

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 28, 2009

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Thursday, May 28, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President, John Steiner, presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE, John Steiner Presiding

Board Members Present: John Steiner, Jeff Friedman, Pat Higgins, Crystal Kennedy, Jeannie Mackie, Kathleen Plunkett, and Tim Steele

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Rhonda Gardner, Ed Graff, Leslie Vandergaw, Mike Henry, Jerry Sjolander, Eric Tollefsen, Heather Sawyer, Janet Stokesbary, George Vakalis, Col. David Shutt, Ms. Polly Miller, Chad Stiteler, Ray Amsden, Mike Price, Leslie Preston, Pam Chenier, Mark Mew, Robin Siegfried, the press, and other interested people.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Steiner noted that there was an addendum to the Personnel Report.

The revised agenda with the noted addendum was approved by unanimous consent.

C. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

ASD Memorandum # 318 - Recognition of West High School's 75 Years of Membership with the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools

Mr. Friedman read that, since 1917, the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools has worked to advance excellence in education through the process of accreditation. Anchorage High School, now known as West High School, first achieved accreditation in 1932, becoming only the second school in Alaska to receive this designation. Today, West is being honored by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools for 75 years of membership.

In order to obtain accredited status, schools must demonstrate that they meet the rigorous Standards for Accreditation and continually work to improve student performance. Once accredited, they must continue to meet these standards and report their progress on an annual basis.

Stowell Johnstone, NAAS State Committee Secretary and former West principal states, "The Northwest Association of Accredited Schools is one of six accreditation agencies in the nation that are widely acknowledged and renowned. The Association's primary purpose is to ensure that the schools it accredits meet its rigorous standards. These standards are designed to promote educational excellence, continual school improvement, and high levels of student achievement. West High School, as well as the rest of the ASD secondary schools that are accredited, have been very well served by NAAS."

The Anchorage School Board officially recognized West High School for its 75 years of membership with the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools.

Mr. Johnstone acknowledged former West High School Principal, Joe Montgomery, who had gone on to be Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Johnstone briefly reviewed the history that West High School has had in the Anchorage community. Mr. Johnstone presented the NAAS 75 Year Award to Mr. Rick Stone, current West High School principal. The award recognized West Anchorage High School for dedication to school improvement through self-evaluation and adherence to accreditation standards for 75 years. Mr. Stone voiced his appreciation on behalf of West High School for the honor of receiving the award. He indicated that the staff continues to work hard to carry on the great tradition of their school. The award is another token of the rich history of the school and the community. He noted that the plaque would be given a place of honor in the school.

Project Citizen Presentation – Gruening Middle School

Ms. Comeau introduced a group of students from Gruening Middle School including Jacob Granado, Cameron Ryckman, Shiina Losciuto, and their teacher, Mrs. Otte. These students recently completed their Project Citizen report and had asked for the opportunity to present their project to the board.

Mr. Granado reviewed many of the problems facing students these days. The issues include obesity, underage drinking, drugs and gang violence. More and more students complain about school being boring and are dropping out at an alarming rate. Sports are often the reason that students stay in school. Mr. Granado reviewed the types and number of

sports available to middle school students. He noted some of the problems that prevent more sports from being made available to middle school students. He explained that adding sports is an investment in our youth. He stated that making that investment now will help eliminate the need for financial support of unwed mothers, rehab for drug addicts and building prisons for gang members in the future.

Mr. Ryckman explained the four alternatives that their group had explored. The options all included adding sports for middle school students. Mr. Ryckman reviewed the pro and cons for each of the options.

Ms. Losciuto stated that having more sports for middle school students would make the community a better place. It will keep kids busy and out of trouble. She reviewed many benefits of middle school sports as reported by the World Health Organization. Ms. Losciuto reviewed the research methods and decision-making process used for this project. The class ultimately chose to support the alternative of adding another boy's sport as well as another girl's sport. This alternative was chosen as it would provide additional opportunity for more diverse athletic options in the middle schools. The class chose to support the addition of football for boys and dance for girls. These were chosen based on a survey that was sent to seventh through twelfth graders throughout the district.

