

Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Board of Education Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2004 – 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting

Seward High School
2100 Swetmann, Seward, Alaska

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Sammy Crawford, President
Ms. Sandra Wassilie, Vice President
Mrs. Debra Mullins, Clerk
Mrs. Margaret Gilman, Treasurer
Ms. Deborah Germano
Dr. Nels Anderson
Mrs. Debbie Brown
Mr. Marty Anderson
Mrs. Sunni Hilts
Mr. DJ Tyson, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Melody Douglas, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Sam Stewart, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Guy Fisher, Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Mark Norgren	Mrs. Cathy Carrow
Mr. Wayne Young	Mr. Tim Peterson
Mr. Dave Diekgraeff	Mr. Steve Pautz
Mr. David Kingsland	Mr. John Cote
Ms. Lynn Hohl	

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mrs. Sammy Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mrs. Sammy Crawford invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Ms. Deborah Germano	Present
Mrs. Margaret Gilman	Present
Mrs. Debra Mullins	Absent/Excused
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Ms. Sandra Wassilie	Present
Mrs. Debbie Brown	Absent/Unexcused
Mr. Marty Anderson	Present
Mrs. Sunni Hilts	Present
Mr. DJ Tyson	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved with the addition of Item 10a(2), Leave of Absence Request-Support.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board Minutes of October 18, 2004, were approved as printed.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS: The Board presented a Golden Apple Award to Mr. Dave Diekgraeff who accepted on behalf of METCO, Inc. for donating time and equipment to reconstruct cross-country trails for the Seward High School cross-country running team.

SCHOOL REPORT:

Mr. Mark Norgren, Hope Elementary/High School administrator, gave a computer-generated presentation highlighting the benefits of a small school setting, and staff development and collaboration opportunities. He introduced Ms. Lennie Yoter, teacher, who reported on staff, students, programs and activities at Hope Elementary/High School. Students, Miss Ashley Motoyama and Miss Luisa Yoter, read quotes from Babe Ruth and Thomas Edison as part of a literature project.

Mr. Mark Norgren, Moose Pass Elementary School administrator introduced Rachel Roemhildt, teacher, who reported on student schedules, parental involvement, and classroom instruction. Ms. Leanne Marlow, teacher, reported on content area integration and introduced Miss Lindsey Kromrey, student, who reported on the construction of the Alaska pipeline and Miss Laura Kromrey who reported on gold mining in Alaska as part of an Alaska studies unit. Mr. Mark Kromrey, Moose Pass Elementary SBDM president and parent, spoke in support of the multi-age classroom and small schools.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Ms. Carol Griswold, Seward parent, urged the Board to support recycling education and action in all Borough schools. She asked the Board to support healthy eating habits among students by providing nutritious food for lunch and snacks including the vending machines, and to support the future of the Seward Middle and High School art program. She asked the Board to enforce the school drug-free zone by any legal means, including using a drug-sniffing dog. She commended Ms. Germano for running for state office and reminded those present to vote in the upcoming election.

Ms. Debbie Bond, Boys and Girls Program director, reported on the after-school academic program, and thanked Dr. Peterson, superintendent, District administration, and Mr. Kingsland, Seward Elementary principal, for allowing the program to be housed at Seward Elementary.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

Mrs. Lynn Hohl reported on the Seward Seahawk Baseball program and summarized the team's accomplishments and listed the difficulties of the 2004 season. She distributed a page of pictures from the past season.

Ms. Germano asked if the baseball group has submitted an application to compete in the upcoming season. Mrs. Hohl responded that the group is currently working on the application.

Mrs. Hohl read a response to Mr. Pautz's end-of-the-year report and noted that the baseball group received a letter from Kenai Peninsula Student Activities Association indicating that they had concerns about the team's ability to compete.

Mrs. Gilman asked if the date of last season's region tournament was rescheduled to another date. Mrs. Hohl stated that the baseball group was notified on May 18 and that the tournament would be May 27, the same day as Seward High School's graduation. Mrs. Hohl responded to Mrs. Gilman's second question that there may have been a mistake or a date change on the email that was sent to school athletic directors.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Peterson reported that parent-teacher conferences were well attended. She reported that 18 administrators attended the state principal's conference and noted that Mick Wykis was honored as the 2004 Distinguished Principal by the Alaska Association of Elementary School Principals. She reported that the administration has had positive discussions regarding facility needs at Kachemak Selo.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Crawford reported that Mrs. Gilman attended each of the Budget Review Committee meetings. Mrs. Crawford reported that she attended a Project GRAD meeting in Nikolaevsk and commented that the Project has completed its first year and has provided professional development, raised money for student scholarships, and is working hard to improve student achievement levels and aspirations.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Two items were presented on the Consent Agenda, Approval of New Teacher Assignment and Leave of Absence Request-Support.

