

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

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

Board Members Excused: Tim Steele

Others Present: Jan Christensen, Leslie Vandergaw, Mike Henry, Enid Silverstein, Patricia McRae, Jerry Sjolander, Jeff Wood, Janet Stokesbary, George Vakalis, Rhonda Gardner, Ray Amsden, Pam Chenier, Stan Syta, Ophelia Dargan-Steed, Rick Rios, 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. Friedman noted that the School Board has a work session on scheduled for tomorrow, March 7th, on Work Force Development. The work session will be held in the Board Room of the Administration Building and will be televised.

Mr. Steiner reported that he had attended the opening of the All-School All-State Art Competition which is being held at the Consortium Library at UAA. He congratulated the students whose work has been included and encouraged everyone to take an opportunity to see the display.

Mr. Metcalfe announced that there will be a Policy Subcommittee meeting on Thursday, March 9th at 9:30 a.m. in Room 322 of the Administration Building.

Mr. Roberts reported that he had participated in the "Read Across America" program. He spent this past Wednesday reading to the first and second graders at Eagle River Elementary School.

Ms. Comeau reminded everyone that there is a work session scheduled for Friday, March 10th, from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon at City Hall, with the Assembly and the Education Work Force Advisory Committee on the budget.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The Sand Lake Orff Ensemble, under the direction of Linda Updegraff, performed for the entertainment of the Board and others present.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory Board

Mr. Feriani was unable to attend the meeting this evening. Ms. Comeau reported that the next meeting of the Student Advisory Board will be next Monday, March 13th at 8:15 a.m. at the King Career Center.

2. Military Delegate

LTC Jones was unable to attend the meeting this evening.

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

Mr. Johnson reported that he had attended the last public meeting on the Middle School Boundary issue. He thanked Ms. Vandergaw, the administration, the parents and the students who participated in the planning of that meeting. He acknowledged that the task ahead in making decisions regarding the boundary changes is a daunting one and he voiced his appreciation for the efforts of everyone involved.

The MECAC will have their next meeting on March 16th in Room 320 of the ASD Administration Building. As always, the public is welcome to attend.

Ms. Marks asked whether Mr. Johnson was aware that the Board and the Administration would be going out to the Community Council meetings to talk about the school bonds. Mr. Johnson acknowledged that he is aware of this and has been invited to attend these meetings. He noted that members of the MECAC will also be reminded of these planned presentations at their next meeting.

Ms. Comeau reported that she will be making a bond presentation to the MECAC at their next meeting and will be encouraging them to go out into their own committees in support of the bonds. The District will provide them with information in support in these efforts. Mr. Friedman noted that getting out to their own networks of people is just as important as attending the formal council meetings.

Mr. Williams, addressing the viewing public, reminded everyone of their responsibility to vote. He noted that it is important to vote, regardless of how you vote, although the District would appreciate voter support. He spoke particularly to high school students who are registered voters, encouraging them to participate in the process.

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

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| a. Special Meeting | December 12, 2005 | 4:30 p.m. |
| b. Special Meeting | January 9, 2006 | 4:30 p.m. |
| c. Special Meeting | January 23, 2006 | 4:30 p.m. |
| d. Special Meeting | February 6, 2006 | 4:30 p.m. |

2. ASD Memorandum # 206 - School Bond Information Program

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to expend up to \$45,000 for the 2006 School Bond Information campaign.

3. ASD Memorandum # 200 - Six Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis and Recommendations: July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2006

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached Anchorage School District Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan for July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2012.

4. ASD Memorandum # 213 - Acceptance of Grant Award: High Growth Job Training Initiative - Energy Planning Grant

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a planning grant from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Business Partnerships in the amount of \$10,000. Funds will be used to expand the District's program of instruction in the construction trades and to facilitate partnerships that prepare students for employment.

5. ASD Memorandum # 186 - Award of Contract: Willow Crest and Bear Valley Elementary Schools Carpet Replacement

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Willow Crest & Bear Valley Elementary Schools Carpet Replacement Project, to the lowest responsive bidder, Super Floors of Alaska, LLC, for the Base Bid amount of \$125,323.

6. ASD Memorandum # 187 - Award of Contract: Chinook Elementary School Door Installation

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Chinook Elementary School Door Installation Project, to the lowest responsive bidder, Ridge Contracting, Inc. for the Base Bid amount of \$194,000, Alternate No. 1 amount of \$40,000, and Alternate No. 2 amount of \$23,000, for a total award of \$257,000.

