

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 14, 2008

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, April 14, 2008, at 6:33 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President, Tim Steele, presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE, Tim Steele Presiding

Board Members Present: Tim Steele, Crystal Kennedy, Jeff Friedman, Mary Marks and Macon Roberts. Chris Tuck and John Steiner joined the meeting by phone.

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Rhonda Gardner, Leslie Vandergaw, Mike Henry, Enid Silverstein, Jerry Sjolander, Jeff Wood, Eric Tollefsen, Michele Egan, Janet Stokesbary, George Vakalis, Jose DelReal, Ray Amsden, Marie Laule, Chad Stiteler, Ron Fuhrer, Johanna Lee, the press, and other interested people.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Steele indicated that Memorandum #264, Appointment of Additional Minority Education Concerns Committee Members, and Memorandum #244, Prior Approval of Grant Award: Title VI-B Individuals with Disabilities Education Entitlement and Pre-School Disabled Incentive, had been revised. Revised versions of those memoranda had been distributed.

The agenda was approved with the noted revisions by unanimous consent.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Steele noted that Ms. Marks will be leaving the board and that this will be her last meeting. Ms. Marks introduced several tribal leaders who spoke on her behalf as part of a ceremony celebrating her tenure on the Anchorage School Board. It was noted that Ms. Marks was the very first Native Alaskan to serve on the school board. The leaders thanked Ms. Marks for representing her people so well, congratulated her on her achievements and wished her well in her future endeavors. Ms. Marks' son, Paul Marks II, explained the meaning of the button blanket that Ms. Marks wore at the ceremony.

Ms. Marks reviewed her service over the past several years. She explained that her involvement with the district began as a member of the MECAC. She reviewed many of the efforts that, as a board member, she has been a part of over the years. She noted that she has been a part of charter school openings, school renovations and boundary changes. Ms. Marks thanked the Native community for entrusting her to serve on their behalf to the benefit of their children and grandchildren. She challenged her fellow board members to advocate for the Native Education programs that are so desperately needed.

Ms. Marks voiced her appreciation to each of the board members and the superintendent for their friendship and their support over the years. She indicated that it has been both an honor and pleasure to serve with each one of them. She shared that it has been the highest honor to serve her people and to be their voice and their advocate.

Mr. Steele presented Ms. Marks a Gold Pan in honor of her outstanding service from April, 2002 through April, 2008 on behalf of the students and families throughout the Anchorage School District.

Mr. Steiner shared a poem he wrote in honor of Ms. Marks.

Raven cocks her head, spreads her strong black wings,
Arises from her roost to look to other things.
Raven flies south east to soar in other skies.
We now see more clear with raven-opened eyes.

Each board member voiced their appreciation for Ms. Marks and the efforts that she has made on the local, state and national level on behalf of Native and non-Native students alike. They each expressed their well-wishes for Ms. Marks' future endeavors.

Mr. Jake Metcalfe, former school board member, stated that it had been an honor and privilege to have served with Ms. Marks during his tenure on the board. He noted that the district will miss her strong and passionate leadership on behalf of all the students in the district.

Ms. Comeau voiced her appreciation for Ms. Marks' service and wished the very best for her and her family.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

ASD Memorandum # 235 - Recognition of 2008 Student Library Bookmark Winners

Mr. Macon Roberts read that occasionally a literary adventure must be interrupted. As the reader reenters everyday reality, a promise is made to return when he or she places a bookmark in the pages. Each year, Anchorage School District librarians organize a bookmark design contest for all ASD students, inviting them to use their creativity to symbolize the wonderful world of reading and libraries. Designs incorporate the current American Library Association's theme of "Check it out @ your library."

The student bookmarks will be printed and distributed during National Library Week, scheduled for April 13-19. The following students won their divisions with the help of their school librarians, who are also listed:

Primary Division:	Eric Thomas, Spring Hill Elementary School Audrey Jorgensen, Librarian
Intermediate Division:	Tristan Morgan, Kasuun Elementary School Linda Masterson, Librarian
Middle School Division:	Pauline Corpus, Mears Middle School Heather Fleming, Librarian
High School Division:	Kate Partain, Eagle River High School Mary Jo Iagulli, Librarian

The Anchorage School Board officially congratulated these winners for sharing their artistic talents to spread the good word about good books.

ASD Memorandum # 262 - Recognition of Spirit of Youth Award Nominees and Winners

Mr. Jeff Friedman read that students who give back to their communities are celebrated by the Spirit of Youth Program, which presented its annual awards last month. This year's nominees included these students and groups from the Anchorage School District:

The SOY Nominees are Kelly Braudis, Wendler Middle School; David Chapa, Eagle River High; Tabbitha Cobb, East High School; Bobbi Demeris, Dimond High School; Kelsey Fall, Service High School; Evan Fried, West High School; Arianna Gould, East High School; Bart Grabman, Steller Secondary School; Olin Huffman, South High School; Eric Keller, Family Partnership Charter School; Sarah Keller, King Career

Center/AVAIL; Brittany Kunz, Dimond High School; Elaine Leibert, West High School; Kayla McDowell, West High School; Lauren Rom, Dimond High School; Kristian Singleton, Highland Tech High Charter School; Thomas Snider, Chugiak High School; Christopher Thompson, West High School; Summer Troxel, King Career Center; Lorenzo Tulia, Bartlett High School; the East High School "Change of Heart" trainers; the Hiland Tech High School Video Outreach Players ; and MediAK.

SOY 2008 Winners:

Celina Brown of Family Partnership Charter School created "Praise 3" with her two sisters, a gospel singing trio that entertains patients, the elderly and others going through tough times.

Matt Cook of Chugiak High School leads RSVP training sessions to empower youth to educate adults and convince them that they really need to listen to what teens are saying about change and improvement in their community.

Melissa Harken & Kathleen Kingsely of Chugiak High School learned of the need for shoes and clothing for children in Africa; then took the leadership role in creating, designing and implementing a fundraising plan to meet these needs.

George Yang of East High School is an outstanding musician and composer who volunteers every week to work with elementary students and helps them develop their musical skills. In addition, he has taken on the responsibility of caring for his younger siblings and keeping his household running.

