

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
 Homer High School
 Homer, Alaska 99603

September 19, 1994

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President
 Mr. Michael Tauriainen, Vice President
 Mr. Michael Wiley, Clerk
 Mr. Joe Arness, Treasurer
 Dr. John Nels Anderson, Member
 Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, Member
 Mr. Emery Thibodeau, Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Walter E. Bromenschenkel, Superintendent
 Mr. John Dahlgren, Assistant Superintendent, Planning,
 Operations and Technology
 Mr. Thomas Thorpe, Interim Assistant Superintendent,
 Instruction
 Mrs. Sharon Radtke, Executive Director, Personnel
 Mr. Richard Swarner, Executive Director, Business Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Representative Gail Phillips	Mrs. Karen Mahurin
Mr. Frank Garrity	Mr. Glen Szymoniak
Mr. Ronald Drathman	Dr. Richard Krieger
Mrs. Diane Borgman	Mr. Lewis McLin
Mr. Joe Gallager	Mr. Mark Leal
Mr. Mike Chitty	Mrs. Francis Darling
Mr. Steve Gibson	Mr. James Simeroth
Mrs. Lori Heckert	Mrs. Sonja Piazza
Miss Allison Trimble	Mrs. Mary Trimble
Mr. Pat Case	Mrs. Angela McKinney
Ms. Donna Austin	Mr. Dana Hofseth
Mr. David Brann	Mrs. Marti Krohn
Mr. Paul Sayan	Ms. Amy Darwin
Mrs. Ruth Dickerson	
Others present not identified.	

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Tauriainen called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Tauriainen invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Miss Erin Cline, Homer High School student, sang the Alaska Flag Song.

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Betty Obendorf	Absent - Excused
Mr. Michael Tauriainen	Present
Mr. Michael Wiley	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Dr. John Nels Anderson	Present
Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross	Present
Mr. Emery Thibodeau	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved as printed with the addition of Item 10a (4), Approval of Grant Application.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of August 15, 1994, were approved with a correction.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: Mrs. Lori Heckert, Homer Parent, commented she felt there should be provisions to waive the physical education graduation requirements for athletes participation in approved interscholastic or intermural sports activities. She reviewed the mission of the physical education curriculum which she felt applied to students who are involved in their athletic activities. She requested the Board review this issue, and presented the Board with additional printed information.

Mrs. Sonja Piazza, Homer parent, spoke in support of Mrs. Heckert's request to make provisions to waive the physical education requirement for active athletes. She felt such would be beneficial to the student's health and academic standing.

Mr. Don Heckert, parent, expressed concern on the Gun-Free School Policy as it related to school sponsored firearms training and biathlon activity, which would be in violation of the policy. He requested the Board consider a waiver to the physical education credit for athletes and noted this requirement makes it difficult for students to take other classes they need. He requested a member of the Homer High PTSA be involved with the curriculum committee on the issue of physical education.

Miss Allison Trimble, Homer High School student, told the Board she was an active athlete and stated it would be difficult for her to complete her advance placement classes and complete the physical education requirements.

Mrs. Mary Trimble, parent, spoke in support of reconsideration of the physical education requirement, and questioned how parents could further address the issue. Dr. Bromenschenkel responded the administration will review the information provided and prepare a response.

Mr. Pat Case, Homer parent, expressed appreciation to the Board in conducting two meetings in Homer annually. He felt it would draw the district closer together with such meetings.

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CHAPMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
REPORT:

Mr. Frank Garrity, Principal, reported to the Board on the 250-student Chapman Elementary School. He commented on physical improvements to the school, an energetic staff with learning taking place and a warm community to work within. PTA President Angela McKinney spoke on the team relationship between parents, staff and students. Second grade teacher Donna Austin told the Board about the positive atmosphere at the school and student involvement in various programs.

