

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Borough Administration Building
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

February 5, 1996

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, President
Mr. Joe Arness, Vice President
Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk
Mr. Emery Thibodeau, Treasurer
Dr. Nels Anderson, Member
Mrs. Joyce Fischer, Member
Mrs. Deborah Germano, Member
Miss Aubrey Robinson, Student Representative

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Gifford Mr. Jim Dawson
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Dunn Ms. Debra Sanders
Mr. Jim Simeroth Mrs. Becky Epperson
Mr. Red Smith Mrs. Vickie Leach
Ms. Melissa DeVaughn Mr. Todd Syverson
Mrs. Pam Lazenby Mrs. Jana Robinson
Mrs. Karen Mahurin Mrs. Colleen Ward
Mr. Timothy Navarre Mr. Kurt Haider
Mr. Paul Fischer Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Gross called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mrs. Gross invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross Present
Mr. Joe Arness Present
Mrs. Susan Larned Present
Mr. Emery Thibodeau Present
Dr. Nels Anderson Present
Mrs. Joyce Fischer Present
Mrs. Deborah Germano Absent - Excused
Miss Aubrey Robinson Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The School Board Minutes of January 22, 1996, were approved as written.

MT. VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT: Mr. Jim Dawson, Principal of Mt. View Elementary School, and the student council reported to the Board on activities taking place at their school. Their presentation included reports from each student council member, a video presentation which was prepared by the staff and students, and the school cheer.

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- RECESS: At 7:50 p.m., Mrs. Gross called a recess.
- RECONVENE AFTER RECESS: At 7:55 p.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.
- PUBLIC PRESENTATION: Mr. Red Smith told the Board he and his daughter had re-filed mining claims in an effort to gain access to agricultural lime. This is done in an effort to bring resources to the local residents by reducing costs and increasing revenues. He also reported meeting with the new forestry supervisor who is supportive of increased educational revenues, and in turn would need some demonstrative support from the school board.
- COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS: Mrs. Gross noted receipt of communications from Mary Goth who wrote to the legislature related to funding for education; a letter from Soldotna Middle School PTSA requesting Board approval of the SBDM waiver; from the Tustumena Site Council writing that the staff needed more technology training; from Eric Landenburger who wrote complimenting Seward High School in allowing students to take classes at AV-Tech and the benefits obtained by the students from this; and from Mr. Paul Seaton, Homer resident, who wrote on priorities for reductions in the 1996-97 budget.
- KPESA: Mrs. Karen Mahurin, KPESA President, expressed disappointment that the school board had refused to sign a joint letter from the Kenai Peninsula Education Association, Kenai Peninsula Educational Support Association, and District Office Administration related to mutually agreed upon legislation. She noted that one of the school board goals was to improve relationships between the employees which is being accomplished through the Professional Leadership Forum. During a recent meeting of this group, with board representation, these items were agreed upon to support in a written communication to the legislators. However, during the worksession in the afternoon the board representative did not desire to sign for the school board.
- Mrs. Gross commented that the board expressed concern on their role, and that she could sign for herself, but this would not be binding for the entire board.
- KPESA (continued): Mrs. Mahurin responded that it was her understanding that the persons representing the various groups were speaking on behalf of their organizations in a unified voice. If this was not the intent, then the representatives were not on the same "playing field."
- SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Bromenschenkel presented information that had been prepared by Mr. Red Smith and presented to the Board at their January 22 meeting. This issue is related to seeking educational funding from stumpage in federal forests.
- BOARD REPORTS: Mr. Thibodeau reported he attended the Vocational Advisory Committee Meeting on January 29 at Nikiski High School. He gave a brief report on agenda items discussed. He noted the Vocational Student Leadership District Conference will be held at Kenai Peninsula College on February 23.
- Mrs. Fischer reported the Health Curriculum Committee will meet on February 6 and 7.
- CONSENT AGENDA: Items presented on the Consent Agenda included Approval of Resignations, Furniture and Equipment List, Ninilchik Van Purchase, and Extended Field Trip Request.

- RESIGNATIONS: Mrs. Radtke recommended the Board approve resignations from Susan Mumma, English/Art, Susan B. English Elem/High, effective January 31, 1996; and from Robin Torassa, Special Education/Hearing Impaired, Districtwide, effective May 24, 1996.
- TUSTUMENA FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT LIST: Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve the purchase of furniture and equipment for the Tustumena Elementary School addition in the amount of \$734.64.
- NINILCHIK VAN PURCHASE: Mr. Dahlgren recommended the Board approve the purchase of a van for Ninilchik Elem/High School in the amount of \$27,923.
- EXTENDED FIELD TRIP REQUEST: Mr. Thorpe recommended the Board approve an extended field trip request for 11 Seward High School students to travel to Washington, D.C., May 4-11, 1996, to participate in Close-up Program activities.
- Mr. Arness moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda. Dr. Anderson seconded.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- BUDGET TRANSFER: Mr. Swarner recommended the Board approve Budget Transfer #000383 in the amount of \$623,730 for the purchase of equipment for schools within the district.
- ACTION Dr. Anderson moved the Board approve the budget transfer. Mr. Thibodeau seconded.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- POLICIES 3000/BUSINESS AND NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS: Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve Policy series 3000, Business and Noninstructional Operations. He noted the policies had been reviewed in two worksessions and would be effective July 1, 1996. Appropriate adjustments had been made as directed by the Board.