The Anchorage School Board commended the 2008 Spirit of Youth Award winners for their creativity, compassion and dedication to community service.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory Board

Mr. Jose DelReal reported that the SAB has tabled the recycling resolution that they have been working on until next year. He noted that the SAB had passed a series of resolutions relating to discrimination against gay students in the district and the lack of district policies to prevent such discrimination.

Mr. DelReal read the National Day of Silence Resolution into the record.

Be it resolved by the Anchorage School District Student Advisory Board;

Whereas, the National Day of Silence is a day in which students take a vow of silence to bring attention to the anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender name-calling, bullying, and harassment faced by individuals in schools, including students, teachers, and other school staff;

Whereas, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network has designated one day of every April as the National Day of Silence;

Whereas, the 2008 National Day of Silence will be held in memory of Lawrence King, a 15-year-old California student who was shot and killed in school in February by a 14-year-old classmate because of King's sexual orientation and gender identity/expression;

Whereas, more than 500,000 students from more than 5,000 junior and high schools participated in the National Day of Silence in previous years;

Whereas, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network's 2005 National School Climate Survey illustrates the pervasive harassment and victimization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students;

Whereas, more than 80 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students have been verbally harassed at school by their peers because of their sexual orientation or gender identity/expression;

Whereas, nearly 40 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students were physically harassed by their peers because of their sexual orientation or gender identity/expression;

Whereas, nearly 20 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students were physically assaulted by their peers at school because of their sexual orientation or gender identity/expression;

Whereas, over 40 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students reported that faculty and staff never intervene when homophobic language is used in their presence;

Whereas, nearly 30 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students reported missing at least one entire school day in the last month because they felt unsafe;

Whereas, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth who experienced high levels of verbal harassment because of their sexual orientation are more likely to report that they did not plan to

attend college than youth who never or rarely experienced such harassment;

Whereas, unchecked harassment based on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression has a negative impact on student academic performance such that grade point averages are a half grade lower than for other students;

Whereas, the harassment affects not only lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students, but all members of the community, and contributes to a negative school climate;

Whereas, 40 state, including Alaska, do not have laws protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students from name-calling, bullying, and harassment that occurs at school because of sexual orientation;

Whereas, only 5 states and the District of Columbia have laws protecting student from anti-LBT name-calling, bullying, and harassment based on their gender identity/expression;

Whereas, every child should be guaranteed an education free from name-calling, bullying, harassment, and discrimination regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity/expression;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Anchorage School District Student Advisory Board: (1) support the goals and ideals of the National Day of Silence; (2) encourages the Anchorage School District and the State of Alaska to adopt laws and policies to prohibit name-calling, bullying, harassment and discrimination against students, teachers, and other school staff regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity/expression so that our schools are institutions where all individuals are able to focus on learning.

Mr. DelReal read the Equal Protection Amendment Resolution into the record.

Observing the February 2008 murder of 15-year-old California student Lawrence King, killed by a 14-year-old classmate because of his sexual orientation and gender identity, and

Acknowledging that a 2005 study indicated that the top three reasons students are bullied and harassed in school are, in order; their physical appearance, their real or perceived sexual orientation, and their gender identity and expression, and

Affirming that a safe school environment free of bullying and harassment is vital to a successful education, and

Supporting the Anchorage School District promise of "educating all students for success in life,"

Therefore, be it resolved that the Anchorage School District Student Advisory Board strongly recommends that the Anchorage School Board amend School Board Policies 114.1, Display of Prejudice Towards Others, and 490.14, Prohibited Material, to include both 'sexual orientation' and 'gender identity,' as per the attached "Recommended Changes to Board Policy."

Mr. DelReal read the Employment Non-Discrimination Resolution into the record.

Recognizing that it is currently legal under state and federal law to terminate in most professions on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, and
Observing that the Alaska Code of Ethics and Teaching Standards prohibits any educator from discriminating against a colleague on the basis of sexual orientation, and
Affirming that the Anchorage School District values all of its employees, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity,
The Anchorage School District Student Advisory board recommends that the Anchorage amend its policies 527, Equal Employment Opportunity, 532.241, EEO Policy Statement, and 604, EEO Policy Statement, to state a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, as per the attached "Recommended Changes to Board Policy."

Mr. DelReal reported that each of these resolutions was passed nearly unanimously. The only reason for any dissention was that some of the SAB members were unsure whether it was appropriate for any student organization to recommend policy changes that would be considered controversial. This issue could, of course, be considered a very contentious matter. The SAB understood that it competes with various ideologies but, despite this, they reached the consensus that all students in the district deserve to feel safe. Harassment on the basis of sexual orientation is blatant discrimination. We do have gay and lesbian students in our schools and they deserve to be protected against unwarranted and hurtful discrimination.

Mr. Friedman thanked Mr. DelReal and the SAB for their resolutions. He noted that one of tonight's Spirit of Youth Award Winners was recognized for his efforts to convince adults that they really need to listen to what teens are saying about change and improvement in their community. He is confident that this board will listen and

consider these resolutions very carefully. Mr. DelReal voiced his appreciation for the board's consideration. He noted that, in passing these resolutions, the SAB is saying that as a student population they support measures to prevent discrimination of this kind.

Ms. Kennedy commended Mr. DelReal for the efforts put forth to bring these resolutions. She noted that the SAB absolutely has the right to bring forward any kind of policy suggestions they find to be important. These resolutions will be reviewed by the Policy Subcommittee. She commended the SAB for doing such a thorough job of reviewing current policy as they prepared these resolutions.

The next Student Advisory Board meeting will be May 1, 2008.

2. Military Delegate

Lt. Col. Luu sent apologies that he was unable to attend the meeting this evening. Mr. Brian Griggs announced that General Fraser will be transferring to Pacific Command this month. On General Fraser's behalf, Mr. Griggs voiced his appreciation to the Anchorage School District for their efforts to serve military students and families during the turbulent times over the last few years.