COMMUNICATIONS AND
PETITIONS:

Mr. Tauriainen acknowledged receipt of a letter from Mrs. Mary Mize who wrote in support of access to public schools by private schools, home schooled students or correspondence study students.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Bromenschenkel presented five reports as follows: 1) Statement of Charge in establishing a School Based Decision Making Task Force with a timeline of activities to be completed by March 20, 1995, 2) Statement of Charge for Instructional Technology Development for the 1994-95 school year, 3) Statement of Charge for a Mentor Program for KPBSD employees new to their positions, 4) Statement of Charge on District Assessment Policy Development for the 1994-95 school year, and 5) a timeline to revise the discipline policy related to the Gun-Free Schools Act.

Mrs. Gross commented she felt more parents should be assigned to the School Based Decision Making Task Force. Mr. Wiley suggested that community members be included on this committee. Mr. Wiley commented it appeared that some schools would not be site based decision making and questioned how this would be addressed. Dr. Bromenschenkel responded that School Based Decision Making needed to be clearly defined and although decision making is taking place in all of the schools at various levels, this needed to be further addressed. Dr. Anderson commented that he felt the composition of the SBDM committee needed to include parents with experience in the schools to provide a balance to the committee. Mrs. Gross felt there should also be input from the school board on the committee. Dr. Bromenschenkel commented that a request had been made to include additional support staff members on the committee. He noted the committee needed to be of manageable size, and those committees with 20 or more members are less productive than smaller working committees.

Dr. Anderson expressed concern on the percentage of community members involved on the Technology Task Force.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
 (continued):

Mr. Thibodeau questioned if there would be compensation made to mentors in helping the new employees. Mrs. Radtke responded that stipends would be determined for the mentors. No fiscal amount has been determined to date, and this would be an issue to be addressed by the Task Force.

After review of the Gun-Free School Report, the Board directed the administration to seek information from the Department of Education related to JROTC programs, gun safety programs, biathlon programs, rifle teams, school sponsored gun shows and other programs of this nature currently conducted in school buildings and properties.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Swarner presented the financial report of the district for the period ending August 31, 1994.

GUESTS ACKNOWLEDGED:

Mr. Tauriainen acknowledged the presence of Representative Gail Phillips and Assembly Members Ronald Drathman and Drew Scalzi in attendance at the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items on the Consent Agenda were Approval of 1994-95 Teacher Assignments, Inservice Day Request, Resolution 94-95-2/ Section 125; and Grant Application.

1994-95 TEACHER
 ASSIGNMENTS:

Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve 1994-95 Teacher Assignments for Donna Campbell, Special Education/Resource/Educationally Handicapped, Soldotna Junior High; Lawrence Colston, Computers/Technology, Seward Jr/Sr High; Robert Darling, Generalist, Bartlett Elem/High; Sheila DeVolld, Library (3/4 time), Sears Elementary; Renee Estelle, Hearing Impaired, Districtwide; Steve Hackett, Science/Mathematics/Physical Education, Susan B. English Elem/High; Heidi Johnson, Special Education/Severe Education, Soldotna High; Colleen Johnston, Counselor, Kenai Middle; Carl Kittrell, Music/Counselor, Susan B. English Elem/High; Deborah Knaus, Music, Kenai Central High/Kenai Middle; Sandra Lambert, Music (half-time), Chapman Elementary; Tammy Massengill, Music (.6 time), Temporary, Tustumena Elementary; David Michael, Elementary, Port Graham Elem/High; Andrea Nelson, Special Education/Educationally Handicapped, Districtwide; Kent Peterson, Music (3/4 time), Skyview High; Susan Pfeiffenberger, Grades 4-5, Temporary, Seward Elementary; Patricia Taber, Science, Nikiski Jr/Sr High; Mickey Todd, Physical Education, Homer High; Robin Torassa, Hearing Impaired, Districtwide; Lisa Vrvilo, Language Arts, Kenai Middle; Julieanne Welles, Mathematics, Homer High; Colleen Wright, Special Education/Preschool, Sears Elementary; and Karen Brewer-Fair, Physical Education, Temporary, Mt. View Elementary.

