



Kenai Peninsula Borough School District

Board of Education Meeting News In Brief

September 8, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Steve Atwater, Superintendent

Homer High School
600 E. Fairview Ave., Homer, Alaska

WORKSESSION REPORT: The Board held several worksessions prior to the formal business meeting which included Board Policy, AASB Resolutions, Innovation Report, and Charter School In-kind Services and Rent.

SCHOOL REPORTS: Mr. Eric Pederson, Paul Banks Elementary School principal, presented a computer presentation highlighting the school's student population, programs (including special education and Title I), extensive parental involvement, PTA, staff, collaboration and teamwork. He noted the larger size of this year's kindergarten class and discussed the innovative work done to accommodate this change including classroom reconfiguration. Mr. Pederson introduced Mrs. Tina Moore, music teacher, Mr. Dustin Searle, school custodian, and a group of Paul Banks students. As Mrs. Moore conducted and "Mr. Dustin" accompanied on the trumpet, the students sang, *"You're a Grand Old Flag"* and *"The Kachemak Rag."* The students presented the board with gift bags containing a school brochure and a bag of nuts, including peanuts, the school mascot.

Mr. Douglas Waclawski, Homer High School principal, presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the school's test scores (noting that Homer High School consistently scores among the highest of schools in the state), graduation rate, school communications including social media, and high success indicators (modeled after the district's Key Performance Indicators and Montgomery County Schools in Alabama). He introduced the student council president, Miss Maggie LaRue, who discussed school spirit and climate, and presented a video constructed by production art class student, Mr. Clem Tillion, illustrating the things that Homer High students like about their school. Mr. Kyle Schneider, choir director, introduced and discussed the swing choir and stated that the group was selected as a command performance at the Alaska School Activities Association (AASA) state music festival last school year. The swing choir performed, *"Fa una canzona"* by Orazio Vecchi and *"O occhi manza mia"* by Orlando di Lasso.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Atwater noted the general information packet memo regarding the annual assessment report, stated that the report will be more thoroughly reviewed in October, and highlighted the improved percentage of district students eligible for the Alaska Performance Scholarship. He reported that currently, 183 junior and senior high school students are participating in the Kenai Peninsula College JumpStart program, an increase from 68 students at this same time last year. He announced that eight informal, professional development sessions, covering various programs and topics, will be offered to teachers on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and thanked Dr. Christine Ermold and the professional development staff for providing these training opportunities. He commented that the start of school went well and thanked district custodians and borough maintenance staff for their work to have the facilities ready. He apologized to Chapman School for the school's incomplete projects and stated that the district will work to improve the situation.

RESIGNATIONS: The Board unanimously approved resignations from Daniel Bohrsen, Secondary Education Department, and Todd Syverson, Soldotna High School, both effective at the end of the 2014-15 school year.

NEW TEACHER CONTRACTS: The Board unanimously approved new teacher contracts for the 2014-2015 school year for Robert Baskin, Language Arts Teacher; Dawn Grimm, Elementary K-5 Teacher (.50 FTE); Catherine Kibling, Mentor Teacher; Terry Pitman, Introduction to Automotive Instructor (.20 FTE), 1st semester; Kristin Romberg, Primary Grade Teacher; George Skraba Reising, Math/Science Teacher; Jacob Songer, Math Teacher; and Betsy Vanek, Interventionist Teacher (.50 FTE).

2014-2015 TENTATIVE NON-TENURED TEACHER CONTRACT: The Board unanimously approved a Tentative Non-Tenured Teacher Contract for Anne Buckbee, Teacher/Regular.

BUDGET TRANSFERS: The Board unanimously approved budget transfers #14, in the amount of \$200,000 to move student activity travel funds to the school locations and #114 in the amount of \$50,000 to move FY14 carryover funds to the Instructional Supplies budget for use during the FY15 school year for Aurora Borealis Charter School.

CHARTER SCHOOL RENTAL FEES: The Board unanimously approved the charter school rental fees as recommended by the administration.

ASSOCIATION OF ALASKA SCHOOL BOARDS (A.A.S.B.) CORE RESOLUTIONS: The Board unanimously approved removing this item from the agenda.

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT: The Board unanimously approved authorizing the board president to offer Mr. Sean Dusek the position of interim superintendent and negotiate the terms of said employment.

AASB BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION: The Board unanimously approved the nomination of Sunni Hilts to the Association of Alaska School Boards, Board of Directors.

FIRST READING OF POLICY REVISIONS: The Board heard a first reading of revisions to BP 3311 Bids.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting is Monday, October 20, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Borough Administration Building, Soldotna, Alaska.

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