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

Ms. Damita Owen reported that the MECAC has been working to fill all of the MECAC seats. She introduced Ms. Marie Husa, Dr. Ellsworth James and Mr. Lamin Jobarteh. The recommendation for appointing these three individuals to the MECAC is on the Consent Agenda this evening. Mr. Steele voiced his appreciation to Ms. Husa, Dr. James and Mr. Jobarteh for their willingness to serve.

Ms. Owen noted that the MECAC will be electing officers and discussing goals for the next year at their May 8, 2008 meeting.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Susan Metcalfe, librarian at Dimond High School, reported that it is School Library Media Month and National Library Week. She expressed

gratitude on behalf of the librarians across the district to the board and to the district administration for all the support they have received. They particularly appreciated the work session on Libraries of the 21st Century that took place last year as well as the board's decision to reinstate the Library Assistants and to create the Library Curriculum Coordinator position. She reviewed several accomplishments of the curriculum coordinator that have positively impacted the efforts of librarians across the district. She also highlighted several exciting things happening in the district thanks to the presence of library assistants in our libraries. She firmly believes that a strong, well-used, inviting school library contributes greatly to student achievement.

Mr. Friedman noted that our librarians are teachers and it is very advantageous to use them as teachers rather than administrative clerks or having them spend their time shelving books. Mr. DelReal noted that the librarians are a vital resource in the high schools and that, in his experience, most students make good use of their libraries.

Mr. Scott Rees offered his thoughts on the recent camera security RFP that the board may be reconsidering this evening. He indicated that he works for a company that specializes in surveillance and security work and they are very familiar with IP technology. He voiced his concern with delaying the migration from analog to IP cameras. He applauded the board for being willing to reconsider this decision.

Ms. Kennedy asked whether the equipment already in place would have to be scrapped in order to move to IP or if the new IP technology could be integrated into the current system. Mr. Rees explained that the district could move all of the current system into one or two schools and then fully digitize other facilities.

Mr. Steiner asked the speaker to address the issue of having two different systems in place at different schools across the district. Mr. Rees explained that it would likely be a cumbersome process but that it could be done.

Mr. Steiner asked whether the speaker is affiliated with one system or other. Mr. Rees explained that the company he is affiliated with installs primarily IP systems.

Mr. Tuck requested that the speaker stay for possible discussion later in the meeting.

H. 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 - January 14, 2008
 - b. Special Meeting - March 24, 2008
2. ASD Memorandum # 277 - Adoption of Tentative Agreement: Public Employees Local 71 (AFL-CIO) Representing Custodians and Building Plant Operators, 2008-2011

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the District and Public Employees Local 71, which will establish terms and conditions of employment for individuals in this unit during the period between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2011.

3. ASD Memorandum # 238 - Resolution Supporting Administrative Professionals Day, April 23, 2008

The Administration recommends the Anchorage School Board approve and adopt the attached resolution in support of the Administrative Professionals Day, April 23, 2008.

4. ASD Memorandum # 275 - Resolution Supporting the Adoption of the National Incident Management System

The Administration recommends the Anchorage School Board approve and adopt the attached resolution supporting adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the model for all emergency management activities conducted by the Anchorage School District.

5. ASD Memorandum # 279 - Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Project Lead the Way, Incorporated

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the superintendent to sign a memorandum of agreement with Project Lead the Way, Inc. in preparation for the opening of Dimond High School's Engineering Academy.

6. ASD Memorandum # 264 - Appointment of Additional Minority Education Concerns Advisory Committee Members

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board appoint Marie Husa (Attachment A) and Ellsworth James (Attachment B) and Lamin Jobarteh (Attachment C) to the Minority Education Concerns Advisory Committee (MECAC).

7. ASD Memorandum # 243 - Prior Approval of Grant Award: Alaska State School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept the Department of Education contract for the instructional support component of the Alaska State School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the amount of \$319,000.

8. ASD Memorandum # 244 - Prior Approval of Grant Award: Title VI-B Individuals with Disabilities Education Entitlement and Pre-School Disabled Incentive

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Title VI-B Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Entitlement Grant and the Preschool Disabled Incentive Grant for FY 2007-2008. The total amount for both grants combined is \$9,668,508 based on the attached budgets (Attachments A and B).

9. ASD Memorandum # 263 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Fred Meyer Stores

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a cash grant from Fred Meyer Stores in the amount of \$18,946.

10. ASD Memorandum # 269 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Title IID Enhancing Education Through Technology (E2T2)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant funds from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$148,023 for the 2007-2008 school year for the Title IID Enhancing Education Through Technology Program.

11. ASD Memorandum # 273 - Acceptance of Grant Award: South Anchorage High School, Partners in Science

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant from M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust for \$7,000 for implementation of CSI Moose—a Model Organism Study of *Alces alces*.

12. ASD Memorandum # 247 - Prior Approval: Indian Education Continuation Grant Application for 2008-2009

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Title VII Indian Education grant for FY 2008-2009. The total amount for the grant is \$2,070,634.

13. ASD Memorandum # 240 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority in Support of Health Career Pathways

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority in the amount of \$46,000.

14. ASD Memorandum # 268 - Acceptance of Grant Award Airborne Teacher Trust Fund Grant to Mt. Iliamna Elementary School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the superintendent to accept a grant in the amount of \$6,000 from the Airborne Teachers Trust Fund for Mt. Iliamna Elementary School.

15. ASD Memorandum # 178 - Award of Contract: Student Records Scanning Services

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract to AHNCO Office Solutions, Inc. to provide scanning services for the Information Technology Department at \$.11 per page for imaging and \$.075 per page for converting microfiche/microfilm, in a total amount not to exceed \$450,000.

16. ASD Memorandum # 241 - Award of Contract: Playground Shredded Rubber Fill

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract to

National Sales & Supply, LLC to furnish playground shredded rubber fill in the amount of \$428,000.

17. ASD Memorandum # 256 - Award of Contract: West High School HVAC Upgrade

It is the Administration's recommendation the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the West High School HVAC Upgrade Project to Lewis Mechanical, Inc. for the Base Bid amount of \$265,484, and Base Bid Assignment for \$68,561 for a total award price of \$334,045.

