Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. | Borough Administration Building
Regular Meeting | 148 N. Binkley, Soldotna, Alaska

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:
Mr. Joe Arness, President
Mrs. Liz Downing, Vice President
Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk
Ms. Lynn Hohl, Treasurer
Mr. Marty Anderson
Mr. Dan Castimore
Mrs. Sunni Hilts
Mr. Bill Holt
Mr. Tim Navarre
Mr. Evan Boyer, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:
Mr. Sean Dusek, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Dave Tressler	Dr. Christine Ermold
Mrs. Carol Boehmler	Mr. Clayton Holland
Mr. Brent Johnson	Mr. Rod Hilts
Mr. Jay Boyer	Ms. Pegge Erkeneff
Ms. Sherry Hingley	Ms. Mo Sanders
Ms. Freddie Billingslea	Mrs. Ann Story
Mrs. Patty Sirois	Mr. Brian Story
Mr. Donny Joachim	Ms. Joann Riener
Mr. Mike Sweeney	Ms. Kaylee Osowski
Ms. Crista Cady	Ms. Carolyn Cannava

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:
(7:00:02 PM)
Mr. Arness called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
(7:00:15 PM)
Mr. Arness invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT:
(7:00:43 PM)
Mr. Castimore read the District's mission statement.

ROLL CALL:
(7:00:57 PM)

Mr. Joe Arness, President	Present
Mrs. Liz Downing, Vice President	Present
Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk	Present
Ms. Lynn Hohl, Treasurer	Present
Mr. Marty Anderson	Present
Mr. Dan Castimore	Present
Mrs. Sunni Hilts	Present
Mr. Bill Holt	Present
Mr. Tim Navarre	Absent/Excused
Mr. Evan Boyer	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
(7:01:22 PM)

The agenda was approved with a revision to 10a. (10). Approval of 2013-14 Long Term Substitute Contracts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
(7:01:51 PM)

The School Board Minutes of February 3, 2014, were approved as printed.

SCHOOL REPORT:
(7:02:12 PM)

Ms. Mo Sanders, Soldotna Montessori Charter School principal, greeted Board member Mr. Castimore. She discussed the school's location, population, demographics, assessment scores, and current Alaska School Performance Indicator star rating. She stated that students are actively involved in multiple community service programs around the city. She introduced five students, (Mr. Seth Payment, Miss Adrienne Seaman, Mr. Ayden See, Miss Zoey Zurfluh, and Miss Katelynn Best) who each reported on his or her community service location including the Riverside House, the Soldotna Senior Center, and the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank. Ms. Sanders explained the foundations of the Montessori program. She reported on the school's annual trip to the Model United Nations Conference in New York City, the fundraising required, and the opportunities afforded through the experience. Ms. Sanders introduced two students, Miss MaCady Musgrave and Mr. Peyton Story, who discussed this year's upcoming trip.

(7:18:08 PM)

Ms. Sherry Hingley, Sterling Elementary principal, presented a PowerPoint highlighting the school's location, demographics, staffing, academic programs, band, forensics, and Battle of the Books. She introduced district forensic competitors, Miss Morgan Burlingame, who performed the poem, *"And My Heart Soars"* by Chief Dan George, and Miss Kimberly Trefon who performed the story "*Seven Foolish Fishermen*." Ms. Hingley reported on the school's Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (P.B.I.S.) program and its importance at Sterling Elementary. She introduced teacher and P.B.I.S. coordinator, Mr. Donny Joachim, who further explained the program's three focuses (being respectful, responsible, and safe) and showed a school created bus safety video demonstrating P.B.I.S. philosophies. In closing, Ms. Hingley discussed school attendance and intervention processes.

At 7:40 p.m., Mr. Arness recessed the meeting.

At 7:46 p.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:
(7:47:22 PM)

Mr. Mike Sweeney spoke regarding a recently completed community petition requesting that the Skyview pool remain open and stated that a copy of the petition has been provided for the Board members.

Ms. Freddie Billingslea spoke regarding the Skyview pool, the value of the pool as a community asset, and requested that the Board find a way to keep the pool operational.