Ms. Losciuto explained the action plan that the class had been using as they pursued support for their recommendation. She voiced appreciation to the board, on behalf of all of the students involved in this project, for giving them the opportunity to present their project. She also encouraged the board to support increasing the number of sports available to middle school students by adding football and dance.

Mr. Friedman noted that the board had a similar presentation from middle school students a few years ago about why the school calendar should be changed to start two weeks earlier. The administration had already been discussing that action to some extent but he believed the presentation helped change a number of minds in the community and maybe on the board as well. So these kinds of presentations can be very effective and Mr. Friedman believed that this one has been. He noted that there is no doubt that there is value to adding athletic opportunities for middle school students. The question always comes down to money. He asked whether the students had discussed how the money for additional sports could be found in the budget. Mr. Granado reported that the students had discussed fund raising efforts to pay for equipment for the sports. Ms. Losciuto noted that schools in other states offer many more

sports for their middle school students and wondered why it was so different here in Anchorage. Ms. Comeau explained that difficult decisions have to be made regarding how to make the best use of limited funds. The major focus of the Anchorage School District is supporting students in the classroom first. There is no disagreement about the value of extra curricular activities. These issues are discussed every year during the budget process. She indicated that this presentation will certainly help kick-start the conversation again.

Ms. Vandergaw thanked the students for their presentation. She noted that Gruening Middle School has a strong history of support for Project Citizen. She wished that every student understood how to work through the channels to get things done as much as the students who are able to participate in Project Citizen do.

Presentation on the Partnership between ASD and Catholic Social Services

Ms. Comeau introduced Ms. Karen Ferguson, the state refugee coordinator working out of Catholic Social Services, and Ms. Christine Garbe, the district's English Language Learners supervisor, who gave a brief presentation on how the district is working very closely with Catholic Social Services on refugee and immigration issues.

Ms. Ferguson explained that her job is to facilitate the movement of refugees to the United States to resettle. They work with refugees for the first five years in the United States. The program began a partnership with the ASD about five years ago with the influx of a large Hmong population into the community. Ms. Ferguson thanked the district for their ongoing support for refugees and immigrants coming into the community.

Ms. Garbe reviewed some of the problems that were faced this year. One of the problems involved Southern Sudanese refugees. To address this issue the district has brought on a Nuer-speaking family liaison. This strategy has been very successful in helping the community to better engage with the district. Another issue was the lack of a procedure for requesting an interpreter. A procedure has been developed and approved by the superintendent. Ms. Ferguson noted that the district has taken the lead in making sure that families have access to interpreters. Ms. Garbe explained how the ELL department has worked with Special Education to make sure that students do not miss ELL services when interpreters are out of the building to translate for IEPs and other meetings.

Ms. Ferguson reported that a video had been developed to introduce district staff to the Sudanese culture. Ms. Garbe explained that the video was available on ASD Tube as well as having been distributed to all district schools.

Ms. Garbe explained how the district and Catholic Social Services worked together to address the other challenges faced over the past year. She also highlighted some of the future needs that are anticipated. She explained that they are working on an orientation video for newcomers to the community that will acquaint them with common items and processes at the schools. The video will be dubbed in the various languages spoken across the district.

Ms. Comeau explained that this has been an amazing collaboration that has come a long way in the last five years. She invited board members to attend the World Refugee picnic from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on June 19, 2009, at Mountain View Lions Park. It is a real celebration of recent arrivals and how much progress they have made. It shows how much good is happening in the community to support our newest arrivals.

Mr. Steele noted that the progress that has been made is evident in the successes and improvements of ELL students in terms of their test scores and increased parental involvement in the schools. He wondered if there was any information regarding what the future holds in terms of refugee groups coming into the Anchorage community. Ms. Ferguson reported that the newest group that is moving here are the Somali. They have started to come already and it is anticipated that they will come in numbers similar to the Sudanese. Catholic Social Services are bringing in the Bhutanese who are Nepali-speaking. This group includes forty-three individuals expected to arrive this year. Only a couple of these will be school-age children.