18. ASD Memorandum # 260 - Award of Contract: Dimond High School Corridor Wall Hardening

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Dimond High School Corridor Wall Hardening Project to Flair Interiors, Inc., dba Giant Don's Flooring America, for the Base Bid amount of \$130,292, Alternate #1 for \$56,589 and Alternate #2 for \$26,118, for a total award price of \$212,999.

19. ASD Memorandum # 261 - Award of Contract: Dimond High School Gym Mansard Renovation

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Dimond High School Auxiliary Gym Mansard Renovation Project to Koman, Inc., for the Base Bid amount of \$869,586.

20. ASD Memorandum # 271 - Recommendation for Sand Lake Elementary School Renewal Construction Delivery Method

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to utilize the General Contractor/Construction Manager (GC/CM) project delivery method for the Sand Lake Elementary School Renewal Project, contingent upon approval of the method by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

21. ASD Memorandum # 236 - Personnel Report

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

22. Request for Reconsideration of ASD Memorandum #233 and Memorandum #234.

23. ASD Memorandum # 233 - Award of Contract: Multi-School CCTV Installation & Security System Upgrades (tentative pending results of vote for reconsideration)

It is the Administration's recommendation the School Board approve the selection of ATS Alaska, Inc., as the Design/Builder for the Multi-School CCTV Installation & Security System Upgrade, and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the amount of \$3,482,600.

24. ASD Memorandum # 234 - Professional Services Selection for CCTV & Security Systems Upgrades Construction Administration (tentative Pending results of vote for reconsideration)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the selection of RSA Engineering, Inc., for Construction Administration Services on the Multi-School CCTV Installation & Security System Upgrade Project, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into a contract with RSA Engineering, Inc., for Construction Administration Services.

Mr. Friedman requested that Item #22, Request for Reconsideration of ASD Memorandum #233 and Memorandum #234, as well as ASD Memoranda #233, Award of Contract: Multi-School CCTV Installation & Security System Upgrades, and #234, Professional Services Selection for CCTV & Security Systems Upgrades Construction Administration, be pulled for review.

Ms. Kennedy requested that ASD Memoranda #279, Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Project Lead the Way, Incorporated, and #240, Acceptance of Grant Award: Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority in Support of Health Career Pathways, be pulled for discussion.

Ms. Marks requested that ASD Memorandum #247, Prior Approval: Indian Education Continuation Grant Application for 2008-2009, be pulled for discussion.

ACTION:

Moved by: Jeff Friedman
Seconded by: Macon Roberts

To approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2008, the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 25, 2008, and Memoranda #277, #238, #275, #264, #243, #244 as Revised, #263, #269, #273, #268, #178, #241, #256, #260, #261, #271, and #236.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum # 279 - Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Project Lead the Way, Incorporated

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the superintendent to sign a memorandum of agreement with Project Lead the Way, Inc. in preparation for the opening of Dimond High School's Engineering Academy.

ACTION:

Moved by: Crystal Kennedy
Seconded by: Jeff Friedman

To approve and authorize the superintendent to sign a memorandum of agreement with Project Lead the Way, Inc. in preparation for the opening of Dimond High School's Engineering Academy.

Ms. Kennedy noted that she had pulled this item to highlight some of the really innovative things that are going on in the Anchorage School District in terms of our vocational and career technology programs.

Ms. Cheryl Guyette, principal at Dimond High School, explained that the program is not yet in place but that they are very excited about this opportunity for their students beginning next year. Ms. Guyette introduced Ms. Jennifer Childress and Mr. Wade Roach who have been

instrumental in this program development. Throughout the 2007-2008 school year, Dimond High School has been engaged in a collaborative process to begin an Engineering Academy at the school. In addition to building strong staff involvement, the principal has engaged numerous members of the science and engineering profession, university professors, parents, and students to serve on an advisory board for the program. Efforts to begin this program have been financially supported primarily by Siemens of Alaska with the assistance and guidance of the National Association of Career and Technical Education. Conversations are currently underway with the Gates Foundation to secure additional funding.

After much review, the *Project Lead the Way*® curricula have been selected for a portion of the academy's coursework. Use of these curricula requires a memorandum of agreement approved by the board. Ms. Guyette explained that the MOA has been reviewed and approved by IT, Purchasing, Risk Management and Instruction. Funds for the training and curricula required in the MOA have been provided by grants from Siemens of Alaska.

Ms. Guyette explained that the challenge now is to determine how to work this program into the school day. Ms. Childress developed a way to offer one section of this program during regular six-period school day and also offer one section after school so that students who want to take seven courses could do so.

Ms. Childress indicated that this program provides a way to help students connect what is being taught in the classroom to real life situations. It will show students what engineering really is and will prepare them to follow that career path.

Ms. Guyette reported that UAA is another strong partner in this program. The Dean of the Engineering School at UAA has indicated that they are even willing to change their curriculum to match the need that industry has and to compliment the graduates they hope to have coming out of this program. Ms. Guyette indicated that PLTW does have a middle school program but that it is not on the table yet. She reviewed some of the early discussion with the staff at Mears Middle School regarding articulating their students into the program as they move from middle to high school. They have already identified 27 students at Mears who are interested in taking the freshman class next year.

Mr. Steiner indicated that the contract, as he reads it, places many restrictions and commitments on the district while doing very little to describe what commitments PLTW was making to the district. Due to the exclusive nature of the software selection process, Mr. Steiner indicated that he is concerned that this program not be used as a marketing tool. Ms. Guyette explained that PLTW was recommended to the district by the National Association of Career and Technical Education who has no business interest with that corporation. PLTW is a nationally recognized curriculum that has impressive articulated agreements with top-notch universities across the country. Mr. Roach indicated that the software package that will be used is very fairly robust software package. It is an industry standard and goes well with the software currently used in the district. Ms. Gardner noted that there had not been any concern raised regarding the software selection from either the Purchasing Department or the Instructional Technology Department.

Mr. Steiner noted that there is a substantial commitment on professional development. He wondered how that training would be covered. Ms. Guyette explained that the grant will be paying for the training this year for all four teachers. The training of new staff in the future will be the responsibility of the district. Ms. Childress noted that providing this training is evidence of PLTWs commitment to the district.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum # 247 - Prior Approval: Indian Education Continuation Grant Application for 2008-2009

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Title VII Indian Education grant for FY 2008-2009. The total amount for the grant is \$2,070,634.

