

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 23, 2006

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, January 23, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President, Jeff Friedman, presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE, Jeff Friedman Presiding

Board Members Present: Tim Steele, Crystal Kennedy, John Steiner, Jeff Friedman, Jake Metcalfe, and Macon Roberts.

Others Present: Jan Christiansen, Enid Silverstein, Mike Henry, Patricia McRae, Jerry Sjolander, Leslie Vandergaw, Jeff Wood, Stan Syta, Michelle Egan, Eric Tollefsen, Janet Stokesbary, George Vakalis, Larry Wiget, Ralph Feriani, LTC David Jones, William Johnson, Johanna Lee, the press, and other interested people.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Mary Marks reminded the community that the first reading of the 2006-2007 Proposed Budget for the Anchorage School District will be this Thursday, January 26th at 5:00 p.m. here in the Board Room of the Administration Building.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The Denali Choir, under the direction of Mr. Chuck Stafford, performed several numbers for the entertainment of the Board and others. The choir is made up of students in the second through sixth grades.

Ms. Carol Comeau introduced Lora Jorgensen, Executive Director of ACEA-Community Schools. She explained that about eighteen months ago the difficult decision was made to terminate the former Community School Program that had been sponsored and, with some funding

assistance through a state grant, paid for by the Anchorage School District. Since that time the ACEA Community Schools group has come forward and established themselves as a viable non-profit.

Ms. Jorgensen explained that since the program had transitioned in July 2004 they have hired eight staff members. She reported that the program had started with six locations; one in Girdwood, four in Anchorage, and one in Eagle River. After about a year of operation, the Girdwood community developed its own infrastructure and support, so they are no longer part of the ACEA Community School programming. One of the most significant changes made at the program level is the addition of new business partnerships. These additions have led to new offerings such as cooking classes in restaurants, the culinary kids program sponsored by the UAA Culinary Arts program, and tiling installation classes. Another significant addition is an online registration system which has been instrumental in being able to handle the magnitude of participation in program offerings.

Ms. Jorgensen noted that during the transition, while trying to identify what their role would ultimately be, a decision was made to focus on the evening programming for both youth and adults. Since that time, they have received many inquiries into the after-school language program. As a result, they have increased the number of after-school language classes available and will be adding locations to the list of sites offering those classes. ACEA is currently in dialogue with additional schools regarding potential expansion for the language program in the fall of 2006. In addition, language classes and computer classes are expanding from the elementary level to the middle school and high school level. She noted that about 60% of the before and after-school instructors are also District employees.

Ms. Jorgensen noted that ACEA is excited about the potential expansion of their programming. They have funding applications out to help support that expansion. She reminded the Board that, during the transition, the ACEA worked very closely with the Foraker Group. They are now a partner organization with Foraker. This relationship has allowed the organization to benefit from a multitude of training resources, greatly increasing their efficiency particularly in administrative services. The ACEA Board has also gone through strategic planning facilitated by the Foraker Group, helping them to identify priorities for the next several years. She reported that their priorities for 2006 are fund development, board development and public relations.

In terms of financial sustainability, Ms. Jorgensen noted that the ACEA has been awarded three Parks and Recreation grants and a Tier 1 Rasmuson Foundation Technology grant. In addition, they are applying for capacity building funds from the Rasmuson Foundation. The application proposal, as well as the business plan, shows that Community Schools can be self-sustaining from program revenue by 2009. In fact, the organization was able to cover 63% of its operating budget with program revenue in the first year of operation.

In response to a question, Ms. Jorgensen explained that ACEA is currently dialoguing with two schools regarding expanding the language program. She anticipated that they will have several additional requests. Responses to funding requests will determine how many expansion sites will be added next fall.

Mr. Steiner asked whether the Community Schools website, www.alaskacommunityschools.org, is available by link from the District's website. It was noted that, while the District no longer financially supports Community Schools, the program is recognized as a community and student support organization and the District does provide facilities for program classes at no cost or reduced cost depending on when the class takes place.

Mr. Friedman acknowledged the magnitude of the task of transitioning from a District supported organization to an independent organization. He voiced the Board's appreciation at having this resource available for students and other community members.

Mr. Steiner wondered whether information regarding Community Schools could be advertised on Channel 14. Ms. Comeau noted that the District would have to look into the issue of advertising, as they do not normally advertise for other groups and organizations.