7. ASD Memorandum # 188 - Award of Contract: ASD Facilities Building HVAC Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Facilities/Maintenance Building HVAC Upgrade Project to

Consolidated Contracting and Engineering for the Base Bid and total award amount of \$128,222.

8. ASD Memorandum # 195 - Approval of Funding for Capital Projects Using Interest Earnings and Redirected Balances

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the use of Capital Projects Fund interest earnings and redirection of bond funds in a total amount of \$1,045,000 for the projects identified in this memorandum.

9. ASD Memorandum # 201 - Renewal of Contract: Zero Balance Banking Services

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to renew the zero balance banking services contract with the First National Bank Alaska (Bank) for a one-year period, July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. The amount required in the non-interest bearing time open account will be updated effective July 1, 2006 using the current semi-annual adjustment formula.

10. ASD Memorandum # 215 - Adoption of Tentative Agreement: TOTEM Association of Educational Support Personnel, APEA/AFT (AFL-CIO) 2006 - 2009

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the District and TOTEM Association of Educational Support Personnel, APEA/AFT (AFL-CIO), which will establish terms and conditions of employment for TOTEM employees during the period between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2009.

11. ASD Memorandum # 210 - Personnel Report

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

Mr. Steiner requested that ASD Memorandum #200, The Six Year Capital Improvement Plan, and ASD Memorandum # 201, Renewal of Contract: Zero Balance Banking Services, be pulled for discussion. Ms. Kennedy requested that ASD Memorandum # 195, Approval of Funding for Capital Projects Using Interest Earnings and Redirected Balances, and ASD

Memorandum # 213, Acceptance of Grant Award: High Growth Job Training Initiative, be pulled for discussion.

ACTION:

Moved by: Jake Metcalfe
seconded by: Mary Marks

To approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 12, 2005, the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 9, 2006, the Special Meeting of January 23, 2006, the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 6, 2006, and ASD Memoranda #206, #186, #187, #188, #215 and #210.

VOTE:

Ayes: Steiner, Roberts,
Kennedy, Friedman,
Metcalfe, Marks

Nays: None

Absent: Steele

MOTION PASSED

Ms. Comeau noted that she is very pleased with the three-year contract agreement reached with TOTEM. She voiced her appreciation to Sharon Baker and the TOTEM membership for ratifying the contract.

ASD Memorandum # 200 - Six Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis and Recommendations: July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2012

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached Anchorage School District Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan for July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2012.

ACTION:

Moved by: John Steiner
seconded by: Mary Marks

To approve ASD Memorandum # 200 - Six Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis and Recommendations: July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2012.

Mr. Ray Amsden and Ms. Ophelia Dargan-Steed presented an overview of the 2006-2012 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Mr. Amsden noted that the presentation would cover what the six-year plan is, how it is developed, the membership projections, the CIP projections by year, site selection, and other studies related to the plan.

Mr. Amsden explained that the CIP is an action plan related to projected capital needs including additional classrooms for growing population areas, improvements to existing facilities to meet current educational requirements, and major upgrades to building systems.

The plan is developed with many sources of input including demographic information, changes in the educational requirements, feedback from schools as well as the Facilities and Maintenance departments, and the Capital Request Advisory committee. Capital Request Advisory committee members visit all of the schools and discuss their needs with both parents and staff in order to develop recommendations for the superintendent. The CIP has also been submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission as required. Mr. Amsden noted that, although it had been scheduled for approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission at their last meeting, action on the CIP is being taken by that group tonight. After approval by both the School Board and the Planning & Zoning Commission, the CIP will be submitted to the Anchorage Assembly for approval. Finally, it will be submitted to the State Board of Education, not for action, but for use in support of grant applications and other types of project proposals.

Ms. Dargan-Steed reviewed historical and projected membership data. She noted that the District has seen growth of about 1% growth per year over the past ten years. After several flat years the elementary membership saw an increase noticed last year and a slight increase is anticipated next year. Most of the growth in the District is seen in the secondary levels. Ethnicity membership shows a trend upward in ethnic minorities. The District currently has about 45% ethnic minority in the student population.

