

## KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 N. Binkley Street

Soldotna, AK 99669

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent

March 6, 2000

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**SCHOOL REPORTS:** Mr. Rich Toymil, Paul Banks Elementary principal, stated that he is working with the finest staff and a positive and supportive parent and community body. He stated that the school environment is positive and child-centered. He reported that the school offers a breakfast program provided by volunteers, donations and a grant through the Community Schools Program. He stated that teachers and specialists share ideas and problem-solving strategies regarding student needs and curriculum specifics. He reported that assessment scores are on the rise in the areas of CBM and DIBBLES and that remediation opportunities are provided by Title I funds, Quality Schools Initiative grants, resource staff, QUEST and regular education teachers. Mr. Toymil stated that the school specials include music, physical education and library. He noted that the Borough Maintenance Department has worked to upgrade air quality, plumbing and heating and provided painting. He added that asbestos abatement and playground equipment improvement is scheduled for the future. He reported that the Homer Charter School and Connections Programs share the Paul Banks Elementary facility. Mr. Toymil reported that the school offers an after-school program in arts. Ms. Renda Horn presented Mrs. Kirby's kindergarten's class who demonstrated movement to music and acted out the meaning of words.

**AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:** Mrs. Germano and Mrs. Gross presented awards of appreciation to Sally Burns, Paul Banks Elementary; Loraine Murphy, Homer High; Susie Peterson, Homer High; Mark Robinson, Homer High; and Bill Searle, Homer High for their outstanding contributions to education and the District.

Mrs. Gross presented a certificate of recognition to Dick Sanders for successfully passing the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Peterson noted that Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner, Rick Cross, recently visited District Schools and conducted public forums on the Quality Schools Initiative. She stated that the Commissioner left with a new awareness of what it takes to educate students on the Kenai Peninsula. She reported that the Board and Borough Assembly conducted a joint worksession on the 2000-2001 budget. She reported that she attended the AASA Superintendent's Conference and came away with new information and inspiration. She noted that the next Board meeting is March 27, 2000.

**Resignation:** The Board unanimously approved resignation: effective at the end of the 1999-2000 school year from Susan Matthews, occupational therapist, districtwide special services; Heidi Jacobson, math, Skyview High; Nancy Boyle, English/special education, Seward Middle/High; Hilary Matthews, English, Skyview High; and Fred Deussing, principal, Chapman Elementary.

**Budget Transfer:** The Board unanimously approved budget transfer Number 263 for \$35,000 for

administrator costs for Aurora Borealis Charter School.

Long-Term Substitute Teacher: The Board unanimously approved a 19-day substitute teaching contract for Cheryl Chastain, language arts, Soldotna Middle School.

Early Graduation Request: The Board unanimously approved a request for early graduation from a Nikiski Middle/High School student.

2000-2001 Tentative Tenure Teacher Assignments: The Board unanimously approved a list of tentative tenure teacher assignments for the 2000-2001 school year.

HOMER ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION Contract for Long-Term Electric Service: The Board unanimously approved a five-year contract for electrical services to locations currently being served by Homer Electric Association.

Nikiski Reconfiguration Project: The Board postponed action on a recommendation to discontinue further reconfiguration efforts of the Nikiski Area schools and refrain from any financial expenditures.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, March 27, 2000, at 7:30 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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