In response to a question regarding community support, Ms. Jorgensen noted that about one-third of program instructors are volunteers. Many of those volunteers are parents whose children are participating in program classes. It is important to grow the number of volunteers in the program as they work toward self-sustainability.

Mr. Steele noted that it might be appropriate to highlight one of the before- or after-school programs as part of an informational piece produced for broadcast during breaks in the Board meetings. Ms.

Comeau indicated that those programs can be included in a future production.

Ms. Comeau acknowledged the incredible job that ACEA has done with the Community Schools program in the short time they have been in operation.

Mr. Steiner voiced his appreciation for the language program. Ms. Joregensen indicated that she is open to any ideas regarding opportunities to partner with the District on a grant application on the after-school language program.

ASD Memorandum #152 - Recognition of Len Mackler Award for Excellence in School Facility Design Recipient

Chugach Optional School was recently renovated for the educational benefit of its students. The renovated building, designed by McCool Carlson Green, is well appreciated by students, staff and parents, and it supports high-quality instructional practices. According to the designers, the challenge for this project was to address the old school's current needs in a way that remained true to the educational concept and spirit of the school. Through a collaborative effort with the teachers, staff, students and parents, they developed a unique design for this unique school.

In December the Alaska chapter of the Council of Educational Facility Planners presented its annual Len Mackler Award to McCool Carlson Green for its work at Chugach Optional. This award represents the highest level of excellence in school design. The Alaska chapter will now sponsor the entry of the Chugach Optional design into the annual Pacific Northwest Region school design awards competition.

The Anchorage School Board recognized McCool Carlson Green for their award-winning and educationally supportive renewal design for Chugach Optional School. The recognition was read by Mr. Steele and presented by Ms. Kennedy.

ASD Memorandum #153 - Recognition of Finalists for Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

The annual Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is one of the nation's highest honors for K-12 teaching. Three Anchorage School District teachers are among this year's finalists for this prestigious award. They are Deborah Greene, a science teacher at

Goldenview Middle School, Alison Mall, a mathematics teacher at Bartlett High School, and Judith Onslow, a science teacher at Girdwood K-8 School. Established by Congress in 1983, and administered for the White House by the National Science Foundation, the Presidential Awards allow each state to select three mathematics teachers and three science teachers as state finalists.

The National Science Foundation states that the finalists represent exceptional professional models for science and mathematics teachers. They are highly qualified in their fields, deeply knowledgeable about their subjects, and equipped with the methods and strategies that improve teaching and learning in science and mathematics. Winners of the 2005 Presidential Awards will be announced in March.

The Anchorage School Board recognized these teachers for their professional teaching excellence. The recognition was read by Ms. Kennedy and presented by Mr. Friedman.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory Board

Mr. Feriani reported that the next Student Advisory Board meeting will be on February 6th at 11:30 a.m. at King Career Center.

2. Military Delegate

LTC Jones thanked Mr. Sjolander for his recent help with a special services need for a student from Elmendorf.

Sadly, LTC Jones had to report the loss of two Elmendorf airmen in Iraq over this past weekend. This impacts the District doubly hard as one of the men is a husband of a District teacher. He asked for continued support for the teachers, the students and the families who are dealing with these losses and other issues related to the war and service deployments. He noted that both the Family Advocacy Programs at Elmendorf and Fort Richardson are available to assist the District in this matter.

3. M.E.C.A.C.

Mr. Johnson reported that the MECAC held its January business meeting on January 19th. They received a briefing from Ms. Vicki Blakeney, Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Curriculum Coordinator. She helped the group to understand the District's efforts in incorporating SEL standards and benchmarks in the K-12 curriculum. MECAC also discussed committee collaboration with other community advisory groups. Mr. Johnson noted the upcoming Middle School Boundary Change meetings, reminding the public that they should provide input at these planned forums.

Mr. Johnson reported that the MECAC will be phasing in the information collection forms which had been discussed last year. The first phase will dispatch MECAC members to as many community meetings as possible with a planned briefing in order to introduce themselves to as many different agencies and organizations as possible. The second phase will be an open invitation to the community to provide the MECAC with input and feedback that can then be shared with the Board.

The MECAC will be holding a winter retreat this quarter. The MECAC will hold its next business meeting on February 16th at 12:00 p.m. in Room 322 of the ASD Administration Building. As always, the public is welcome to attend.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD NON-AGENDA ITEMS

G. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda is attached. **All attachments referred to in memoranda Recommendations are on file in the Superintendent's office.**

1. Approval of Minutes - Moved to February 6, 2006 meeting.
2. ASD Memorandum # 175 - Approval of School Board Out-of-State Travel, March 2006

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the attached School Board Out-of-State Travel Report.