Ms. Carolyn Cannava spoke regarding the Skyview pool, the value of the pool as a community asset, and requested that the Board find a way to keep the pool operational.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:
(7:54:53 PM)

On behalf of Dr. Atwater, Mr. Dusek reported that all 39 District intensive needs students have been approved by the state Department of Education and Early Development (D.E.E.D.). He announced that the state D.E.E.D also informed the District that it has met all of the standards reviewed for the special education compliance monitoring and thanked Mr. Holland and his staff for their work.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SITE COUNCIL AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A, BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:
(7:55:42 PM)

Mr. Brent Johnson, Borough Assembly member, reported on his recent trip to Juneau, where he spoke with Governor Sean Parnell regarding the governor's education plan priorities. He reported that he heard a speech by Mr. Andrew Halcro, Anchorage Chamber of Commerce president, regarding education including the importance of teacher appreciation and causes of school attendance issues. He noted that he also spoke with Anchorage Mayor Dan Sullivan who stated that he supports the educational program of Finland, which Mr. Johnson found to be very similar to Mr. Halcro's ideas.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:
(8:00:02 PM)

On behalf of Dr. Atwater, Mr. Dusek reported that the District is working with the Matanuska-Susitna School District to share resources and practices for establishing the criteria for student learning objectives; i.e. student learning data as it applies to teacher evaluation. He stated that interviews were held for the Susan B. English School principal position, audience input was due today, and district office administrators will meet on Wednesday, March 5, to make a decision. He reported that the District is currently seeking survey input regarding this year's early release days and a summary of the results will be available in April to help determine whether or not to continue this practice. He congratulated the special education staff of Homer High School on being presented with the state's Inclusive Practices Award in February. He congratulated Kenai Central High School teacher, Greg Zorbas, on being honored as the Alaska Society of Technology in Education (A.S.T.I.) teacher of the year for his work in helping develop the district's "Classroom without Walls" program. He noted that the district-wide forensics competition was held at Tustumena Elementary on Saturday, March 1, stated that the full results will soon be posted online, and commented on the excellence of the performances.

FINANCIAL REPORT:
(8:03:34 PM)

Mr. Jones presented the financial report of the District for the period ending January 31, 2014.

BOARD REPORTS:
(8:04:36 PM)

Mrs. Downing reported that the Legislative Committee met on February 17, and again earlier in the day to discuss various bills before the legislature this session, including the consideration of an increase to the Base Student Allocation (B.S.A.), and urged the public to testify in support of the B.S.A. increase. She noted the recent awards of Mr. Greg Zorbas, A.S.T.I. teacher of the year, and the special education staff of Homer High School for Inclusive Practices. Mrs. Downing added that she attended the Alaska Association of School Boards (A.A.S.B.) Legislative Fly-In, February 8-11, 2014, and discussed the workshops attended and meetings with legislators. She attended A.S.T.E. Leadership Summit on Saturday, February 22, where they discussed distance education and technology in education.

Mr. Holt reported that he attended meetings of the Skyview Site Council, the Kenai Peninsula School Activities Association (K.P.S.A.A.) executive board, the Physical Education (P.E.) Curriculum Committee, and the Soldotna Public Budget Forum.

Mrs. Hilts reported her Board activities for the past two months, which included a visit to Kachemak-Selo School to work on the new school plan development with Mr. Dave Tressler and Mr. Andy Rothenberger. She went to Washington D.C., as a part of the group from the National Association of School Boards, to attend leadership training and to visit congressional leaders to discuss education issues. She attended A.A.S.B. Legislative Fly-In, February 8-11, 2014. She attended the Recognition and Communication Committees meetings earlier in the day and thanked Ms. Erkeneff for her work. She attended the interviews for the Susan B. English principal position.

Mrs. Vadla reported that she attended Legislative Committee meetings on February 17, and again earlier in the day. She attended the Soldotna Public Budget Forum and expressed appreciation for Mr. Jones' presentation. She attended the Central Peninsula Key Communicators Meet and Greet in Kenai on February 5, 2014. Mrs. Vadla attended the Recognition and Communication Committee meetings earlier in the day and thanked Ms. Erkeneff for her work.

Ms. Hohl reported that she attended a Moose Pass School Site Council meeting and the February 5, Central Peninsula Key Communicator Meet and Greet.