Ms. Dargan-Steed noted that kindergarten enrollment is expected to continue to grow leading to slight growth in elementary enrollment throughout the next six years. There is an anticipated dip expected in middle school enrollment which is should then begin to rise again near the end of the projected period. Ms. Dargan-Steed explained that high school numbers have been high over the past few years and are projected

to start declining over the next couple of years. Overall, projected membership is expected to stay close to current levels.

Mr. Amsden reviewed the Capital Improvement Plan projects. These were presented by instructional levels and by individual schools as projected over the next six years. Drawing attention to the high school level, Mr. Amsden explained that the plan is to renew the high schools and complete them in parallel so that when they are done, they will all be done. He reported that projects have been broken down to the smallest level of package that remains feasible from a construction delivery perspective as well as its impact to education. Mr. Steiner requested clarification as to the benefits of breaking the projects into smaller components when it appears more logical to maximize the size of the components. Mr. Amsden noted that the best delivery option would be to close a school and get the entire project done at one time. Unfortunately, that option is not available in this community. In the past, efforts were made to maximize the size of projects while maintaining the operations at the school. More recently, additional parameters, such as the funding stream, have been placed on the District which have impacted the ability to continue on that course. Mr. Amsden noted that efforts are made to coordinate closely with the instruction division to assure that schools are not left short of the ability to deliver programs should projects be interrupted.

Mr. Amsden noted that numbers reported for West High School represent place holders. The District is in the midst of a planning exercise for that facility which will lead to conclusive numbers that can be carried forward with confidence. This is also true of the figures reported for Romig Middle School.

At the middle school level, Mr. Amsden pointed out the Clark Middle School multi-year phase for design and construction. The CIP also shows a new southwest Anchorage area middle school coming on the horizon.

Mr. Steiner requested clarification on the phasing plan at Clark Middle School. Mr. Amsden explained that the phasing planned for Clark Middle School is the only way that operations can continue at the school during construction.

Mr. Steiner questioned whether it would be beneficial to bid all phases of a project at one time, with subsequent phases contingent upon funding, rather than bidding individual phases separately in instances when the parameters for an entire project are known. His thought is that having

competitive bidding in the middle of a project would increase costs. Mr. Amsden used the new Muldoon area middle school as an example of how that reasoning is not always true. He explained that the low bid on the site package, which came from the contractor currently on the project, came back much lower than expected. Mr. Amsden reminded that Board that they had approved a general contractor construction manager selection process for Clark Middle School, which he wholeheartedly endorsed. This will allow the builder to have input into the selection of materials, the design, the configuration, and the phasing. All of those items are crucial to the success of a project like Clark Middle School. He noted that this is the same methodology that proved so successful at Eagle River High School.

Ms. Marks had a question regarding the fact that Romig Middle School and West High School are phased concurrently. Mr. Amsden noted that there is a great deal of planning to be done for those projects and that the projections should be looked at as a planning tool. If different needs or conflicts are identified those projections will change as necessary.

At the elementary level Mr. Amsden noted that projects are making their way forward. These are projects that have been in the works for a long time. The same methodology is being used that has been in place for years with the planning work done first, then the design work, and finally the construction work. He noted that there is some funding from a state grant for Girdwood. Some significant changes are anticipated in the Girdwood area as the Heritage Land Bank is opening up a large tract of land that will be available for residential development. He also noted that the District is very close to site acquisition for the new southwest Anchorage area elementary school.

Mr. Amsden pointed out two items from districtwide projects. He noted that the District continues to anticipate matching funds from AMATS for the Bus Facility. He also highlighted the Information Technology Facility, noting the importance of that project. Mr. Steiner questioned whether the site for the Information Technology Facility is already identified or if that will happen as part of the planning phase. Mr. Amsden explained that the site has not yet been determined.

Mr. Amsden briefly reviewed the districtwide maintenance projects. He noted that the District will always have traffic safety/site upgrades as the population increasingly desires to drive their students to school. Mr. Amsden reviewed the Site Selections noting an ongoing search for the Chugiak/Eagle River Elementary School site which has been somewhat

delayed because of the land use data. The other school sites on the list are the new Anchorage ABC Elementary School, which has been on the CIP for many years, and the southeast Anchorage Area Elementary School which is now in the selection process.