New Teacher Assignment:

Mr. Fisher recommended the Board approve a new teacher assignment for Deborah Jacobson, physical science teacher .40 FTE (temporary) at Homer High School.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST-SUPPORT:

Mr. Fisher recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence request from Mr. Justin George, III, Soldotna High head custodian.

MOTION

Ms. Wassilie moved the Board approve items Number 1 and 2.
Ms. Germano seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS:

The Board heard a first reading of proposed revisions to BP 1321, Solicitation of Funds from and by Students. Mrs. Douglas stated that the revision is required in order for the District to be in compliance with newly adopted state administrative code (15 AAC 160.020(a)(5)) regarding gaming.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Dr. Anderson commended Ms. Germano for her candidacy for the legislature. He stated that it is a pleasure to come to Seward. He expressed appreciation for the school presentations. He urged those present to vote in the upcoming election.

Mrs. Gilman thanked Mr. Norgren for the school presentations, and suggested that the Moose Pass Elementary students give a presentation to educate the public about drilling for oil on the Alaska Native Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). She thanked Ms. Griswold for her comments regarding recycling and student nutrition. She stated that she is glad that the state PTA is supporting health food choices in public schools. She encouraged those present to vote against Proposition 2 which would legalize the use of marijuana.

BOARD COMMENTS:

(continued)

Ms. Germano thanked Mr. Norgren, the students, staff and parents for the school presentations. She noted that the presentations reminded her of how great the District is because of the diversity of the schools. She thanked those present for their attendance. She noted that, should she be elected to the legislature she will resign immediately, so the Board can choose a replacement who can participate in the budget process.

Mr. DJ Tyson thanked Mr. Norgren, for the Hope Elementary School and Moose Pass School presentations and compared them to his school of 500 students. He stated that despite their enrollment size the students are receiving an incredible education.

Mr. Anderson thanked Mr. Norgren for his school presentations; he thanked the Seward community for hosting the Board meeting. He wished Ms. Germano good luck in the upcoming election and noted that she would be an excellent legislator.

Ms. Wassilie congratulated the Seward High School cross-country running team and thanked Mr. Dave Diekgraeff for his volunteerism throughout the years. She congratulated Jacqueline Van Driessche and Jong Kim for a successful swim season that will allow them the right to compete at the state swimming meet. She noted that Miss Van Driessche was selected as the Region III most valuable swimmer. She thanked principals who are posting school newsletters online. She expressed appreciation for comments in the Nikiski Middle/High School newsletter made by Mr. John Owens regarding the recent football season and what can be learned by being part of a team, and a comment in the Skyview High School newsletter made by Mr. John Pothast, who wrote about value of communicating with children at the dinner table. She stated that research conducted by the University of Michigan states that parents who discuss social issues and model voting and are involved civically, tend to have children who do not have behavior problems. She stated that on October 19 she attended a Fetal Alcohol Syndrome workshop that dealt with its impact on communities. She thanked Ms. Griswold for articulating her issues. She stated that she is supportive of Mrs. Gilman's comments regarding the Board's support for healthy student nutrition in District schools.

Mrs. Hilts thanked those present for their attendance. She expressed appreciation for the school reports. She reported that in the past she taught in a multi-age classroom and added that Susan B. English Elementary/High School classroom configurations are similar. She expressed appreciation for the public presentations about the good things that are happening in the community. She noted that the Boys and Girls Club operates a club program in Seldovia and added that the homework program is a big reason why the students are successful. She wished the baseball team good luck and echoed the comments regarding the need for good nutrition in schools. She wished good luck to Ms. Germano in the upcoming election and noted that she will take her grandsons with her to vote and urged others to take their children. She stated that the Board needs to keep reminding people that the best resource in the United States is the children.

BOARD COMMENTS:

(continued)

Mrs. Crawford thanked Mr. Norgren for the school presentations, and thanked the citizens of Seward for attending the meeting. She wished Ms. Germano good luck in the upcoming election and stated that the State of Alaska's gain is the School Board's loss if Ms. Germano is elected to the legislature.

ADJOURN:

(PM)

At 8:19 p.m., Ms. Germano moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Sammy Crawford, President

Mrs. Debra Mullins, Clerk

The Minutes of November 1, 2004,
were approved on November 15, 2004.
with corrections.