Ms. Kennedy asked about funding for these programs. She wondered whether the district receives any specifically designated federal funds to support these students. Ms. Comeau noted that the ELL program receives funding through Title III. Those monies are not nearly enough so the district depends on this collaboration and networking. Using the volunteers in the community is a huge help. Ms. Kennedy pointed out that it is one thing to have people immigrate on their own account to the state of Alaska but it is entirely different issue when there is a concerted effort by the State Department to bring in these people groups. She hoped that not only our state legislators but also Alaska's congressman and senators would understand the unique situation that Anchorage is getting

into. Ms. Ferguson clarified that the bigger migrations are not related to the State Department. If the district were to receive a large number of refugees there are actually School Impact Grants that would become available.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Higgins announced that the Audit Committee will meet at 1:00 p.m. tomorrow, May 29, 2009 in Conference Room 150.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory Board

There was no report from the Student Advisory Board.

2. Military Delegate

Col. Shutt reported that the Interstate Military Compact has been signed. He voiced his appreciation for the district's support for that effort.

Col. Shutt also shared the appreciative comments that he had received from a number of parents for the live-feed of the graduation ceremonies.

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

Ms. Polly Miller reported that the MECAC did not have a quorum at their last meeting. They did have three guests who expressed some concern about an event that happened at one of the schools. She thought that they would be discussing the issue at their next meeting.

Ms. Miller noted that one of the MECAC members, Atisa Logo, had attended a meeting on the district's Health Curriculum Guidelines for Sexuality Education. She should be sharing that report at their next meeting.

Ms. Miller thanked Ms. Rhonda Gardner for everything that she has done for the committee. The next meeting of the MECAC is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2009 in Conference Room 150.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD NON-AGENDA ITEMS

G. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

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 - March 23, 2009
- b. Special Meeting - April 24, 2009
- c. Special Meeting - May 4, 2009

2. ASD Memorandum #341 - Acceptance of Grant Award: American Library Association Libraries, Literacy, and Gaming

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant from the American Library Association in the amount of \$5,000 for a *Libraries, Literacy, and Gaming* grant for Hanshew Middle School.

3. ASD Memorandum #359 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Title III Immigrant Student Funds

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$60,000.

4. ASD Memorandum #368 - Recommendation for Cancellation of Solicitation for Chester Valley Elementary School Renewal Project

It is the Administration's recommendation that its prior recommendation to the School Board to approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Chester Valley Elementary School Addition/Remodel Project to Watterson Construction Company be withdrawn. Additionally, it is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board reject all proposals, cancel the solicitation and proceed with a new solicitation for the project using the Invitation to Bid procurement method.

5. ASD Memorandum #336 - Award of Contract: Food Service Expendable Supplies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award contracts to Food Services of America, and Form Plastics Company Inc., to furnish Food Service Expendable Supplies in the estimated amounts of \$362,507 and \$231,354 respectively.

6. ASD Memorandum #337 - Award of Contract: Food Staples

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award contracts to Country Foods Wholesale and Food Services of America to furnish Food Staples in the estimated amounts of \$152,341 and \$568,501 respectively.

7. ASD Memorandum #338 - Award of Contract: Frozen Food Products

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award contracts to Country Foods, Food Services of America, Mike's Quality Meats and Teddy's Tasty Meats to furnish Frozen Food Products in the estimated amounts of \$145,379, \$555,823, \$327,393 and \$657,905 respectively.

8. ASD Memorandum #314 - Award of Contract: Miscellaneous Cisco Routers and Switches

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract to J.C. Technology, Inc., dba Ace Computers to purchase Miscellaneous Cisco Routers and Switches in the amount of \$190,822.