Mr. Amsden reported that he had learned that the Anchorage Planning and Zoning Commission did take action on the CIP. Their comments were that the ASD is doing a good job and applying taxpayer dollars appropriately. The Planning and Zoning Commission passed the CIP as presented.

Ms. Marks, noting that West High School has a fairly large parking area, questioned whether buildings are ever expanded into parking areas. Mr. Amsden reported that transportation and parking needs are always kept in mind as plans are made and construction undertaken. He noted that it is a lower cost solution to build in an undeveloped area than into an established parking area.

Mr. Steiner requested information on the process that will be taken to determine whether and how to proceed with a recommendation on the site selection on the ABC Elementary School in light of the projected elementary level enrollment across the District. Ms. Comeau indicated that the process would include a discussion with the Board, surveying the community as to the interest in another ABC elementary school, and then bringing a recommendation to the Board for approval. Mr. Steiner indicated that he liked the idea of making the ABC option available to more parents. He noted that there had been some discussion on how to best make that happen including a school-within-a-school program or designating an existing school as an ABC facility. The need for an additional facility is difficult to justify at this point, so Mr. Steiner appreciates the opportunity for discussion on whether there is a demand and how to best meet that demand. Ms. Comeau explained that there had been discussion regarding the conversion of a particular elementary school to an ABC program and it was made abundantly clear that the community and the staff there had no interest in having their school converted. However, there is interest in that area of town.

Mr. Johnson asked what can be done to minimize the stress on the students and parents that comes with building construction. Mr. Friedman noted that he believes it is more stressful on the parents than it is on the students. Ms. Kennedy noted that building construction is disruptive but her experience is that construction does not impact academics. Mr. Steiner indicated that, in his experience, the crowding in other areas within a facility is more stressful than the actual construction

activities. Ms. Comeau noted that an important key is to have very open discussions going into the project in order to identify and work the core issues. Her experience is that the students do very well overall and that it is more difficult for the staff. She noted that the principals and assistant principals work very closely with the project managers and contractors to minimize the disruption.

Ms. Comeau reminded everyone that the bonds must be passed this spring for any of these projects to go forward. If the bonds don't pass a decision will have to be made whether to seek a special election before the debt reimbursement expires or to move everything back a year and work hard to get more debt reimbursement. She noted that the CIP is all based on the current bonds that are on the ballot next month.

Ms. Kennedy noted the importance of addressing the safety aspects of construction projects. She reported that there was a parent meeting before the project began at Chugiak High School to discuss the issues of having construction workers on site and other safety concerns. She indicated that it is important to have that type of conversation at any school undergoing construction in order to assure parents that precautions are being taken to keep their students safe.

Mr. Steiner voiced his appreciation for the maps. In reference to information received from a constituent, he asked whether a rubric is used to determine the enrollment levels at which boundary changes are needed or when new construction is indicted. Ms. Comeau noted that the District has moved away from the use of that type of rubric as specialized education programs have changed and expanded because they just do not work anymore. Specialized program needs change every year and so school usage change every year. The District uses a mark of roughly 120% of capacity before seriously thinking of changing boundaries or building new schools.

Kennedy questioned whether new school openings or boundary changes had been factored in to the reported demographic projections. Ms. Dargan-Steed indicated that those items are not factored into the projections because decisions regarding boundary changes have not been made and it would be ill-advised to speculate as to what those changes ultimately will be. After the boundary changes are made the projections will be far more accurate.

Mr. Roberts asked whether any particular geographic locations have been identified as accelerated growth areas. Ms. Dargan-Steed noted that

southwest and southeast Anchorage, as well as the Eagle River area, have been identified as having rapidly growing populations. In response to a related question, Ms. Dargan-Steed indicated that she believes the population is shifting from older, more established areas of town into those newly developed areas south of town and out in Eagle River. Ms. Comeau also noted turnover in some established neighborhoods which makes it very difficult to project school enrollment.

Mr. Steiner questioned whether the middle school boundary efforts take into consideration the possible shift of sixth graders into the middle schools. Ms. Comeau explained that efforts are being made to keep as many boundaries as possible aligned from the elementary through the middle and on to the high school level. It is impossible to completely align all of the schools in that way, but efforts are being made to do so wherever possible. Mr. Steiner wanted to make sure that the fact that sixth graders will be moving out of affected elementary schools and into the new Muldoon area middle school is being taken into consideration as new elementary school boundaries are being determined.

