
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

March 3, 2014 – 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, Health Care Opt Out, and the Six-Year Plan, FY 2015-2021.

SCHOOL REPORTS: Ms. Mo Sanders, Soldotna Montessori Charter School principal, greeted Board member Mr. Castimore. She discussed the school's location, population, demographics, assessment scores, and current Alaska School Performance Indicator star rating. She stated that students are actively involved in multiple community service programs around the city. She introduced five students, (Seth Payment, Adrienne Seaman, Ayden See, Zoey Zurfluh, and Katelynn Best) who each reported on his or her community service location including the Riverside House, the Soldotna Senior Center, and the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank. Ms. Sanders explained the foundations of the Montessori program. She reported on the school's annual trip to the Model United Nations Conference in New York City, the fundraising required, and the opportunities afforded through the experience. Ms. Sanders introduced two students, Miss MaCady Musgrave and Mr. Peyton Story, who discussed this year's upcoming trip.

Ms. Sherry Hingley, Sterling Elementary principal, presented a PowerPoint highlighting the school's location, demographics, staffing, academic programs, band, forensics, and Battle of the Books. She introduced district forensic competitors, Miss Morgan Burlingame, who performed the poem, "*And My Heart Soars*" by Chief Dan George, and Miss Kimberly Trefon who performed the story "*Seven Foolish Fishermen*." She reported on the school's Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (P.B.I.S.) program and its importance at Sterling Elementary. She introduced teacher and P.B.I.S. coordinator, Mr. Donny Joachim, who further explained the program's three focuses (being respectful, responsible, and safe) and showed a school created bus safety video using P.B.I.S. philosophies. In closing, Ms. Hingley discussed school attendance and intervention processes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: On behalf of Dr. Atwater, Mr. Dusek reported that the District is working with the Matanuska-Susitna School District to share resources and practices for establishing the criteria for student learning objectives; i.e. student learning data as it applies to teacher evaluation. He stated that interviews were held for the Susan B. English School principal position, audience input was due today, and district office administrators will meet on Wednesday, March 5, to make a decision. He reported that the District is currently seeking survey input regarding this year's early release days and a summary of the results will be available in April to help determine whether or not to continue this practice. He congratulated the special education staff of Homer High School on being presented with the state's Inclusive Practices Award in February. He congratulated Kenai Central High School teacher, Greg Zorbas, on being honored as the Alaska Society of Technology in Education (A.S.T.I.) teacher of the year for his work in helping develop the district's "Classroom without Walls" program. He noted that the district-wide forensics competition was held at Tustumena Elementary on Saturday, March 1, stated that the full results will soon be posted online, and commented on the excellence of the performances.

SIX YEAR PLAN FY 2015-2021: The Board unanimously approved the Six-Year Plan and capital improvement projects for FY 2015 through 2021.

HSGQE: The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-09.

HSGQE: The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-10.

HSGQE: The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-11.

HSGQE: The Board unanimously approved High School Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver Request Number 2014-12.

2014-2015 TENTATIVE TENURE TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved tentative tenure teacher contracts for the 2014-2015 school year for Mindy Hunter and Susan Nabholz.

2014-2015 TENTATIVE NON-TENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS AND TENURE: The Board unanimously approved tentative non-tenured teacher contracts and tenure for Joshua Brantley, Teacher/Special Education, Soldotna Prep School; Jordana Engebretsen, Teacher/Special Education, Kenai Middle School; Margaret Lourigan, Teacher/Special Education, Ninilchik School; and Lindsey May, Teacher/Special Education, Sterling Elementary School.

2014-2015 TENTATIVE NON-TENURED TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved tentative non-tenured teacher contracts for Amanda Adair, Teacher/Special Education, Kenai Middle School; Michelle Barrows, Teacher/Special Education, Nikiski Middle/High School; Cindy Bedingfield, Teacher/Special Education, Homer High School; Matthew Creamer, Teacher/Special Education, West Homer Elementary School; Judith Eckert, Teacher/Special Education, West Homer Elementary School; Cynthia Fudzinski, Teacher/Special Education, Tustumena Elementary School; Timothy Galpin, Teacher/Special Education, Soldotna Elementary School; Walter Kloepfer, Teacher/Special Education, Homer High School; David Lefton, Teacher/Special Education, Fireweed Academy; Shilo McManus, Teacher/Special Education, Mountain View Elementary School; Monica Mullet (.50 FTE), Teacher/Facilitator Gifted, Mountain View Elementary School; Michael Reid, Teacher/Special Education, Mountain View Elementary School; Theresa Rose, Teacher/Special Education, Mountain View Elementary School; Logan Schulz, Teacher/Special Education, Seward High School; Kelly Sheffer, Teacher/Special Education, Homer Middle School; Michael Tozzo, Teacher/Special Education, Ninilchik School; Christina Tuls, Teacher/Special Education, Sterling Elementary School; and Sadie Updike, Teacher/Special Education, Nikiski North Star Elementary School.

RESIGNATIONS: The Board unanimously approved resignations from Heidi Berg, Special Education Intensive Needs Teacher, Nikiski North Star Elementary School; Terry Durrant, Math/Science Teacher, Nikiski Middle/High School; Jennifer Edwards, Occupational Therapist, Paul Banks Elementary School; Teresa Elmore, 6th Grade Teacher, K-Beach Elementary School; Matthew Johnson, Physical Education Teacher/Athletic Director, Soldotna High School; Margaret Leahy, Speech Language Pathologist, Seward Area; Cassandra Peterson, Special Education Resource Teacher, Soldotna Montessori Charter School; Todd Peterson, Special Education Intensive Needs Teacher, Tustumena Elementary School; Sonya Selanoff, 4th - 5th Grade Teacher, Nanwalek School; and Bernadette Wensley, 4th Grade Teacher, Mt. View Elementary School; all effective at the end of the 2013-14 school year.

2013-2014 LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved long-term substitute contracts for Catherine Kibling, Kenai Middle School; Tomoka Raften, Redoubt Elementary School; Wanda Reams, Mt. View Elementary School; and Judith Shields, Mt. View Elementary School.

RESOLUTION 13-14-4 MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH: The Board unanimously approved Resolution 13-14-4 proclaiming March 2014 as Music in Our Schools Month.

POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS: The Board unanimously approved BP 3541.2 Transportation for Students with Disabilities.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, April 14, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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