9. ASD Memorandum #331 - School Board Policy Revision: Appendix B - Charter School Contract (Second Reading)

It is the recommendation of the Policy Committee that the School Board substitute and approve on Second Reading revisions to the Charter School Contract as shown on Attachment B.

10. ASD Memorandum #343 - School Board Policy Revision: Sections 343.3, 343.31, 343.32, 343.33, 343.34, 343.36, 343.38, 343.39, Student Records (First Reading)

It is the Policy Committee's recommendation that the Anchorage School Board approve on First Reading revisions to School Board

Policies 343.3, 343.31, 343.32, 343.33, 343.34, 343.36, 343.38, and 343.39 related to student records as shown on Attachment A.

11. ASD Memorandum # 323 - Personnel Report

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

Mr. Steiner pointed out that there is a revised version of ASD Memorandum #359, Acceptance of Grant Award: Title III Immigrant Student Funds, which board members had received in their supplementary packet. With no objection from board members, the agenda was modified to reflect the revised version of ASD Memorandum #359.

Mr. Friedman requested that ASD Memorandum #368, Recommendation for Cancellation of Solicitation for Chester Valley Elementary School Renewal Project, be pulled for discussion.

Ms. Kennedy requested that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 23, 2009 be pulled for discussion.

Mr. Higgins requested that ASD Memorandum #331, School Board Policy Revision: Appendix B - Charter School Contract (Second Reading), be pulled for discussion.

Mr. Steele requested that ASD Memorandum #363, Aquarian Charter School: Facility Condition Report, be pulled from the Superintendent's Report for discussion.

ACTION:

Moved by: Jeff Friedman
Seconded by: Crystal Kennedy

To approve the Minutes of the Special Meetings of April 24, 2009, and May 4, 2009 and Memoranda #341, #359 as revised, #336, #337, #338, #314, #343, and #323 with addendum.

VOTE:

Ayes: Friedman, Higgins,
Kennedy, Mackie,
Plunkett, Steele, Steiner

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

with a new solicitation for the project using the Invitation to Bid procurement method.

ACTION:

Moved by: Jeff Friedman
Seconded by: Tim Steele

To approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Chester Valley Elementary School Renewal to Watterson Construction Company for the base price bid amount of \$11,722,000, Alternate 1A for \$275,000, Alternate 2 for \$23,000, Alternate 3 for \$58,000, Alternate 4 for \$39,000, and Allowance and Assignment for \$369,450 for a total award amount of \$12,486,450. It was further moved that the board find that the Jansen Construction bid should not have been rejected but it would not have been the winning bid even if it had been accepted.

Mr. Friedman explained that the original proposal from the administration was that the board not accept any award tonight and have this resubmitted as an Invitation to Bid. He felt that it was clear that this had been reviewed by an outside reviewer who had suggested that there would be no problem awarding this to Watterson as they were the low bid under any scenario, whether Jansen had been included in the bid review or not. Under that circumstance it does not seem reasonable to delay awarding this contract. Mr. Friedman noted that this board has supported the Best Value Contracting concept and, therefore, the board should try to stick with it whenever possible. Companies that are bidding under the Best Value Contracting should be encouraged to put their best foot forward and show the district why they are the best company to do the job. Sometime the district gets the best value by paying a little more but getting some of that extra technical expertise. For those reasons Mr. Friedman indicated that he had proposed, and urged the board to accept, the idea of going ahead and awarding this contract.

Mr. Steele noted that there is a reason for having an independent assessment group to look at both the quality of the bid and also the price and weight them appropriately. He believed that this is a good process

that has served the district well in the past. Mr. Steele also noted that there would be a large cost to re-bidding the contract. He felt that there was justification for awarding the contract to Watterson.

