
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

March 4, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent

Borough Administration Building - 148 N. Binkley
Soldotna, Alaska

WORKSESSION REPORT: The Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included Board Policy, Budget/Staffing Update, Special Education Update, and Soldotna Area Schools. In addition, the Board held a conference call with Kenai Peninsula legislators and an executive session.

SCHOOL REPORT: Mrs. Teri Diamond, Soldotna Elementary School principal, recognized the school staff members in attendance and expressed appreciation for the dedication and hard work of the entire school staff. She discussed the school's mission, the need for a team effort, partnerships with families and the community, good communication and fun. She explained the schools' goals and stated that the focus this year is on collaboration and increasing family involvement. Miss Clara Moore, Mr. Tim Cashman, Miss Auree Sorensen, and Miss Cierra Ritchie (students), presented a video that they had designed that highlighted the school's sports, activities, After the Bell program, Disability Awareness Day, Science Night, Robotics, Reading Counts, community visitors and volunteers, Love of Reading month, foster grandparents program, and technology. Mrs. Diamond discussed opportunities for students including the music program, introduced Mr. Tor Dahl, music teacher, and the after school rhythm choir (composed of students from Soldotna Elementary and Soldotna Montessori schools) which sang the song *Doktor Eisenbart*. Mrs. Diamond concluded by thanking the Board for the opportunity to present.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Atwater stated that tentative agreements have been reached with KPEA and KPESA. He thanked the District, teachers and support staff negotiation teams for their hard work and dedication (including Mrs. Terry Tidwell) and stated that he would like to work with the Board and the union representatives in order to explore ways to improve the negotiation process. He reported that the Seward Middle School community is currently discussing a reconfiguration that would move 6th grade students to the middle school. He announced that the District has entered into a contract with Mr. Tony Jefferson of Southern California, to be the District webmaster, stated that contracting these services will save the District money, that this process is working well, and thanked Mr. Jim White and Miss Pegge Erkeneff for their work during this process. He thanked the audience for attending, thanked those that testified and stated that, although there was some misinformation presented, he is hopeful that this will soon be corrected. He announced that Mr. Dylan Faulkner (Homer High School), Mr. Samuel Reinert (Homer High School), Miss Annaleah Ernst (Nikiski Middle/High School), and Mr. David Swedberg (Soldotna High School) are candidates for the United States Presidential Scholars Program. He congratulated Mr. Jersey Truesdell for winning the Elks Hoop Shoot competition for Alaska and for the Northwest Region for boys age 10-11, and stated that Mr. Truesdell will soon compete in the national competition.

2012-13 NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved new teacher contracts for Tracy Brown, Temporary (.80 FTE) School Psychologist, Central Peninsula Area, and Jasmine Woodhead, Temporary Elementary Language Arts Teacher/Interventionist, Chapman School.

2013-14 TENTATIVE TENURE TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved a list of tentative tenure teacher contracts for the 2013-14 school year.

RESIGNATIONS: The Board unanimously approved resignations from Pauline Demas, Nanwalek School; Adrian Hurst, Seward Elementary School; Sharon Schulz, Paul Banks Elementary School; and Amy Ware, Paul Banks Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION REGARDING LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/CERTIFIED: The Board unanimously approved the administrative recommendation that the leave of absence request for Marianne Kasch, Kaleidoscope School of Arts and Science, be denied.

2012-2013 LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved long-term substitute contracts for Maria Chythlook, Sterling Elementary School and Carol Conant, Seward Elementary School.

BUDGET TRANSFER: The Board unanimously approved budget transfer Number 805 in the amount of \$53,662, to move funds to the appropriate school accounts for the purchase of Language Arts and Health curriculum materials.

RESOLUTION 12-13-5 MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH: The Board unanimously approved Resolution 12-13-5 proclaiming March 2013 as Music in Our Schools Month.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST/SUPPORT: The Board unanimously approved an unpaid leave of absence request for Nancy Spooner, Transportation Coordinator, effective February 16, 2013 to May 15, 2013.

POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS: The Board unanimously approved revisions to AR 0200 Goals for the School District, BP 3513 Tobacco-Free Schools/Tobacco Use, BP 5131.62 Tobacco, and BP 5141.21 Administering Medication.

The Board approved a motion to remand AR 0420 School Based Management/Site Councils, to the Board Policy Committee.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, April 1, 2013, 7:00 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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