ACTION:

Moved by: Mary Marks
Seconded by: Macon Roberts

To approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Title VII Indian Education grant for FY 2008-2009. The total amount for the grant is \$2,070,634.

Ms. Mary Marks asked Ms. Brown to share some of the exciting things going on through our Indian Education program. Ms. Brown thanked Ms. Marks for her service to the Native community.

Ms. Brown explained that the program continues to grow with an ever increasing number of 506 forms being collected. She explained how the Indian Education program staffing is projected to look for the next school year. These plans are based on input from the community.

Ms. Marks indicated her belief that it is extremely important to get resources into the elementary schools particularly in order to assist Native students to secure reading skills by the third grade. Ms. Marks asked if efforts are being made to enhance the celebration of Native Heritage Month. Ms. Brown explained that Native Heritage Month is a community project not just a district function. They are eager for ideas and input from the community.

Ms. Kennedy particularly appreciated the public accountability section of the Indian Education program and plans to continue to provide avenues for members of the Native Community to participate. She was also thrilled to hear that the Native Advisory Committee is planning to have someone attend board meetings on a regular basis. She wondered whether there is anyone representing the Native community on the MECAC. Ms. Brown indicated that, while there has been in the past, to her knowledge there is currently no Native representation on the MECAC.

Mr. Steiner asked how the dollar amount in this grant compares to this year's grant and how the dollar amount is determined. Ms. Brown indicated that the grant amount is based on the number of 506 forms that are completed and turned in. Because of the new ethnic coding system the district has moved up to almost 9,000 Native students this year. While the number of forms submitted has steadily increased each year Ms. Brown indicated her belief that we can always do better. In addition to increasing the percentage of Native students who complete the 506 forms the district is also experiencing an increase of Native students coming into the district from rural Alaska.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum # 240 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority in Support of Health Career Pathways

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority in the amount of \$46,000.

ACTION:

Moved by: Crystal Kennedy	To authorize the Superintendent to
Seconded by: Mary Marks	accept a grant award from the Alaska
	Mental Health Trust Authority in the
	amount of \$46,000.

Ms. Kennedy pulled this memorandum to draw attention to some of the efforts being made in the area of Career and Technology Education and Workforce Development. This grant will support a new course, Personal Care Assistant, which will be offered through the third session at King Career Center with a planned expansion to Service High School in the 2008-2009 school year. In addition, the initial course offering will bridge to a more advanced Certified Nurse Assistant course in the 2009-2010 school year.

Ms. Kennedy asked whether the Personal Care Assistant course leads to any type of certification that would allow students to move directly into this career field. Ms. Sharon Vaissiere explained that the Personal Care Assistant is a specific certification from the state. It will allow students to go right into a well-paying job in this field at the age of eighteen. She went on to explain that while the current course is a one-semester course being offered during the third session at KCC, the planned expansion at Service High School will be a two-semester course. The Service High School course will be open to all students but is being targeted to a group of high functioning Special Education students.

Mr. Steiner asked whether we will actually be granting a CNA certification to students who complete that class when it becomes available. Ms. Vaissiere indicated that the intention is to have certified CNAs coming out of that course.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

The board went into recess at 8:55 p.m. and was called back into session at 9:12 p.m.

Request for Reconsideration of ASD Memorandum #233 and Memorandum #234.

ACTION:

Moved by: Crystal Kennedy	To reconsider School Board
Seconded by: Chris Tuck	Memoranda #233 and #234, passed by the Anchorage School Board March 24, 2008.

Ms. Kennedy recalled that there had been a number of questions raised during the previous discussion of these memos. She noted that she was approached immediately following that meeting by someone who had wanted to testify in opposition to the merits of the contract. They indicated to her that they did not openly seek to testify because they had been warned of ramifications should their testimony lead to the board disapproving the recommendations. To Ms. Kennedy that represented an undue influence on what she hopes is an open and public process.

Ms. Kennedy indicated that she had were three reasons for bringing these issues up for reconsideration. The first reason is the idea that there has been interference in what is hopefully a fair and open process in which the board makes decisions. In addition, since that time more information has become available which she believes should be considered before making a final decision to assure that the board is doing the right thing with public funds. The third reason for reconsideration is a possible conflict of interest on Memorandum #234. She believes that these three reasons merit an opportunity to reconsider the action taken on the two memoranda in question.

Mr. Friedman asked the record to reflect that his retirement account owns some GE Capital Corporation bonds. This is a different corporation than these memoranda deal with. He did not believe that the investments would be influenced by any action taken here. With no concerns raised by other board members, Mr. Steele ruled that Mr. Friedman should participate in this action.

Mr. Friedman appreciated Ms. Kennedy comments and understood her concern about individuals who may have been uneasy about testifying

publicly on these issues. He did not believe that we, as a district, would ever attempt to retaliate against or look down upon people because of their positions on public issues.

Mr. Friedman noted that prior to the original vote on these memos he had spoken to a number of people within the administration and read a lot of material provided to board members by Mr. Tuck. Since that vote he has spoken to some of the people who had concerns and has gathered additional information. Nothing that he has heard or read in the time since the original vote on these memos convinces him that the board made the wrong decision. The board had talked about these issues for quite some time. The bottom line for him is that he feels comfortable that the action already taken will provide a good product that will be useful and serve our needs. If we change direction and get a different product it will be more expensive and it may run into some of the same problems that people seem to be concerned about with what was approved. Mr. Friedman is confident that the board made a good decision that will serve us well and will avoid some of the risks that taking another direction would bring. He does not intend to vote for reconsideration.

Mr. Roberts noted that he has done a great deal of research since the last meeting. While he didn't know whether the final outcome will change he did believe that reconsideration is warranted. This did not reflect any concern on his part that there had been any unethical action taken by anyone involved. He simply believed that further information and clarification of the issues would be beneficial.

