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# Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

## Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

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May 5, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.  
Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent

Seward High School  
2100 Swetmann, Seward, Alaska

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*(Revised 5/7/14)*

**WORKSESSION REPORT:** The Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included Board Policy, Balto School Update, Kenai Peninsula School Activities Association (KPSAA) Revisions, and College and Career Ready.

**AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:** The Board presented a Golden Apple Award to Ms. Kim Reiersen for her service to the Seward Booster Club and Seward High School students.

**SCHOOL REPORTS:** Mr. David Kingsland, Seward Elementary School principal, reported on the school's enrollment and demographics; test scores and Alaska School Performance Indicators (ASPI) four star rating; various programs; sports and activities; and the student leadership team. Mr. Kingsland introduced student, Miss Madilyn Moore, Masonic Award winner and president of the 2014 School Leadership Team (SLT). Miss Moore reported on the SLT make-up, purpose, and work throughout the school year. Mr. Kingsland then introduced kindergarten teacher, Ms. Jennifer Haugh, who discussed the Schoolyard Habitat Program. Ms. Haugh explained that this program is funded through grants, including one from the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and in-kind donations. She noted program projects completed and those planned, and stated that she and Mr. Jason Aigeldinger are the grant administrators. Mr. Kingsland continued by discussing the school's place-based education program which provides opportunities for students to work in and with the community. He shared a Photo Story of Seward Elementary students working on such projects. He noted that certain trees shown in the Photo Story have now been replaced with native tree varieties.

Moose Pass School principal, Mr. Jason Bickling, presented a PowerPoint highlighting the school's achievements; parent and community support and volunteer work; test scores; High Progress school rating by the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED); and "salmon in the schools" program; and online library use and learning. He discussed the community's outdoor and active lifestyle; the school's athletic programs including downhill skiing at Alyeska; the benefits of being a small school, theatre performances, and Lego Robotics. He shared videos of student award and recognition winning works, and of the school's students singing a song entitled "*The Ocean Song*."

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Atwater announced that the Leadership Team Academy will be held on May 28 and 29, at Kenai Central High School and invited Board members to attend. He noted that this year's hiring is almost complete and thanked Ms. Joann Riener and her staff for their work on improving hiring processes. He reported on the District's work on a new American Productivity and Quality Center (APQC) project involving the review of and improvements to staffing. He thanked the Seward Site Council for their dedicated work on behalf of the Seward schools and students and for their willingness to engage in school and District affairs.

**BUDGET TRANSFERS:** The Board unanimously approved budget transfer 892 in the amount of \$89,826 to adjust salary and benefit account budgets for Fireweed Academy Charter School.

**HSGQE:** The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-13.

**HSGQE:** The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-14.

**RESIGNATIONS:** The Board unanimously approved resignations from Christina Beahm, Music Teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; James Beeson, Assistant Principal, Kenai Central High School; Susan Biggs, Music Teacher, Redoubt Elementary School; Casey Davis, School Psychologist, Homer Middle School; Holly Jones, School Counselor, Nikiski Middle/High School; Sami King, Physical Education/Heath/Athletic Director, Seward High School; Heidi Renner, Physical Education/Health Teacher, Kaleidoscope Charter; all effective the end of the 2013-14 school year, and Sheryl Sotelo, 6th Grade Teacher (LOA), McNeil Canyon Elementary School; effective April 23, 2014.

**NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS:** The Board unanimously approved new teacher contracts for the 2014-2015 school year for Richard Bierer, Jennifer Derks-Andersen, Katherine Hamre, Samantha Johnson, Barbara Larrivee, Heather Lindquist, Deborah Pollock, Jasmine Woodhead, Cindy Worley, Darren Zibell, and Nikki Zibell.

**LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER CONTRACTS:** The Board unanimously approved long-term substitute teacher contracts for Laura Beck, Seward Elementary School; Marion Parrish, Kenai Central High School/Soldotna High School; Alice Porter, Tebughna School; and Jasmine Woodhead, Chapman School.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/SUPPORT:** The Board unanimously approved a leave of absence request for Angie Motoyama, Custodian I, Hope School, effective April 21, 2014 to October 31, 2014.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/SUPPORT:** The Board postponed action on a leave of absence request for Patricia Sirois, Administrative Secretary II, Student Nutrition Services, effective the 2014-15 school year, until the June 2, 2014 meeting.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/CERTIFIED:** The Board approved a leave of absence for David Brighton, Special Education Resource Teacher/Generalist Teacher, Tebughna School, effective the 2014-15 school year.

**SCIENCE CURRICULUM UPDATE:** The Board unanimously approved the Science Curriculum update.

**SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM UPDATE:** The Board unanimously approved the Social Studies Curriculum update.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM UPDATE:** The Board unanimously approved the Physical Education Curriculum update.

**POLICY REVISIONS:** The Board unanimously approved revisions to BP 6187 Charter Schools, BP 3260 Materials Fees, and BP 3000 Concepts and Roles, and AR 3350 Payroll.

**STRATEGIC PLAN REVISION:** The Board unanimously approved revisions to the District's Strategic Plan.

**FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS:** The Board heard a first reading of revisions to BP 3313 Contracts Leases and Agreements, BP 3314.3 Equipment Purchases, BP 6161.13 Student Fees for Instructional Materials, and BP 3350 Payroll.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, June 2, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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