Mr. Steiner reported that the Municipal charter requires that the District present the CIP to the Assembly for approval no later than ninety days before the end of the fiscal year. He had spoken to the Administration about being able to get the CIP at the same time it is released to the Planning & Zoning Commission in order to give the Board more time to review the plan. Ms. Comeau noted that, in the future, the Board can receive a draft of the CIP as soon as it is available. Mr. Steiner acknowledged how much work goes into the plan and voiced his appreciation to the staff for their efforts.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Steele

MOTION PASSED

At 7:50 p.m. the Board went into recess. Mr. Friedman called the meeting back to order at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Friedman introduced Mr. Mike Layne, one of the candidates running for the School Board. Ms. Comeau announced that she and other

members of the administrative staff will be meeting with School Board candidates from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. tomorrow, March 7, to answer any questions they might have.

ASD Memorandum # 213 – Acceptance of Grant Award: High Growth Job Training Initiative – Energy Planning Grant

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a planning grant from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Business Partnerships in the amount of \$10,000. Funds will be used to expand the District's program of instruction in the construction trades and to facilitate partnerships that prepare students for employment.

ACTION:

Moved by: Crystal Kennedy
seconded by: Mary Marks

To approve ASD Memorandum # 213 –
Acceptance of Grant Award: High
Growth Job Training Initiative – Energy
Planning Grant.

Ms. Kennedy noted that this memorandum indicated funding in the amount of \$10,000 but referenced that the funding will be received in two phases. There is notation that the Phase Two proposal is to be submitted later this month. She requested clarification as to the total amount of funding available and how it is to be distributed. Mr. Rios explained that the funds are from the Department of Labor which had received a \$7 million grant last year. From those funds, the Department of Labor put together \$100,000 RFPs. In order to submit for one of those \$100,000 grants, organizations first had to apply for a planning grant in an amount not to exceed \$15,000. The \$10,000 referenced in this memorandum is just the beginning. The District will submit the Phase Two proposal for \$100,000 on March 23rd. The proposal will be in support of construction trades during summer school and for a summer institute.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Steele

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum # 195 - Approval of Funding for Capital Projects
Using Interest Earnings and Redirected Balances

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the use of Capital Projects Fund interest earnings and redirection of bond funds in a total amount of \$1,045,000 for the projects identified in this memorandum.

ACTION:

Moved by: Crystal Kennedy
seconded by: Macon Roberts

To approve ASD Memorandum # 195 -
Approval of Funding for Capital
Projects Using Interest Earning and
Redirected Balances.

Ms. Kennedy requested information on how projects are selected to be covered by these funds. Mr. Amsden explained that the needs are identified through the offices of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Support Services. The Facilities Department is then tasked with meeting those needs. He noted that, in all of these cases presented in this memorandum, there is no funding except for this request. The bonds earn interest which is then available to address surprises, hidden conditions, delays and similar types of situations. Bond interest earnings also allow the District to address unfunded, emerging work deemed to be important. For the most part these are past CIP projects which need supplementary funding.

Ms. Stokesbary explained that when a bond is sold and then the project from the original bond proposal completed, then interest earned on the bond proceeds, if considered to be a small amount, can be used by the District. When larger amounts of money are involved the District has, in the past, gone back to the voters. That was part of the redirection for Fairview and Northern Lights Elementary Schools. These projects, through the 1996 projects, have interest earnings, so a change in the state statutes a few years ago allows the use of those earnings on projects on an as needed basis. The projects listed in the memorandum with 2000B or 2003B Interest Earnings were partially funded under those bond propositions and so it is up to the discretion of the District to decide which project needs the interest earnings.

Ms. Kennedy asked whether there is there a policy or principle by which criteria is set to decide which project will receive these funds. She raised