Ms. Marks indicated that she would like to hear more about this issue as she identified merits on both sides of the question.

VOTE for Reconsideration:

Ayes: Steiner, Kennedy, Tuck,
Marks, Roberts

Nays: Friedman, Steele

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum # 233 - Award of Contract: Multi-School CCTV Installation & Security System Upgrades (tentative pending results of vote for reconsideration)

It is the Administration's recommendation the School Board approve the selection of ATS Alaska, Inc., as the Design/Builder for the Multi-School CCTV Installation & Security System Upgrade, and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the amount of \$3,482,600.

ACTION:

Moved by: Crystal Kennedy
Seconded by: Mary Marks

To approve the selection of ATS Alaska, Inc., as the Design/Builder for the Multi-School CCTV Installation & Security System Upgrade, and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the amount of \$3,482,600.

Ms. Comeau asked Mr. Vakalis and Mr. Mew to come forward to address whatever questions the board might have. In light of these allegations of undue influence being placed on certain individuals, she particularly wanted the district's perspective on that issue to be on the record.

Mr. Vakalis noted that the information they have received since the last board meeting does not represent anything new and indicated that the administration's position is still the same. Mr. Vakalis introduced Mr. Dave Rand and Mr. Bill Fair from ATS Alaska. He also introduced Mr. Bill Huber, Vice President for General Electric Security and Mr. Bryce Miller, Systems Engineer with General Electric Security among a number of district staff members. He noted that all of the people associated with this project were eager to take any questions and to assist the board in making a decision on these recommendations.

Mr. Rand explained that ATS Alaska specializes in security, fire, alarm and control systems for commercial and industrial projects. He noted that there has been a lot of discussion including some misinformation and hearsay about this project. He listed several facts for the board. ATS competitively bid this project and were awarded this project because they had the lowest price as well as significant experience with video surveillance and security projects. He noted that ATS had already done similar projects in about eight ASD schools. They also have a wide range of experience using both analogue and IP solutions. The installation of this project will be done by ATS's electrical subcontractor, Northstar Electric. Northstar is a non-union company however Mr. Rand noted that ATS works with both union and non-union contractors alike. He stated that he had solicited quotes from union subcontractors. For this project Northstar was significantly less and they had good experience doing this same type of work.

Mr. Rand noted that going to an IP-based solution for the cameras will be a lot more expensive and in this case will actually reduce functionality. To compare this GE analog solution with an IP solution you would need at

least 48 cameras at a single site before it would be equitable price-wise with an analog solution. This project is made up of 28 very small projects. The average school has only 11 cameras and no school has more than 32 cameras. Even at that high a price the IP cameras would not integrate with the security or card access systems.

Mr. Rand indicated that the bottom line is that, if the board awards the contract this evening, there will systems up and operational by the end of this summer at 11 schools. The system will be up and operational at an additional 17 schools by the end of next year. This same GE solution is being used at about 20 existing schools. They work and they are cost effective. They are being used by the principals and police and are catching vandals and miscreants.

Mr. Steele asked whether the differences in resolution between IP and analog are significant enough to impact system performance. Mr. Rand explained that the cameras that will be used for this project have been tried and tested in the ASD and are now being successfully used. Mr. Bryce Miller explained that there are two difference types of information captured with video systems. One is identification and the other is general activity. After reviewing this project, cameras were selected that fit the need for those particular environments and provide the resolution that is aligned with the intent of the specification.

Mr. Steele asked about storage capacity with regards to the resolution. Mr. Mew explained that there is a tradeoff between resolution and storage. Higher resolution and more frames per second amounts to extra data that must be stored. The district wants to keep information for at least 30 days. The storage necessary to keep super high resolution and super high frames per second would sky rocket the cost of the project. It is a balancing act.

Mr. Friedman asked Mr. Mew to discuss the scope of the project to include what it involves beyond cameras and the interplay between the different elements. He also wanted to know whether there would be complications in terms of integrating all of the different elements if the district goes with IP cameras. Mr. Mew explained that even though everyone seems focused on this contract as being all about CCTV it is really a security contract with a CCTV component. When talking about security the district is talking about intrusion detection systems. It so happens that the GE InfoGraphic system that was selected a few years ago does the intrusion detection component but it was also selected in part because it is the backbone for electronic access control. There are more schools getting

InfoGraphics out of this contract than there are schools getting CCTV. There are far fewer CCTV sites on the contract than there are security sites. The other thing that we are working with is the possibility of doing some rudimentary integration with some security devices but it will take some custom work to make that happen. Full-blown integration like the kind the district has conceived will not happen with InfoGraphics. We already have a basis of 17 sites with InfoGraphics well on their way toward access control. There is no reason to give that up. Some people may have the opinion that IP is just better than analog but the administration does not think that it is enough better today to throw away the security sites that are already in place. Mr. Mew indicated that they were happy staying the course we are on now and migrating as the technology migrates.

Mr. Friedman asked what the cost of integration will be when it can be done. Mr. Mew indicated that integration will have to be paid for. If the district purchases all of the pieces from one company then that company will have a vested interest in making it work and will have made some commitments to us in that regard.

Mr. Roberts asked how flexible the current system is in terms of adapting to new technology. Mr. Mew explained that on the CCTV side the district has 17 school sites and 2 administrative sites that have GE DVMREs. If we go ahead with this contract we will probably install a number of SimSafe units which are the next product up from the DVMREs that we have in those locations. What is important to us is to make sure from a single front end we can look back and see the both the video that will be coming out of SimSafe schools as well as the video that comes out of the DVMRE schools. We will be able to do that because the front end software that allows us to see into those systems is compatible with both. The next thing we need to do is figure out if we can make both of those types of CCTV integrate with access control and with alarm systems. That requires more software which is where Facility Commander comes in. Facility Commander is under development right now. There are versions of it that do certain things but the version that will do all the things Mr. Mew described will not be out until later this year. We will not use it for probably a year after that while we let some other people work the bugs out before we pick it up. The product that we are going to with this contract has a hybrid IP capability to it. So the district may start getting used to IP cameras. GE has partnered with a company call Genetech that helps make the IP transition occur. This is the migration path that will eventually get the district to IP. If the district were to go with strictly IP today there would be two different types of systems or we would have to

go back to the 17 schools and throw the current systems away in order to have one system. In addition, that camera system will not talk to our security system nor will it talk to our access control system. Mr. Mew acknowledged that IP systems are cool but they are not so cool that it would warrant throwing 17 systems away or justify operating two independent systems. Sooner or later the district will migrate to an IP system but we will do it in a way that works with the systems currently in place. The district does not need to be in a big hurry to get there. The systems in place now are working.

