wanda Brenner, Temporary Title I Teacher, Soldotna Elementary School; Gerald Byrne, Temporary (.40 FTE) Marine Technology Instructor, Kenai Central High School and Soldotna High School; Paul Chissus, Temporary (.40 FTE) Career Technology Education Instructor, Susan B. English School; Karen Corbell, Temporary Title I Teacher, Chapman School; Danelle McCarthy, Temporary Instructional/Technology Coach (.50 FTE), Seward Area Schools; and Catrin McKinley, Temporary Title I Teacher, Sterling Elementary School.

**RESIGNATIONS:** The Board unanimously approved resignations for Benny Abraham, Principal, Paul Banks Elementary, effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year; Doris Cannon, Director, Elementary Education and Curriculum, effective June 30, 2013; Melinda Cox, Special Education Resource Teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year; Patricia Johnson, Math Teacher, Soldotna Middle School, effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year; Laura Pillifant, Physical Education/Health Teacher, Soldotna Middle School, effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year; Dana Strong, Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher, Ninilchik School, effective January 15, 2013; and Tammy Taylor, Kindergarten - 3rd Grade Teacher, Nikolaevsk School, effective December 21, 2012.

**BUDGET TRANSFER:** The Board unanimously approved budget transfer number 523, in the amount of \$88,436 to move funds to the correct salary account and align the budget with staff hired for the positions.

**CORRESPONDENCE PROGRAM CURRICULUM:** The Board unanimously approved the curriculum and materials vendor list for Connections Homeschool Program.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** The next regularly scheduled School Board meeting is Monday, February 11, 2013, 7:00 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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