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- INSERVICE DAY REQUEST: Mr. Thorpe recommended the Board approve an inservice release day for Mt. View Elementary on May 25, 1995, for the staff to evaluate the state funded class size grant and develop next year's plan.
- RESOLUTION 94-95-2, SECTION 125: Mr. Swarner recommended the Board approve Resolution 94-95-2 which officially authorized the Executive Director of Business Management to execute documents which may be necessary and appropriate for implementation of the Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan for the district.
- GRANT APPLICATION: Mr. Thorpe recommended the Board approve an application for a Goals 2000 School Improvement Planning Grant in the amount of \$4,990.
- ACTION Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Gross seconded.
 Motion carried unanimously.
- TENTATIVE NON-TENURE TEACHING ASSIGNMENT: Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve a tentative 1994-95 Non-Tenure Teacher Assignment for:
Nikiski Elementary
 Russell Lewis
- ACTION Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve the tentative non-tenure teacher assignment. Mr. Wiley seconded.
 Motion carried unanimously.
- SOLDOTNA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL NAME CHANGE: Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve the name change for Soldotna Junior High School to Soldotna Middle School. The name change request would then be forwarded to the Borough Assembly for final approval. He noted the school had fulfilled the transition to the middle school concept and the staff and parents of the school presented the name change request to the Board of Education.
- ACTION Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve the name change from Soldotna Junior High to Soldotna Middle School. Mr. Thibodeau seconded.
 Motion carried unanimously.

AASB RESOLUTIONS:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board take action to support the standing resolutions of the Association of Alaska School Boards. He noted the Board is also invited to send resolutions for consideration at the annual meeting held in November. Following discussion, the Board felt a worksession should be held prior to the October 3 meeting to review the resolutions and determine action on them.

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES
FOR PUBLIC/PRIVATE SCHOOL
COOPERATION:

Dr. Bromenschenkel presented administrative guidelines for part-time access to the public schools by students enrolled in regular education/correspondence and private school programs. In grades 7-12, these students would be allowed to take elective courses, pending space available, upon a parent's written request to the principal of the student's area of attendance. Final approval would be determined by the building administrator. He noted only 9-12 KPBSD correspondence students would be eligible to participate in co-curricular activities. Classes eligible to elementary students would be physical education, general music and band, on a space available basis.

Mrs. Gross stated she felt the guidelines should eventually become part of policy. Dr. Anderson commented he felt private school students should be encouraged to use public school core classes where there is space available. Mr. Wiley commented that currently students are not restricted to attend schools in their attendance area and wondered why the guidelines were restrictive to the attendance area for these students. Mr. Thorpe noted these are beginning guidelines to set in action manageable and consistent access to public schools. Dr. Bromenschenkel suggested the guidelines be approved now in order to respond to pending requests, and there would be a review of the guidelines at the end of the school year.

Mr. Dana Hofseth, Homer parent, commented he affirmed the direction of the Board for involving home schooled students. He felt there would be requests forthcoming for core classes. He strongly urged that home schooled children be allowed to participate in athletic activities.

Mr. Don Heckert, parent, questioned why the guidelines were limited to grades 9-12. He commented that students attend the alternative school's program when they enter school late and participate successfully in co-curricular activities. He urged the wording be modified to include "alternative schools program".

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES
FOR PUBLIC/PRIVATE SCHOOL
COOPERATION (continued):

Mr. David Brann, Homer teacher, commented that many classes are large and "maxed out". When distributing the information, he suggested that the teachers of the music and physical education classes which might be effected receive this information also. He had concerns that additional students might dramatically impact the classes. He noted the additional funding received for the private/home schooled students should go to the schools affected, rather than going into the general accounts for the district.