Mr. Rand explained that as part of ATS Alaska's scope of work and part of their contract they will be doing the Facility Commander upgrade and the integration between those different systems. Those pieces will be covered in the contract that is on the table.

In response to a question from Mr. Tuck, Mr. Rand explained that ATS Alaska has experience with both IP and DVR solutions. They ran the numbers for this project to determine whether it would be more cost effective to go to an IP solution. He noted that the decision between the two systems comes down to the density of cameras per facility. In this district where elementary schools have approximately six cameras the IP solution costs approximately 70 percent more than the analog system.

Mr. Tuck asked how the district can save on bandwidth by using DVRs. Mr. Mew explained that the only concern about the amount of bandwidth that would be needed or used is when data is pulled from the individual sites to a remote location and is not impacted by whether the local site is served by an analog system or an IP system.

Mr. Bill Huber from GE Security responded to a question from Mr. Tuck by explaining that Facility Commander is that software that will integrate the InfoGraphics hardware with DVMREs in place and will take in the new SimSafe DVRs that will be installed. That portion of the software is still in development but Mr. Huber has provided a letter to Mr. Mew guaranteeing the delivery of that system by the end of the year. The schedule is for Beta testing to begin in December of this year and for delivery in the first quarter. Mr. Huber indicated that GE Security is 100 percent committed to the backwards compatibility. He noted that they have tens of thousands of InfoGraphics systems installed and they do not intend to leave any of those customers behind. Mr. Rand explained that the integration schedule as part of the contract will take place by the end of 2009. As part of their scope of work ATS Alaska has taken on the responsibility for integration on that schedule.

Ms. Kennedy indicated her concern that the district is being locked into old technology and into a sole proprietorship relationship with a particular vendor. She wanted to make sure that by taking the cheaper route today the district will not incur greater costs in the future. She asked for some assurance that the district will not be locked into a system with old technology and that the system will be flexible enough for future technology advancements. Mr. Mew explained that this contract calls for the purchase of the next generation up from the current system components. Each time additional components are needed the technology will be current technology. This can be done without wasting any components or systems currently in place. Technology will continue to change over time and the district will continue to change with it. It is unrealistic to believe that even IP technology today will look like IP technology in the future.

Mr. Steiner asked how serious a problem it would be to have two separate systems should the district choose to leave the current systems in place and shift to IP at any and all new sites. Mr. Mew explained that, even assuming that the costs were the same for the two systems, shifting to a different system would necessitate having two sets of expertise to manage the systems. IT staff would have to manage the IP system and Maintenance staff would have to manage the DVR system. It would also be twice as much work for the users, particularly the central users, to keep tabs on these two systems. If there were a compelling reason to take this avenue it could be done but there is no compelling reason when the recommended path offers integration of systems and migration over time. Ms. Marks indicated that she is convinced that the district is not equipped to set up an IP system now and that the system currently in place is working well to meet our needs. She is also convinced that the opportunity to move to an IP system will be available when the district is ready to move in that direction. She is persuaded to support the administration's recommendation. She believed that delaying this decision will cost us more money in the long run.

Mr. Roberts indicated that this reconsideration had addressed many of his concerns. He understood that the systems in place now are working. He had been concerned that the system would become obsolete and would not be adaptable to future technology advances. He no longer has those concerns and indicated that he would support the recommendation.

Mr. Steiner recalled that he had voiced concern at the last meeting regarding the procedure. The decision had been made to specify only one

product on this RFP. He noted that you generally don't see product specific specifications on an RFP. The decision was made to define the specifications without exposing it to the creativity or the competition of the marketplace on the assumption that an IP system would be more expensive and that it did not have enough advantages to justify the greater expense. That method of procurement would also expose GE bidders to that competition. Even though it may turn out that this recommendation would remain the same he would much rather that conclusion had come about based on competitive proposals. He remained concerned about those issues and was unsure that the urgency merits proceeding without putting it to that competitive pressure. He tended to believe that this process should go back to the drawing board and demonstrate that this call was right rather than to make the call without that competition.

Mr. Tuck reiterated his argument that the cost between analog and IP is not significant enough to warrant continued purchase and use of what he believes is an outdated system. He has presented written documentation to the administration and other board members that the break even point for cost differential is right around 32 cameras. He also noted his concern with the cable length specification for current installations if the district truly intends to migrate to an IP solution in the future. Mr. Tuck also noted how much more IP cameras can do compared to analog cameras. He reviewed some of the attributes available with an IP camera system not available with analog. He also reiterated his concern with the cabling required by the system being put in at this time. The technology is advancing fast and if we get locked into an analog system the migration path will be extremely expensive and will take many, many years. He believed that the direction the district should move is to let go of the schools that are already installed. While there is a promise of integration there is no proven path and no guarantee that this system will work. He believed that this is a poor business decision to use taxpayer money investing in an antiquated system with no proven ability to integrate with security and card access.

Mr. Friedman indicated that there have been a lot of internal discussions both with district staff and with outside people about all of these issues. While it would have been interesting to hear the process of how they got to their conclusion, the board was able to hear some summaries of those discussions. He is reassured that district staff has been talking about this internally for at least two years. It is not that they are jumping at the first idea that came along. This is a big cost project but everything that we have heard is that if most of the sites are going to have eleven cameras it is

cheaper to go with the CCTV than the IP. Whether the break even point is at 32 or 48 doesn't really matter because either of those are many more than we need. In terms of using tax payer dollars, if we are going to spend \$4.5 million and go with IP then we will have a lot less than what we are getting with this contract. Each camera may be able to do a lot of really neat things that will be used very infrequently but what we are buying will meet the needs of the district. The district does not need all the bells and whistles. We just need to have cameras in our schools to catch vandals with spray paint and kids starting fights. These cameras work well for that purpose. He believed that this is a good decision and he did not see the sense of taking on the risk and the expense of choosing an IP solution.

