
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

April 21, 2003 - 7:30 p.m.
Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent

Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley
Soldotna, Alaska

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: A special School Board meeting was held on April 11, 2003. The Board convened an executive session to discuss litigation. The Board approved a list of resignations, requests for sabbatical leave, a recommendation for the disbursement of remaining bond funds, the list of 2003-2004 tentative board meeting dates, the Kenai Peninsula Education Association Negotiated Agreement, and the Kenai Peninsula Education Support Association Negotiated Agreement. The Board heard a first reading of Board Policy 5145.31, Students in Transition (Homelessness).

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS: The Board presented Spirit of Youth Awards to Miss Rachel Kastner, Miss Kaitlin Vadla, and Mr. Eric Fischer. Miss Heather Drake was also a recipient but was not present.

The Board presented golden apple awards to Mrs. Shirley Gifford, Soldotna High volunteer; Mr. Mark Tuter, Soldotna High Community Schools coordinator; Mr. Pat Nolden, Soldotna High teacher; Mrs. Mae Hughes, Sears Elementary volunteer; Mrs. Teresa Kiffmeyer, Districtwide teacher, and Mrs. Debbie Stewart, Public Relations and Recruitment Officer, Human Resources; for their service to the District.

SCHOOL REPORT: Mr. Sean Dusek, Soldotna High School principal, gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the school goals, recent accreditation process, high school qualifying exam results, TERRA NOVA results, music programs, student activities and competitions, technology (webcasting and video conferencing classes), drama productions, communications with public and parents, athletic accomplishments, and recognized staff members who had received various awards. Miss Jennifer McCard introduced the Mock Trial team (Pehr Hartvigson, Jennifer McCard, Mark McCartan, Haley Smith, Justin Johnson, Ryan Myers, Matthew Meacham) and reported that the team won the state competition and will travel to New Orleans, Louisiana to compete at the national level. The team is coached by LaDawn Druce and Eric Soderquist with assistance from Mr. Dolifka and Judge Cranston. The Swing Choir sang "America the Beautiful" directed by Mrs. Trudy Peterson.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS: Dr. Peterson presented a report from the Career and Technical Blue Ribbon Task Force with assistance from Mr. Harry Lockwood, Mr. Sam Stewart, Mr. Dale Moon, Mr. Sal Mattero and Mr. Joe Donahue.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Peterson reported that information regarding comprehensive schools will be posted on the Instruction Department page of the District website. Dr. Peterson reported that a program to address low achievement in reading was piloted at Nikiski Elementary and North Star Elementary schools. She reported that the Districtwide inservice has been canceled for the 2003-2004 school year. She reported that the June 3 Board planning session will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the superintendent's office.

Financial Report: Mrs. Douglas presented the financial report of the District for the periods ending February 28 and March 31, 2003.

Budget Transfer Report: Mrs. Douglas reported on third quarter budget transfers Numbers 147 through 320 for various schools and departments within the District.

Consolidation of Schools Update: Dr. Peterson presented the Consolidation of Schools Update which included recommendations for Board consideration regarding small school (under 200 students) and larger schools (over 200 students). The report also included recommendations for closure of Hope School and the consolidation of Nikiski Elementary and North Star Elementary schools.

Budget Transfer Numbers 176 and 347: The Board unanimously approved budget transfer number 176 for \$81,183 to pay for a foreign language program for Aurora Borealis Charter School and budget transfer number 347 for \$64,882 to pay for Student Nutrition Services baking supplies and for \$15,408 to make a payment on the Point of Sale system for recording sales.

Requests for Leave of Absence-Support: The Board unanimously approved unpaid leave of absence requests for Michelle Gabriel, school secretary III, Soldotna Elementary (effective the 2003-2004 school year); and Dawn Stetz, administrative secretary, Instruction Office (effective June 5, 2003).

Long-term Substitute Contracts: The Board unanimously approved long-term substitute teacher contracts for Thomas Rhyner, physical education, Mountain View Elementary; and Karl Kircher, reading teacher, Soldotna Middle School; and Sherry Burt, English, Susan B. English Elementary/High School.

Tenure Teacher Assignments: The Board unanimously approved a tentative tenure teacher assignment for the 2003-2004 school year for Heather Lindquist and Jerry Dixon.

Resignation: The Board unanimously approved a resignation, effective April 14, 2003, from Janette Cadieux-Lexmond, physical therapist (currently on year's leave of absence from Soldotna Elementary).

Requests for Leave of Absence-CERTIFIED: The Board unanimously approved unpaid leave of absence requests for Ken Meacham, Redoubt Elementary principal, and Shari Meacham, Soldotna Middle School special education teacher.

FY04 Budget: The Board approved the FY04 Operating Fund budget of \$72,509,508 and the total budget for all funds of \$89,270,459.

POLICY REVISION: The Board unanimously approved the adoption of BP 5145.31, Students in Transition (Homelessness).

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, May 5, 2003, 7:30 p.m., **Seward High School, Seward, Alaska.**

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