Mr. Steiner noted that he was supportive of the motion. It does appear that a finding is appropriate that the Jansen bid was not, in fact, non-responsive and that any issue in there was appropriately subject to waiver. It also appears that the bid was fully evaluated on the best value standards and, despite the fact the 70 percent of the weight was placed on price, the quality points were such that Jansen did not become the most favorable bid. The highest point bid wins even though it might be a lower price. Mr. Steiner stated that there was not sufficient justification for him, as a board member, to reject the process because the process winds up being valid that the Best Value Contractor, properly evaluated, was Watterson and it is appropriate to award to them. As Mr. Steele had stated earlier, if this contract is not awarded the re-bid process would delay the construction to a point where it would have to be done over the winter which could result in even higher cost. That potential cost increase is avoided by proceeding to honor the process as it was presented in the first place.

VOTE:

Ayes: Friedman, Higgins,
Kennedy, Mackie,
Plunkett, Steele, Steiner

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #331 - School Board Policy Revision: Appendix B - Charter School Contract (Second Reading)

It is the recommendation of the Policy Committee that the School Board substitute and approve on Second Reading revisions to the Charter School Contract as shown on Attachment B.

ACTION:

Moved by: Pat Higgins
Seconded by: Tim Steele

That the School Board approve the recommendation of the Policy Committee to substitute and approve on Second Reading revisions to the Charter School

Contract as shown on Attachment B.

Mr. Higgins declared that he has a potential conflict of interest in this area and requested that he be excluded from voting on this motion.

Mr. Steiner noted that the board had accepted Mr. Higgins' statement and excused him from voting during the First Reading of this policy revision. No objections were raised to Mr. Higgins' request.

Mr. Higgins was excused from voting on this matter.

Mr. Steiner noted that this action is on Second Reading with revisions having been made in the Policy Committee from the version on First Reading.

VOTE:

Ayes: Friedman, Kennedy, Mackie,
Plunkett, Steele, Steiner

Nays: None

Abstain: Higgins

MOTION PASSED

The meeting went into recess at 7:50 p.m. and was called back to order at 8:05 p.m.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. ASD Memorandum #363 - Aquarian Charter School: Facility Condition Report

Ms. Comeau believed that it was important to provide this condition report on Aquarian Charter School in order to allow for a substantive discussion by the board. She indicated that, depending on that discussion, it was the administration's intention to bring back a recommendation about the rent issue.

In general, the report found that the facility is in extremely good conditions. Architects Alaska found the building to be sound, well-maintained, and capable of remaining in service as a charter school facility for the indefinite futures. Based on their findings a 10-year

renewal and replacement plan was developed which forecasts future infrastructure costs anticipated to maintain the facility in an acceptable condition.

Mr. Friedman commented that he was pleased to find that the school facility is in better condition than had been suspected. He felt that this school was a well-preserved, functional building and the district needs to do whatever it takes to keep it well-preserved and functioning just as with all other district facilities. To him, that meant getting the sprinkler installed and providing routine maintenance, hopefully in continued cooperation with the Aquarian community. Even if Aquarian decides to re-locate the district could continue to use the facility for other purposes. Mr. Friedman indicated that he was happy to support any efforts necessary to keep the building maintained and useful.

Ms. Kennedy was pleasantly surprised with the findings that the facility is in such good and sound condition. She noted that the district would not be wasting money to try to do the upgrades that are necessary to this facility. Ms. Kennedy indicated that, even with such a good report, there are still a lot of questions to wrestle with. For instance she wondered whether the district would want to retain the facility or would it be better to surplus the building and let the next owner take care of the upgrades. If the decision is made to retain the building, the decision will have to be made as to making the upgrades now or trying to bond for them in the future. Even with the questions that remain to be answered, this report is very good news. It means that the money and efforts that both the district and the school community has put into the facility have not been for not.

Mr. Steele noted that this facility was constructed in 1965. His fear had not been that the building was not well maintained but rather that, in a building of that age, that the building remained a sound structure. Based on the evaluation the building will be good for a number of years as long as it has continued maintenance. The report indicated that there are a number of things that have to be dealt with, not the least of which is the sprinkler and fire alarm system upgrade. A little over \$3 million worth of necessary investment over a 10 year period has been identified. Mr. Steele felt that that was a manageable amount. The report did not answer the question of rent, which is what prompted the review, but it certainly indicated that this is a good facility that deserves some investment.