Mr. Castimore reported that he attended the Seward Public Budget Forum on February 18, 2014. He stated that he visited the Cooper Landing School and Seward High, Middle and Elementary schools on the same day, and expressed appreciation for Mr. Trevan Walker and his staff. He visited Kenai Central High School and Kenai Middle School earlier today.

BOARD WORKSESSION REPORT:
(8:16:31 PM)

Mr. Arness reported that the Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting on Board Policy, Health Care Opt Out, and the Six-Year Plan, FY 2015-2021.

CONSENT AGENDA:
(8:17:53 PM)

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Six-Year Plan FY 2015-2021, High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-09, High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-10, High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-11, High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-12, 2014-15 Tentative Tenure Teacher Contracts, 2014-15 Tentative Non-Tenured Teacher Contracts and Tenure, 2014-15 Tentative Non-Tenured Teacher Contracts, Resignations, 2013-14 Long Term Substitute Contracts, and Resolution 13-14-4 March Music in Our Schools Month.

SIX YEAR PLAN FY 2015-2021:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve the proposed Six-Year Plan and capital improvement projects for FY 2015 through 2021.

HSGQE:

Mr. Dusek recommended the Board approve High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-09.

HSGQE:

Mr. Dusek recommended the Board approve High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-10.

HSGQE:

Mr. Dusek recommended the Board approve High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-11.

HSGQE:

Mr. Dusek recommended the Board approve High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-12.

2014-2015 TENTATIVE TENURE TEACHER CONTRACTS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve tentative tenure teacher contracts for the 2014-2015 school year for Mindy Hunter and Susan Nabholz.

2014-2015 TENTATIVE NON-TENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS AND TENURE:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve tentative non-tenured teacher contracts and tenure for Joshua Brantley, Teacher/Special Education, Soldotna Prep School; Jordana Engebretsen, Teacher/Special Education, Kenai Middle School; Margaret Lourigan, Teacher/Special Education, Ninilchik School; and Lindsey May, Teacher/Special Education, Sterling Elementary School.

2014-2015 TENTATIVE NON-TENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve tentative non-tenured teacher contracts for Amanda Adair, Teacher/Special Education, Kenai Middle School; Michelle Barrows, Teacher/Special Education, Nikiski Middle/High School; Cindy Bedingfield, Teacher/Special Education, Homer High School; Matthew Creamer, Teacher/Special Education, West Homer Elementary School; Judith Eckert, Teacher/Special Education, West Homer Elementary School; Cynthia Fudzinski, Teacher/Special Education, Tustumena Elementary School; Timothy Galpin, Teacher/Special Education, Soldotna Elementary School; Walter Kloepfer, Teacher/Special Education, Homer High School; David Lefton, Teacher/Special Education, Fireweed Academy;
(Continued on next page.)

CONSENT AGENDA:
(Continued)

2014-2015 TENTATIVE NON-TENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS:
(Continued)

Shilo McManus, Teacher/Special Education, Mountain View Elementary School; Monica Mullet (.50 FTE), Teacher/Facilitator Gifted, Mountain View Elementary School; Michael Reid, Teacher/Special Education, Mountain View Elementary School; Theresa Rose, Teacher/Special Education, Mountain View Elementary School; Logan Schulz, Teacher/Special Education, Seward High School; Kelly Sheffer, Teacher/Special Education, Homer Middle School; Michael Tozzo, Teacher/Special Education, Ninilchik School; Christina Tuls, Teacher/Special Education, Sterling Elementary School; and Sadie Updike, Teacher/Special Education, Nikiski North Star Elementary School.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve resignations from Heidi Berg, Special Education Intensive Needs Teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Terry Durrant, Math/Science Teacher, Nikiski Middle/High School; Jennifer Edwards, Occupational Therapist, Paul Banks Elementary School; Teresa Elmore, 6th Grade Teacher, K-Beach Elementary School; Matthew Johnson, Physical Education Teacher/Athletic Director, Soldotna High School; Margaret Leahy, Speech Language Pathologist, Seward Area; Cassandra Peterson, Special Education Resource Teacher, Soldotna Montessori Charter School; Todd Peterson, Special Education Intensive Needs Teacher, Tustumena Elementary School; Sonya Selanoff, 4th - 5th Grade Teacher, Nanwalek School; and Bernadette Wensley, 4th Grade Teacher, Mt. View Elementary School; all effective at the end of the 2013-14 school year.

