

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2006

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, February 6, 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, Mary Marks, Jake Metcalfe, Jeff Friedman, Crystal Kennedy, Macon Roberts, and John Steiner.

Others Present: Jan Christensen, Enid Silverstein, Mike Henry, Patricia McRae, Jerry Sjolander, Leslie Vandergaw, Janet Stokesbary, George Vakalis, Rhonda Gardner, Ray Amsden, Pam Chenier, Stan Syta, Jim Utter, Michelle Egan, Larry Wiget, 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

Mr. Roberts reported that, as a former Alaska Army National Guardsman as well as a representative of this Board, he had attended the memorial services for the four fallen guardsmen killed in Iraq at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts on January 29th.

Mr. Steele reported that the Board will have a Work Session on Technology tomorrow, February 7th, at 5:00 p.m. here in the Board Room at the Administration Building. He also reported that several Board members will be going to Juneau this weekend to speak to our legislators about District issues.

Mr. Metcalfe reminded everyone that February is Black History Month. He also noted that Elizabeth Peratrovich Day is celebrated in February.

Ms. Comeau reported that a Revised Bond Recommendation Memorandum has been added as an action item to the Work Session agenda. The recommended revisions are based on new information received today from the state. As soon as all of the information is received the Memorandum will be prepared and faxed to Board members. All of the schools who are

on the bonds will be made aware of this information and Mr. Amsden's office will be asked to notify the Capital Request Advisory Committee. The addition to the agenda has been posted in all appropriate locations.

Ms. Comeau explained the reasons for today's school closure. She noted that road conditions will continue to be monitored and a decision for tomorrow will be made early in the morning. She noted that there are ten (10) inservice days allowed on the calendar, one of which is reserved for situations like today. If a decision must be made for another school closure the May 19th Inservice Day will be lost.

Ms. Marks voiced her appreciation to the staff who worked so hard on the budget. She acknowledged that preparing the budget, especially when cuts are required, is not an easy task but that everyone had done a great job.

Mr. Friedman reported that Service High School, who was scheduled to perform for the Board, was unable to be here this evening due to the weather and today's school closure.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory Board

Mr. Feriani was unable to attend the meeting.

2. Military Delegate

LTC Jones was unable to attend the meeting.

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

Mr. Johnson reported that the next MECAC business meeting will be held on February 16th, at 12:00 p.m. in Room 320 of the Administration Building. As always, the public is welcome to attend. Mr. Johnson noted that he attended the Native Advisory Committee meeting on February 2nd.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Linda Evans identified herself as a Special Education Teacher at Baxter Elementary. She wanted to acknowledge the people who run the Enhancing

Education Through Technology (E2T2) Grant. She noted how very impressed she is with the program. The program leadership, Pam Lloyd and Mary Wagner, are very professional, extremely intelligent, and extraordinarily patient. In response to a question from the Board, Ms. Evans explained that the main premise of the grant, which involves several schools, is to help teachers become more aware of technology and adept with computers. The goal is to increase the use of computers in the classroom.

Staff Sergeant Anna Poole, who has taught in the Anchorage School District for nine years, was in attendance to voice her appreciation to the Board. She reported that, over the last year, she had the distinct pleasure and honor to be called to active duty. She noted that, during the entire process she felt the support of the Board and the Administration, as well as the teachers, staff and students of Ptarmigan Elementary School, Central Middle School and Mears Middle School. She also noted the support of the Human Resources and Payroll Departments. She reported that she received care packages, emails and cards which were great encouragement. She also noted her appreciation for the support she continues to receive as she transitions back into teaching. SSgt. Poole presented a service coin as a token of appreciation from the 176th Aerial Port Unit at the Air National Guard to Superintendent Comeau and each member of the School Board.

Mr. Steiner noted that while the Board upholds the policy of supporting members of the Guard when they are called to active duty, the real thanks should go to the principals and teaching teams at the schools, and to co-workers who provided the personal support. Mr. Steiner expressed his gratitude to those individuals because they are the ones who make a difference on a personal level. Mr. Friedman noted that the Board is eager to hear of any other ways that the District or the Board can support our service members. Ms. Comeau noted that Eric Tollefsen and the Human Resources Department, Janet Stokesbary and the Payroll Department, and all of the other people that SSgt. Poole named have such respect and regard for our employees who are giving their service and sometimes their lives. She reiterated Mr. Friedman's point that if there are things that need to be worked on or areas where the District can improve, she is eager to know. Ms. Comeau noted that it is important that the transition back to the workplace is as smooth and as easy as possible.

Dr. Theresa Obermeyer was present to voice her displeasure with the Permanent Fund Board and the Alaska Bar Association.

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

a. Regular Meeting October 24, 2005 6:30 p.m.

2. ASD Memorandum # 192 - Resolution Honoring Elizabeth Peratrovich Day

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing Thursday, February 16, 2006, as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day.

3. ASD Memorandum # 157 - Award of Contract: Taxicab Services

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract to RJC Taxi dba Checker Cab (Checker Cab) to furnish TAXICAB SERVICES through June 30, 2007 in an estimated amount not to exceed \$86,000 for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 and \$250,971 for FY 2006-2007 with an option to renew for two (2) additional one year periods.

4. ASD Memorandum # 189 - Award of Contract: Huffman Elementary School HVAC Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for Huffman Elementary School HVAC Upgrades to the lowest responsive bidder, Consolidated Enterprises, Inc., for the Base Bid amount of \$1,165,000, Assignment A of \$101,310, Alternate #2 for \$7,500, and Alternate #3 for \$154,000, for a total award of \$1,427,810.

5. ASD Memorandum # 197 - Personnel Report

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

Mr. Friedman requested that Item #2, ASD Memorandum #192 be pulled for discussion.

ACTION:

Moved by: John Steiner
seconded by: Macon Roberts

To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 24, 2006 and ASD Memoranda #157, #189, and #190.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum # 192 - Resolution Honoring Elizabeth Peratrovich Day

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing Thursday, February 16, 2006, as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day.

ACTION:

Moved by: John Steiner
seconded by: Mary Marks

To approve the resolution recognizing February 16, 2006 as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day.

Ms. Comeau noted that this recognition has become an important annual tradition. Dr. Silverstein and Ms. Brown will get the word out to the Indian Education Department and the Executive Directors will be asked to notify each of their schools in order to make sure that this honor is recognized at the program and school levels. Elizabeth Peratrovich was a role model and played an important part in the history of Alaska. Recognizing this day in honor of Mrs. Peratrovich and February honoring Black History Month provides an opportunity to talk with the students about the leaders in this country who have advocated for civil rights for their people.

In honor of Mrs. Elizabeth Peratrovich members of the Board read aloud the Resolution Honoring Elizabeth Peratrovich Day February 16, 2006.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. ASD Memorandum # 191 - Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of December 28, 2005 through January 17, 2006.

I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Steiner, mentioning Coretta Scott King and Rosa Parks, both of whom have recently passed away, noted that Elizabeth Peratrovich is in good company among women who have accomplished much in the name of ending discrimination.

Mr. Roberts noted that Elizabeth Peratrovich along with her husband, Roy Peratrovich, were real champions in Alaska. What they accomplished here was far reaching to all of humanity.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS
LITIGATION

L. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of February 6, 2006, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:55 p.m.

Jeff Friedman, President

John Steiner, Clerk

Johanna Lee, Recording Secretary

Date Minutes Approved