Mr. Steele asked whether a carbon monoxide monitor was part of a typical fire alarm system. Mr. Price reported that typical fire alarm systems do not have the carbon monoxide monitoring system. The district is currently in the process of selecting an inspection firm to check the individual furnaces that are scattered throughout the building as was suggested in the report. It is hoped that the inspections will be complete by the middle of June. The report on those inspections will help determine how to proceed regarding carbon monoxide monitoring.

Mr. Steiner stated that the real question is, now that we know that we have a facility worth maintaining, where do we go from here? There are certainly policies that talk about community rentals but this situation is outside of the ordinary scope of those policies. Typically, with a public facility, if a public entity leases out an extensive amount of space it is publically bid. While it is not clear that that is realistic at this point as the other charter schools in the district are all locked into leases in their own facilities, offering an opportunity for all of the charter schools to bid on this facility might be the ordinary way to go about addressing the question of renting out this facility.

Mr. Steiner suggested that, now that the facility report is complete, the administration should proceed with discussions with the Aquarian community as to what they would like to do as well as considering as a matter of policy from the district's side what is appropriate for the district to do.

Ms. Comeau objected to the comment that the district should open this facility to bids from the other charter schools. She indicated that that action has never been thought of or discussed. Mr. Steiner noted that it was not his suggestion that the district do that but rather, in principle that would be a common thing that might be done. Ms. Comeau hoped that the discussion at this point could focus on the direction the administration should take to develop a recommendation regarding charging Aquarian Charter School rent for the facility.

Ms. Kennedy noted that if the district is going to be in the business of renting additional district space then there should be some policy that allows that and some guidelines in terms of deciding what the space is worth. She anticipated that the administration will bring back a recommendation similar to the suggestions that had been discussed at a previous meeting. That recommendation should include what the administration believes it is reasonable to charge at this point in time.

Ms. Kennedy suggested that the district needs some kind of policy addressing how the district leases out property and then, secondly, how the value of that lease is determined.

Mr. Friedman indicated that he saw the value in having a generalized policy on this issue. He did not particularly want to get into the details of things that really should be a management decision in terms of how the MOA or lease language is written. In terms of where we go from here on the Aquarian facility, it was his expectation that the administration would come back with another proposal for rental rate. He believed that the amount suggested during the discussion at a previous meeting seemed a little high given the understanding of the condition of the building. Now that there is a different understanding of the condition of the building the previously suggested amount may be more accurate. He hoped that, with discussion between staff and the charter school community, a reasonable rate could be determined. He continued to believe that going from no rent to any amount of rent would be a big change and the school may need a more gradual ease into that new expense. He certainly expected to see a proposal to charge some level of rent in the future. The Policy Committee can work on coming up with a policy to guide that effort, if not for this action due to the timeframe involved, then certainly for future years when other property is rented out.

Mr. Higgins appreciate the need for having some guidelines in place but believed that the goal is not to be landlords but to be as effective as possible for the charter schools, their students and their programs. It is important to look at the impact that any decisions made by the board will have on those things. He did not want to get into a set policy that would undermine any of the charter schools.

Mr. Steele recalled that the question had been whether the facility was worth investing in which we now know that it is. He hoped that the administration would come back with a proposal which would take into consideration the necessary work identified for the Aquarian facility.

Ms. Kennedy noted that this report brings to light the importance of having good assessments on all of the district's facilities. Ms. Comeau believed that there were funds that have been identified to conduct facility assessments on all district facilities, working from the oldest to the newest. She noted that it will be harder and harder to get bonds passed if the perception is that the district is not doing everything

possible to keep existing structures in good shape to assure that they last a long time. The facility assessment will help validate the results of the ongoing maintenance done by the district.