Mrs. Marti Krohn, Smokey Bay School administrator, noted some students have participated in music, sport activities, Spanish, chorus and band, and auto tech. in the Homer schools for many years. She felt the public schools should work with private schools and spoke in support of the guidelines in order for the private schools to be able to address their needs and vice versa. She felt sports should be extended to grades 7-12.

Mrs. Michelle Atkinson, parent of a Smokey Bay School student, expressed concern that her son was no longer able to participate in band as first chair musician this year. She urged that private school students not be denied participation in public school classes.

Mr. Paul Sayan, KPEA President, posed questions related to co-curricular funding, class size, and student eligibility. He noted he was happy the guidelines addressed class size/space availability. He felt the funds generated for the additional students should be used to relieve the overburdened areas.

Mrs. Sherry Stevers, Homer parent, expressed appreciation on the cooperation with the schools for home schooling her students. She commented the guidelines were a good starting point for the education of the home schooled students.

Ms. Amy Darwin, Smokey Bay School graduate, commented that she participated in band at Homer High School while attending Smokey Bay School, and would like to see the practice continued to the benefit of the private school students. She stated she would like to see involvement in sports activities included in the guidelines.

Mr. Todd Krohn, Smokey Bay student, stated he was disappointed he was not able to participate in choir at Homer High School this year. He felt all private school and home school students should have access to any classes they desire which are not provided in their schools.

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES
FOR PUBLIC/PRIVATE SCHOOL
COOPERATION (continued):

Mrs. Ruth Dickerson, parent, felt home schooled and private school students should be allowed attendance in core classes. She felt the school district would benefit financially by attendance of these students in the schools. She stated parents would appreciate participation in sports activities.

Mrs. Guyline Rogers, parent, commented that six parents volunteer for the sixth grade extracurricular activities. She felt there should be funding for more coaches with additional students participating in these activities.

Mrs. Francis Darling, parent of Smokey Bay School student, stated she felt private school students should be allowed access to public school classes because the parents pay taxes to support the public school system.

Mr. Pat Case, parent, commented education is important to all children, but noted funding is done by a formula. He noted where a few students might not impact a class, more students would drastically impact the classes. He stated the funding generated from additional students should be addressed as it relates to distribution back to the schools. He commented there is a safety issue involved in additional students in extracurricular programs.

ACTION

Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve the guidelines as presented. Mr. Thibodeau seconded.

Dr. Anderson questioned AASA regulations as they relate to participation in extracurricular activities. Mr. Dahlgren responded AASA regulations prohibit participation by private schools, home schooled and those organizations not authorized by AASA with paid membership into the organization.

Dr. Bromenschenkel commented the intent of the guidelines was to define a process for these people to have access to the curriculum. Other areas could to be addressed later.

ACTION

Dr. Anderson moved to amend the motion that the School Board supports inclusion of students from home schools, private schools, and correspondence students in all aspects of the general curriculum consistent with state law and rules. In high demand classes full time students would have first priority. We direct the administration to use the administrative guidelines for access to public schools pending board review. Mr. Wiley seconded.

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ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES
FOR PUBLIC/PRIVATE SCHOOL
COOPERATION (continued):

Mrs. Gross, with approval of the second of the motion, withdrew the main motion.

Dr. Anderson's motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTIONAL
TECHNOLOGY POSITION:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board authorize the administration to establish a position of Director of Instructional Technology, which would be needed to implement the strategic plan for providing general guidance to the development of instructional technology within the district. He noted this was discussed with the Board during the goal setting session.

Mr. Mike Chitty, Nikoleavsk teacher, expressed concern that it was his understanding during the strategic planning process last year that funding would not go toward the creation of new positions.