2013-2014 LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACTS:

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve long-term substitute contracts for Catherine Kibling, Kenai Middle School; Tomoka Raften, Redoubt Elementary School; Wanda Reams, Mt. View Elementary School; and Judith Shields, Mt. View Elementary School.

RESOLUTION 13-14-4 MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH:

By memorandum, Dr. Atwater recommended the Board approve Resolution 13-14-4 proclaiming March 2014 as Music in Our Schools Month.

Ms. Crista Cady, Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Science music specialist and president-elect of the Alaska Music Educators Association (A.M.E.A.), spoke regarding the importance of music in education and in support of Resolution 13-14-4 proclaiming March 2014 as Music in Our Schools Month. She announced that Ms. Renee Henderson was honored in January as the A.M.E.A. music educator of the year.

MOTION:

Mr. Holt moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 11. Mrs. Vadla seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS:
(8:26:20 PM)

Mr. Jones recommended the Board approve revisions to BP 3541.2 Transportation for Students with Disabilities.

MOTION:

Mr. Holt moved the Board approve BP 3541.2 Transportation for Students with Disabilities. Ms. Hohl seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/ COMMENTS:
(8:27:03 PM)

Ms. Freddie Billingslea asked the Board when the decision regarding the Skyview pool closure could be expected.

Mr. Jones stated that the FY15 Budget will be adopted at the April 14, 2014 Board meeting and that will determine if the Skyview pool will be funded.

BOARD COMMENTS:
(8:30:47 PM)

Mrs. Vadla thanked the members of the public for their testimony regarding the Skyview pool. She addressed Mr. Johnson and expressed appreciation for Mr. Andrew Halcro's presentations on the radio. Mrs. Vadla congratulated the 66 District teams that participated in the Battle of the Books competition.

Mr. Holt thanked Soldotna Montessori and Sterling Elementary schools for their presentations. He announced that on March 4, this year's Tsalteshi Youth Ski Group will meet for the last time, and discussed the program's success. He congratulated student, Miss Sadie Fox, for her 2nd place overall finish at the Nordic Skiing State Championships.

Mrs. Hilts thanked those present for attending. She thanked Soldotna Montessori and Sterling Elementary schools for their presentations. She stated the legislative session will end quickly, and encouraged the public to speak to state legislators in support of education.

Ms. Hohl expressed appreciation for the school reports and the student performances. She reported that she attended a portion of the Seward High School Drama, Debate and Forensics (D.D.F.) team rehearsal for the state competition. She stated that, later this month, she will attend the state P.T.A. Convention and the A.A.S.B. Spring Academy and Legislative Fly-In. She noted that Seward continues to experience the loss of valuable community members including, recently, Ms. Laurie Schrock. She expressed appreciation for Mr. Andrew Halcro's presentations on public radio and in the newspaper. She stated that she supports the formation of a community or District committee for the purpose of developing a plan for the Skyview pool. Ms. Hohl stated that the Seward area has concerns regarding the new formatting of the Nordic Skiing State championship.

BOARD COMMENTS:
(Continued)

Mr. Boyer expressed appreciation for the Soldotna Montessori community service program and Sterling Elementary students' forensics performances. He reported that he had competed in this year's state D.D.F. competition, that there were three District schools represented there, and announced District category award winners. He reported that he attended the A.A.S.B. Youth Advocacy Institute in Juneau on February 8-11, where, in addition to attending sessions, he served as a guest page on the House floor. He expressed appreciation for the A.A.S.B. Youth Leadership events and the opportunity to attend, and encouraged more District students to participate in the program.

Mr. Castimore thanked the Seward area schools for welcoming him during his recent visits and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to visit District schools.

Mrs. Downing discussed her time spent during the past month working with educators and legislators and expressed appreciation for their work. She discussed meeting with Alaska Senator Mark Begich and West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin and expressed appreciation for their work in support of education.

ADJOURN:
(8:45:04 PM)

At 8:45p.m., Mr. Arness adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. Joe Arness, President

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Mrs. Penny Vadla, Clerk

The Minutes of March 3, 2014,
have been approved as of
April 14, 2014.