Mr. Jim Simeroth, KPEA President, called the Board's attention to Policy 3541.1, School-related Trips, and use of rental vans where employees are required to have \$100,000 liability insurance. He noted the van rentals do not provide the supplemental insurance which is normally available for automobile rentals. He stated that some insurance companies may not provide the supplemental insurance in personal coverage. He felt it was a serious matter to look at when teachers are transporting students on field trips, etc.

He expressed concern on the van purchase made earlier in the meeting, especially as it related to vehicle specifications and insurance coverage for these vehicles.

Mr. Simeroth noted Policy 4020, Drug and Alcohol-free Workplace, addressed the workplace, however, the last paragraph did not speak to the workplace. He questioned whether an employee is required to report a DWI which was received on vacation in another state, and whether this was stated in law.

He expressed concern on Policy 4218 (b), articles 12 and 13, Classified Employees, which are vague and subject to interpretation. He further noted that article 21 addresses good behavior of employees including outside duty hours. He questioned why the board would include this, or what the behavior would be.

Mrs. Mahurin expressed concern related to BP 3342, Payroll, and the paragraph on withholding an employee's last month paycheck until required reports are submitted. She noted that wage and hour laws require that classified employees be paid within an allocated time. Mr. Swarner responded that language in the negotiated agreement addresses this concern.

POLICIES 3000/BUSINESS AND
NONINSTRUCTIONAL
OPERATIONS (continued):

Mrs. Radtke added that the negotiated agreement states the district is obligated to prepare the payroll within 48 hours of issuance of the termination notice. Mrs. Mahurin suggested that the policy should differentiate between the groups of employees which would be affected by this paragraph.

Mr. Tim Navarre, borough assembly member, questioned whether borough maintained roads should be added to Policy BP 3543.1, Hazardous Bus Routes, and whether the commissioner of education approved hazardous bus routes. Mr. Dahlgren responded that since 50% of the hazardous bus routes are funded by the state, the commissioner of education must approve the hazardous bus routes.

Mr. Swarner responded to the liability question in Board Policy 3541.1. He commented the policy is written correctly, and the policy does not speak to rented vehicles. He noted that according to insurance company coverage, when an individual provides transportation in their privately owned vehicle, the owner's policy is the primary insurer and the district's policy is the secondary provider. In district-owned vehicles, the district's/borough's policy is the primary policy. If a school rents a vehicle, it is in the district's name, and the district is the primary insurer. Mr. Simeroth requested this coverage status be placed in writing so the teachers will know their position as far as insurance is concerned. He expressed concern where teachers are renting the van themselves, not in the name of the school district, and this could place them in a risk situation. On clarification by Mrs. Fischer, Mr. Swarner stated that if a private individual's insurance did not cover the liability requirements, then the district's coverage would then pick up the coverage.

- ACTION Mr. Arness moved the Board approve Policies 3000. Dr. Anderson seconded.
- ACTION Dr. Anderson amended the motion to add "borough" to policy 3543.1. Mrs. Fischer seconded.
- Mr. Dahlgren explained the district does not run routes on borough maintained roads unless it is in the best interest of the students, and safety issues such as turnarounds, etc. must be considered. He did not advise including the wording in the policy. He noted if this was included in the policy, the district would be paying additional in-lieu of transportation payments within the district.
- Amendment withdrawn.
- ACTION Mr. Thibodeau moved to amend AR 3343 to change \$37.00 to \$25.00 for daily meal allowances. Dr. Anderson seconded.
- Amendment carried unanimously.
- VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:
- YES - Anderson, Arness, Larned, Thibodeau, Gross
NO - Fischer
Advisory Vote - YES
- Amended motion carried.
- SEWARD SCHOOLS SBDM WAIVER: Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve the Seward Schools waiver for one SBDM Council for the two schools in Seward. He noted a communication from Mr. Dieckgraeff, Seward PAC President, and other supporting data was included for Board information.
- ACTION Mrs. Fischer moved the Board approve the waiver for the Seward Schools SDBM Council as outlined in the school board packet. Dr. Anderson seconded.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- SOLDOTNA HIGH SCHOOL SBDM WAIVER: Dr. Bromenschenkel recommended the Board approve Soldotna High School's school based decision making request. The request would add an additional student to the council.
- ACTION Mrs. Fischer moved the Board approve Soldotna High School's site based decision making waiver as outlined in the school board packets. Mrs. Larned seconded.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- RECONSIDERATION/SOLDOTNA MIDDLE SCHOOL SBDM WAIVER: ACTION Mrs. Fischer moved the Board reconsider Soldotna Middle School's school based decision making waiver. Mr. Arness seconded.
- Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION

Motion reconsidered "Dr. Anderson moved the Board grant the Soldotna Middle School a two-year waiver on the current proposal, with a review later. Mrs. Fischer seconded."

Motion carried unanimously.

SECOND READING/POLICIES
4000, PERSONNEL:

Mrs. Gross noted the second reading of Policies 4000, Personnel, was presented for comments.

SECOND READING/POLICIES
4000, PERSONNEL (cont.):

Mrs. Karen Mahurin, KPESA President, expressed concern on Policy E 4020, Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace. She commented she totally supported the concept and recognized there are federal laws for drug-free schools, but was concerned if an employee did something off-duty, other than an employee with a commercial license which would affect his/her driving ability. She also expressed concern on BP 4112.6, Personnel Records, that personnel records shall be made available for inspection by the employee at an off-duty time. Since regular employee hours and central office hours are the same, she questioned how this would be possible. She felt this was confusing, and needed to be clarified.

Mrs. Mahurin called attention to AR 4119.25, Political Activities of Employees. She questioned whether this would affect Mock Conventions held at school, whether this would affect funding meetings and issues that are held in schools, whether the associations are prohibited from promoting or informing their members on political candidates that have been endorsed, or any political action toward proposed legislation.

She also expressed concern on BP 4218(b), "failure of good behavior during or outside of the duty hours..." She stated she felt uncomfortable about this until a clear definition was given. She felt this was a civil rights issue.

In response to Policy E 4020, Mrs. Radtke commented that this is stipulated in the law.

SECOND READING/5000,
STUDENTS:

Mrs. Gross noted that policy section 5000, Students, was presented for second reading.

Mrs. Karen Mahurin, KPESA President, expressed concern related to BP 5151.21, Administering Medication, and the section on anaphylactic injections. She noted this is a continuing concern of the school secretaries where they give medications when the school nurse is not on site. She questioned whether employees can refuse to be required to have the training to administer medications. She stated the wording in the policy put a lot of responsibility on the employees.

SECOND READING/POLICY
6187/CHARTER SCHOOLS:

Mrs. Gross presented Policy 6187, Charter Schools, for second reading.

FIRST READING/POLICIES
7000/NEW CONSTRUCTION:

Mrs. Gross presented Policy section 7000, New Construction, for first reading.

FIRST READING/POLICIES
8000/SCHOOL BASED DECISION
MAKING:

Mrs. Gross presented policy section 8000, School Based Decision Making, for first reading.

FIRST READING/POLICIES
9000/BYLAWS OF THE BOARD:

Mrs. Gross presented policy section 9000, Bylaws of the Board, for first reading.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Miss Robinson stated that she was pleased the School Based Decision Making Wavier for Soldotna Middle School was approved. It was her opinion that this should have been approved two weeks ago.

Mrs. Fischer requested a resolution on the forestry issue be written for school funding. The Board concurred with the request. Dr. Bromenschenkel advised that he would work with Mrs. Fischer on this.

Mrs. Fischer and other school Board members congratulated Nikiski High School on its state basketball championship. Lee Moore and Ward Romans were congratulated on how well they represented the district. Congratulations were also extended to the girl's basketball team for their outstanding GPA.

Mr. Thibodeau made a second request to place the mission statement on the school board packet cover. The Board concurred with the request.

Mr. Thibodeau stated it was his opinion that the school board should not take a position on forestry issues.

Dr. Anderson noted the Ninilchik Girl's Basketball team did exceptionally well this year.

He noted that Soldotna High School's Swing Choir banquet will be held on February 20. He urged the Board to attend this activity following the budget sessions on that day.

Mrs. Gross stated she was pleased with the accomplishments of district students, both academically and athletically. She congratulated all state champions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 8:50 p.m., Dr. Anderson moved the Board go into executive session to discuss matters, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finance of the Borough. Mr. Arness seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:30 p.m., Mr. Arnes moved the executive session be adjourned. Dr. Anderson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

At 10:31 p.m., Dr. Anderson moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Arness seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross, President

Mrs. Susan Larned, Clerk

The Minutes of February 5, 1996,
were approved on February 19, 1996,
as written.