Ms. Mackie pointed out that when discussing the fairness issue regarding charging rent it is important to remember all of the work that the Aquarian community has put in to that building. The reason that the building is in such good condition is due to the money and volunteer efforts that the school has already invested. She wondered about the process of getting the sprinkler and fire alarm system back on the table now that the condition and needs of the facility are known. Ms. Comeau indicated that a recommendation regarding the sprinkler and fire alarm system would be on the next agenda. Mr. Price indicated that the initial objective will be to determine if both the sprinkler installation and the emergent fire alarm system replacement could be handled within the original \$1.165 million dollars that had been initially identified. Mr. Higgins felt that that plan was consistent with the board's intentions and he was supportive of moving forward with that plan. Mr. Friedman agreed that the board had previously authorized spending the \$1.1 million but did not specify the project so if the administration came back with a recommendation stating what they wanted to spend it on and presented a contract to award it would be appropriate to approve the contract. Mr. Steele hoped that a proposal would be coming back to the board in the near future to authorize the superintendent to go out to bid on the project. Mr. Price explained that the way to proceed would be, once authorization is given to expend those funds for the sprinkler installation and expand it to a fire alarm system replacement, first to acquire the services of a design firm to design the project and fully identify the scope with the intent of bidding the project late this fall and being able to do the work next summer. The earliest that the administration would bring the board a contract for award for the actual construction work would be late this fall or early next year.

Mr. Steiner clarified that, in a past action, the board approved the expenditure of funds but deleted the identification of the project. There is a question as to whether that left it completely up to the superintendent to determine what to spend those funds on or whether it assumed that the administration would come back with another recommendation seeking approval to use those funds for a particular project. While some members apparently think that the only thing needed at this point was to award a contract, it was Mr. Steiner's sense that approval is needed to identify the specific project. Mr. Kennedy

agreed that an additional action is needed specifically designate Aquarian to receive the funds for the sprinkler system upgrade. Mr. Price indicated that taking the time to present a clarification memorandum in June would not impact the final delivery of the work.

Mr. Kennedy asked about the status of the bathroom upgrades. Mr. Price reported that the bids are due within the next week with the work to be completed prior to the start of the school in August.

2. ASD Memorandum #324 – Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of April 15, 2009 through April 23, 2009.

3. ASD Memorandum #327 – Monthly Update Student Information System - Zangle

The project timeline indicates that all major benchmarks are on schedule.

4. ASD Memorandum #326 – Facility Contract Modification Report and Completed Projects for the Month of April 2009

The monthly Facility Contract Modification Report for the month of April 2009 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

5. ASD Memorandum #321 – Operating Budget Transfers April Monthly Report FY 2008-2009

The attached report of budget transfers for the time period of April 2009 that were processed in the Integrated Financial Accounting System (IFAS) includes the following:

Attachment A: Report of Budget Transfers Over \$5,000 –
Report for individual transfers of more than \$5,000, which includes summarized justifications.

The schedule of monthly budget transfers processed for the month of April 2009 and related information are available in the Budget Department office for review by the School Board and members of the public.

6. ASD Memorandum #322 - Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap: April 30, 2009

The attached report consists of three parts: the Graphic Overview, the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap. The Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap are presented on a monthly basis. The report includes year-to-date information as of April 30, 2009.

J. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

K. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Steiner noted that there is a Board Retreat scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2009. In addition there is a Work Session scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2009 to discuss the topic of discipline.

Ms. Gardner reminded board members that there will be a Curriculum Website Demonstration from 4:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2, 2009.

Ms. Gardner also noted that the next Policy Committee is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2, 2009.

Ms. Comeau reported that she and Ms. Sawyer have been working with the Dittman Research firm to conduct two post-survey focus groups. She indicated that two board members could attend each of those two sessions which are scheduled at 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 4, 2009.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS LITIGATION

M. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of May 28, 2009 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:48 p.m.

John Steiner, President

Jeannie Mackie, Clerk

Johanna Lee, Recording Secretary

Date Minutes Approve