



Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

3/2/2015 – 7:00 p.m.
Mr. Sean Dusek, Superintendent

Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley
Soldotna, Alaska

SPECIAL MEETING: A special School Board meeting was held Wednesday, February 18, 2015. The Board held an executive session to discuss negotiations and a worksession to review the applications for the superintendent position and select the candidates to be interviewed.

WORKSESSION REPORT: The Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included Board Policy, Six Year Plan, FY 2016-2021, 403(b) Retirement Plan Document Updates and the FY 16 Budget and an executive session to discuss negotiations.

SCHOOL REPORTS: Mr. Lee Young, Connections Homeschool principal, introduced Mr. Jacob Parrett, Mrs. Shona Devolld and her children, Miss Sara Devolld and Miss Anna Devolld. Mr. Young and Mr. Parrett shared a computer presentation explaining how homeschooling is designed and highlighting the school's programs, vision, student demographics, geographic region served, teaching services provided, social recreational activities, academic activities, and assessment data. Mrs. Devolld, Miss Sara Devolld, and Miss Anna Devolld presented the girls' Science Fair projects and discussed Connections student activities including field trips, academics, and extra-curricular choices.

Using Lync Technology, Susan B. English School principal, Mr. Alan Haskins discussed the school's location, Alaska School Performance Indicators (ASPI) 4 star rating, staff, student activities and special projects, special classes, community involvement, swimming pool use and the use of technology in the school's programs.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Dusek announced the recent selections of school administrators: Mr. Rich Bartolowits, Connections Homeschool; Mr. Tony Graham, Soldotna High School; and Mr. Richard Breske, Tebughna School. He announced that interviews for the Seward Regional administrator will be held on March 5 at 4:00 p.m. He discussed the Innovation Report in the General Information Packet that provides updates on the Title IIA Assessment Literacy Grant and the ConnectEd Project in Nanwalek. He also noted the memo providing the results of the Gallup Poll Survey that was conducted to assess student social/emotional wellbeing as part of the District's Key Performance Indicators. He highlighted staff members that submitted their resignations for this meeting and thanked them for their service, especially support staff members and Ms. Jill Raponi.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/CERTIFIED: The Board unanimously approved unpaid leave of absences for Dan Adair, Science Teacher, Nikiski Middle/High School; Renee Christensen, 5th Grade Teacher, Mountain View Elementary School; and Kevin Harding, Special Education Resource/ History/Language Arts Teacher, Kenai Alternative High School; all effective the 2015-16 school year.

RESIGNATIONS: The Board unanimously approved resignations from Jason Bickling, Regional Administrator, Seward Middle School & Moose Pass School; Katherine Cloud, 5th Grade Teacher, West Homer Elementary School; Stephanie DeVault, Elementary Multi-Grade Teacher, Port Graham School; Tyran DeVault, Multi-Grade Upper Elementary/Secondary Generalist, Port Graham School; Jill Herbert, Special Education Resource Teacher, Seward Middle School; Samantha Lamphier, Primary Grade Teacher, Redoubt Elementary School; Amy Maguire, 1st-4th Grade Teacher, Kaleidoscope Charter School; Regan Parks, Kindergarten Teacher, Mountain View Elementary School; Lori Pleshe Uponen, 2nd Grade Teacher, Aurora Borealis Charter School; Jill Ramponi, Special Education Intensive Needs Teacher, Soldotna High School; Dianne Spence-Chorman, History Teacher, Homer High School; William Thompson, Math Teacher, Nikiski Middle/High School; Matthew Tucker, Special Education Resource Teacher, Nanwalek School; John Uponen, Music Teacher, Aurora Borealis Charter School; all effective the end of the 2014-15 school year, and Paul Gutzler, Special Education Resource Teacher, Homer High School; effective the end of the 2013-14 school year (LOA 2014-15 school year).

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER CONTRACT: The Board unanimously approved long-term substitute teacher contracts for Marie Alexson, West Homer Elementary School; Judith Cox, Mountain View Elementary School; and Rebecca Hilbrink, Soldotna High School.

2015-16 NEW ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT: The Board unanimously approved approve a new administrator contract for the 2015-16 for Richard Bartolowits, Principal, Connections Program.

SIX-YEAR PLAN FY 2016-2021: The Board unanimously approved the proposed Six-Year Plan for FY 2016-2021.

POLICY REVISIONS: The Board approved an amended motion to revise BB 9320 Meetings, BP 3541.1 School Related Trips, and BP 3514 Environmental Safety.

403(b) RETIREMENT PLAN: The Board unanimously approved adoption of the 403(b) Plan Document Restatement, including the Plan-to-Plan Transfer provision.

RESOLUTION 14-15-4: The Board failed to approve Resolution 14-15-4, to support Kenai Peninsula Borough Ordinance 2015-03 to repeal the seasonal exemption from sales taxes of non-prepared foods.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, **April 6, 2015, 6:00 p.m.**, Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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