Ms. Kennedy continued to wrestles with the fact that we are locking ourselves into outgoing technology with a sole proprietorship. She also has question about the fact that the district decided to take this route even before the RFP was put out. It seemed as though the public process did not have the opportunity to work in the fullest sense. She felt that we are putting ourselves at risk for higher cost in the long run without the ability to take advantage of any new technology. Ms. Kennedy also noted that GE experienced their lowest profit last quarter and that their stockholders recently indicated a lack of confidence in the company. She wondered whether that was something that the board needs to take into consideration.

Mr. Vakalis and others responded to questions raised by Mr. Tuck. Mr. Vakalis indicated that the length of the run is specified in the contract with a limit of 90 meters which is well within the parameters. On the question of the cable Mr. Rand noted that they are using Ethernet Cat-5e or Cat-6, not co-axial cable, on this project. He noted that the length of the runs and the fact that we are using Ethernet cable allows us to easily go to IP cameras in the future without any additional infrastructure or wiring. On the question of the company performance of GE over the last quarter Mr. Huber noted that GE has been around for close to 200 years. They have had bad quarters. The last quarter was a bit of a surprise but is attributed to GE Finance and the difficulty that they, along with every other financial institute in the country, are going through. He indicated that GE is here for the long haul and is a strong and financially viable company.

Ms. Marks asked for a response to the concern raised by Ms. Kennedy regarding individuals who felt that their jobs would be threatened if they spoke out against this recommendation. Ms. Kennedy clarified that the concern related to a local vendor who indicated that word from GE

headquarters indicated that several people in Alaska would lose their jobs if they testified in opposition to this recommendation. Mr. Huber noted that he had no knowledge of this situation.

Mr. Steele noted that this has been a long process. In terms of the contracting aspect, it certainly is a valid contracting measure to pull the available experts to scope out the work that is desired before the RFP is put out. There were 14 people that participated in that endeavor. He does not believe that there is a problem with the contracting measure. The district set the specifications and the contract was competitively bid. He did not see any concern with the software implementation time frame. He believed that there would be too much to lose to start this process over again. We need to get these security measures in place.

VOTE:

Ayes: Friedman, Steele,
Marks, Roberts

Nays: Kennedy, Tuck, Steiner

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum # 234 - Professional Services Selection for CCTV & Security Systems Upgrades Construction Administration (tentative Pending results of vote for reconsideration)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the selection of RSA Engineering, Inc., for Construction Administration Services on the Multi-School CCTV Installation & Security System Upgrade Project, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into a contract with RSA Engineering, Inc., for Construction Administration Services.

ACTION:

Moved by: Crystal Kennedy

Seconded by: Mary Marks

To approve the selection of RSA Engineering, Inc., for Construction Administration Services on the Multi-School CCTV Installation & Security System Upgrade Project, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into a contract with RSA Engineering, Inc., for Construction Administration Services.

Ms. Kennedy voiced a concern in light of the fact that the company being contracted did the original consulting for the project that was just approved and the fact that they were a part of explaining that project. She wondered whether that level of prior involvement constituted a conflict of interest.

Mr. Friedman believed that if we were looking for a consultant at the same time that we were looking for a request for professional services selection there might be an issue. The consultant work for this project was completed some time ago and the district is now looking for someone to supervise the installation of the system. He did not believe that there is a conflict of interest because of the time separation if for no other reason.

Mr. Steiner asked whether the contractor helped at all in designing the specifications or the contract to do the project management. Mr. Vakalis indicated that the individual was not involved in the drafting of the RFP dealing with this particular contract.

Mr. Steele asked whether the contractor was aware when he did the consulting work that there would be such a management contract. Mr. Amsden pointed the board to every other professional service contract that the district does. There is a designer at Clark Middle School, for example, who designed the project and is now doing the construction administration services. This is not unlike any other professional service that the district has. If they did write a specification as it relates to the procurement of the items being discussed this evening and they maliciously gave the district a design that was construed or constrained in some manner that was unprofessional there could certainly be professional negligence in that regard but he did not believe that to be the case here.

Mr. Tuck asked whether the district has the personnel on staff to fulfill the construction administration needs of this project. Mr. Steele noted that the district recently had a 40 person reduction in force from this department. Mr. Amsden noted that the Facilities department has a lot of expertise but that there are limited resources and suggested that the work that is in question here is very highly technical work that we typically use consultant for. It is not unusual at all to contract for that level of expertise.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. ASD Memorandum #237 - Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of February 13, 2008 through March 26, 2008.

2. ASD Memorandum # 239 - Monthly Update Student Information System - Zangle

The Zangle Student Information System implementation continues to move forward.

3. ASD Memorandum #245 - Assessment Calendar for 2008-2009 School Year

The 2008-2009 districtwide schedule of state/federal assessments and district surveys managed through the ASD Assessment and Evaluation Department are included.

4. ASD Memorandum #251 - Third Quarter Suspension /Weapons/ Expulsion Report 2007-2008

Each quarter, information regarding suspensions and expulsions for various offenses, including weapons, is collected from the elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as from the charter schools. This information is shown in the narrative below and also as Attachments A-F.

5. ASD Memorandum #242 - Third Quarter End-of-Month Membership Summary - March 31, 2008

The end-of-month membership report for March 31, 2008 is attached (Attachment A). The total active enrollment at the end of March was 47,894. This enrollment represents a decrease of 563 students when compared to the September 28, 2007 total of 48,457.

J. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

K. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Ms. Marks remarked that it had been both a great honor and privilege working with all of other board members. She indicated that they had each enriched her life and that she looked forward to seeing them later along on the journey. Other board members wished Ms. Marks the very best in whatever her future holds.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS
LITIGATION

M. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of April 14, 2008, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 11:16 p.m.

Tim Steele, President

Crystal Kennedy, Clerk

Johanna Lee, Recording Secretary

Date Minutes Approve