3. ASD Memorandum # 181 - Prior Approval of Discretionary Grant: Alaska Science and Technology Education Development

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to apply for a grant in the amount of \$700,000 from the U.S. Department of the Navy's Office of Naval Research. Funds will be used to implement science curriculum and professional development.

4. ASD Memorandum # 182 - Prior Approval of Discretionary Grant: Teaching American History Grant Program

It is the Administration's recommendation that the Anchorage School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to apply for a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Teaching American History Grant Program.

5. ASD Memorandum # 157 - Award of Contract: Taxicab Services
(moved to February 6, 2006)

6. ASD Memorandum # 165 - Approval of Change Order: Bartlett High School Phase 2B

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to approve a change order in the amount of \$800,000 to Alaska Mechanical, Inc. for the Bartlett High School Renewal Phase 2B project.

7. ASD Memorandum # 169 - Professional Service Selection for Clark Middle School Renewal

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the selection of McCool Carlson Green as the Designer of Record for Clark Middle School Renewal Project, and pending Municipal Assembly approval, authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into a contract with McCool Carlson Green for design services.

8. ASD Memorandum # 162 - Personnel Report

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached Personnel Report.

ACTION:

Moved by: Macon Roberts
seconded by: Crystal Kennedy

To approve ASD Memoranda
#175, #181, #182, #165, #169, and
#162.

VOTE:

Ayes: Steiner, Roberts,
Kennedy, Friedman,
Metcalf, Marks, Steele

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

Ms. Comeau noted that, as part of the Consent Agenda, the Board had approved the Professional Service Selection for Clark Middle School Renewal. She was pleased to report that McCool Carlson Green will be the team working on that project. That organization was honored earlier this evening with the Len Mackler Award for Excellence in School Facility Design. Ms. Comeau reported that McCool Carlson Green has most recently worked with the District on the Polaris K-12 school and have done a phenomenal job.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. ASD Memorandum # 163 - Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of December 15, 2005 through December 28, 2005.

2. ASD Memorandum # 174 - Facility Contract Modification Report and Completed Projects for the Month of December 2005

The monthly Facility Contract Modification Report for the month of December is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

3. ASD Memorandum # 155 - Conflict of Interest - Second Quarter Report FY 2005-2006

The attached listing of employee Conflict of Interest Waiver and Disclosure actions is forwarded in accordance with School Board

Policy Section 725.44. This information is provided as the second quarter report for the FY 2005-2006 school year.

4. ASD Memorandum # 156 - Semi-Annual Report on Professional/Consultant Services on Contracts over \$10,000

In accordance with School Board Policy Section 725.132, the semi-annual report for Professional/Consultant Services on Contracts over \$10,000 for the period July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005 is attached.

5. ASD Memorandum # 176 - Out-of-District Travel - Second Quarter Report FY 2005-2006

The attached Travel Report summarizes the travel taken by District employees and School Board members during the second quarter of FY 2005-2006 for both in-state and out-of-state travel. This report complies with the revised travel procedures established in the fall 2004 and in accordance with School Board Policy Sections 156, Board Member Travel, and 526, Staff Travel.

6. ASD Memorandum # 177 - Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap: December 31, 2005

The attached report consists of three parts: the Graphic Overview, the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap. The Graphic Overview is presented on a quarterly basis and the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap are presented on a monthly basis. The Treasurer's report and Financial Recap are year-to-date information as of December 31, 2005.

7. ASD Memorandum # 178 - Operating Budget Transfers - December Monthly Report FY 2005-2006

The attached report of budget transfers for the time period of December 2005 that were processed in the Integrated Financial Accounting System (IFAS) includes the following:

Attachment A: Report of Budget Transfers Over \$5,000—

Report for individual transfers of more than \$5,000, which includes summarized justifications.

The schedule of monthly budget transfers processed for the month of December 2005 and related information are available in the

Budget Department office for review by the School Board and members of the public.

- I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

- K. EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS LITIGATION

- L. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of January 23, 2006, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:05 p.m.

Jeff Friedman, President

John Steiner, Clerk

Johanna Lee, Recording Secretary

Date Minutes Approved