Mr. Pat Case stated there was an overall feeling in the development of the strategic plan that things would be implemented but funding dollars were not attached. He noted a great deal of discussion was generated on technology, but it was understood that new positions would not be opened, especially in the administrative area. Dr. Bromenschenkel responded that a central office position remains vacant following a resignation earlier this year. He noted it was important to follow the strategic plan to move the district forward. He noted spending might be different than in previous years, but would be used in new ways to make the changes needed to develop a technology plan and move forward.

Mrs. Karen Mahurin, KPESA Chairperson, expressed concern related to the strategic plan and how it should be implemented and funded. She noted she was part of the budget process and strategic planning process where assurances were given. She noted there are tutors and support employees whose hours have been reduced which could be restored to help deliver services to students from funds remaining for the vacant grants position.

ACTION

Mrs. Gross moved the Board approve the Director of Instructional Technology Position. Mr. Arness seconded.

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTIONAL
TECHNOLOGY POSITION
(continued):

Mrs. Gross spoke in support of the position, and noted it is impossible to coordinate the district's 35 schools without the supervision of a director. She felt there should be consistent direction for the district from a person in charge of that responsibility. She was pleased that this would be a replacement position. Mr. Arness commented that years ago the Board recognized the importance of technology in the district to prepare students for the future. He felt this was the best way to implement those plans.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR RESIGNATIONS:

Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve resignations effective the end of the 1994-95 school year for Dr. Richard Krieger, Principal, Homer High; Robert Macaulay, Assistant Principal, Homer High; and Larry Nauta, Principal, Redoubt Elementary. He also recommended the Board approve the resignation of Thomas Thorpe, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Instruction, effective August 7, 1995.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve the administrator resignations as presented. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Steve Gibson commented he had participated on the strategic plan and on the school based decision making committee in prior years. He expressed concern that the district is stepping backwards with the make up of the committee. He felt there should be more equitable representation of parents, community and students. He noted the number of principals and central office staff should be reduced on the committee.

Mr. Paul Sayan told the Board the site based committee did not include members from the chambers of commerce, and there should be more representation of teachers, support staff, parents, and chambers of commerce, while reducing the number of administrators on the committee.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mr. Thibodeau questioned when the Board would get their student representative. Mr. Dahlgren noted the student representative would be selected at the district student council meeting on October 5.

He commented he was displeased with the negative Letters to the Editor related to the bond proposal for the new Homer elementary school.

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BOARD COMMENTS (continued): Mr. Wiley expressed concern related to the Gun-Free Schools issue and felt the district was handling the cases appropriately, but the federal government is taking away control of the schools. He felt the curriculum should teach students how to use guns safely.

Dr. Anderson urged that the physical education requirement for graduation be considered during a future worksession.

Mrs. Gross told the audience it was important that Homer residents contact others in the borough to spread the word about the Homer school on the bond issue.

She expressed concern on the number of parents on committees which was the sole reason for Site Based Decision Making.

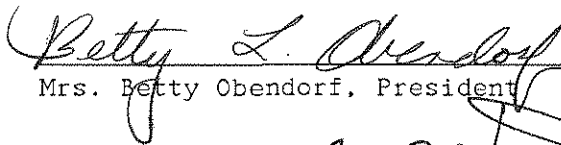
Mr. Tauriainen announced the next School Board Meeting would be held at Seward High School on October 3.

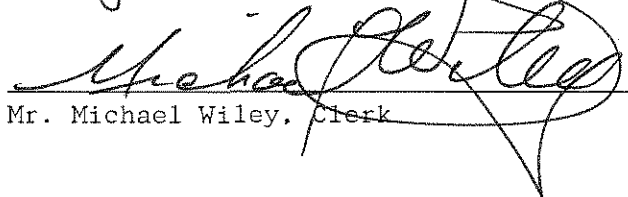
ADJOURN:

At 10:53 p.m., Dr. Anderson moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Gross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mrs. Betty Obendorf, President


Mr. Michael Wiley, Clerk

The Minutes of September 19, 1994,
were approved on October 3, 1994,
as written.