the question in light of items on the CIP list which could be covered by the funds and Ms. Kennedy wondered how the decision was made to wait on those items, hoping to bond for them, and use the funds for other projects. Mr. Amsden indicated that the question is one of priority. Mr. Vakalis explained that issues are identified and then prioritized in conjunction with the Superintendent. Ms. Comeau reviewed each of the projects listed in the memorandum, how they were identified and prioritized. Ms. Kennedy explained that she wondered if there is a need for some kind of policy to establish criteria to deal with these situations. She suggested that the Policy Subcommittee may want to look at the issue of how these projects are prioritized. Mr. Steiner indicated that it is his view that these projects should go through the Capital Request Advisory Committee and be vetted through that process and prioritized in the same manner, except to the extent that they are newly immergent and could not come up because of timing. He agreed that approving the CIP is presumably the process that sets priorities. His expectation is that when these types of funds become available, the District would look to the CIP to identify the highest priorities that can be accomplished with these funds. Mr. Friedman added that there is a large amount of the operating fund that also goes into similar capital projects. This is a recurring source of funds. If it is felt that how the use of these funds is prioritized should be reviewed. Mr. Friedman indicated that the Policy Subcommittee would be the appropriate body to look into the issue.

Mr. Steiner asked if there is any assurance that the portion of the roof at Clark Middle School marked for repair will remain through the planned renovation. Mr. Amsden noted that the design process for Clark Middle School is beginning this month. He explained that something has to be done with the roof this summer the question is whether to spend the money on a band-aid fix or use supplemental funds to put toward a permanent roof. He assured the Board that there is a high confidence that the roof in question will remain, but the money will not be spent until further along in the design process when the confidence level will be even higher.

Mr. Roberts commented that he knows from personal experience that the roof at Clark is definitely an issue which must be addressed. He acknowledged the hopes for a new design at the school but, in the interim, something must be done. Mr. Amsden added that damage is being done to the gym floor due to the leaks in the roof. Ms. Comeau reported that she has been made aware of damage being done to computers and other classroom supplies due to leaks and that something has to be done to

address the issue soon. She assured the Board that money will not be spent on a roof that will be torn down the next year.

Ms. Kennedy noted that she has no doubt that the projects listed in the memorandum are all needed projects, particularly the roof at Clark Middle School. She reiterated that she simply wants to make sure that there is a good process in place for determining priorities.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Steele

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum # 201 - Renewal of Contract: Zero Balance Banking Services

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to renew the zero balance banking services contract with the First National Bank Alaska (Bank) for a one-year period, July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. The amount required in the non-interest bearing time open account will be updated effective July 1, 2006 using the current semi-annual adjustment formula.

ACTION:

Moved by: John Steiner
seconded by: Mary Marks

To approve ASD Memorandum # 201 -
Renewal of Contract: Zero Balance
Banking Services.

Mr. Steiner indicated that he had initially had some concern with the level of confidence that the District is getting a good deal on these banking services and wondered whether the District should seek competitive bids for these services. He has since spoken with Ms. Stokesbary who clarified several things that he was unaware of such as when interest rates change so does the amount required to be kept in that account. He also noted that the District has done a comparison with the Municipality of Anchorage which uses a different bank provider for similar services. He is comfortable that there has been a certain level of review of the costs, but

believes that as interest rates go up there may be room for competition in this field in the future. He suggested that it may be appropriate to give the contract one more extension but to look seriously between now and next year to determine whether an RFP is appropriate. Ms. Comeau noted that she and Ms. Stokesbary had that very discussion last week and a decision had been made to seek a full RFP next year. She indicated her belief that due diligence had been done in preparing this recommendation and noted that all the different entities that are available to provide these services will be reviewed before next year.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Steele

MOTION PASSED

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. ASD Memorandum # 211 - Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of February 7, 2006 through February 27, 2006.

2. ASD Memorandum # 209 - Facility Contract Modification Report and Completed Projects for the Month of January 2006

The monthly Facility Change Order Report for the month of January 2006 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

3. ASD Memorandum # 212 - Status Report: Submission of Discretionary Grants, Second Quarter 2005-2006 School Year

The purpose of this report is to inform the School Board on a quarterly basis of new grants that have been submitted for funding.

I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Steiner reported that he and Ms. Kennedy had both been in attendance at the Center for Reform of School Systems last weekend for board member training sponsored by the Brode Foundation. They were also able to attend presentations by Ann Bryant, Executive Director of the National School Board Association, and Mike Kasserly, Executive Director of the Council of Great City Schools, at the conference. One of the primary topics of discussion was Board Policy. He indicated that he will be putting his notes together for the Board and feels confident that there will be several fruitful areas to discuss.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS
LITIGATION

L. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of March 6, 2006, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:20 p.m.

Jeff Friedman, President

John Steiner, Clerk

Johanna Lee, Recording Secretary

Date Minutes Approved