

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 26, 1998

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, October 26, 1998 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President Harriet Drummond presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE

Board Members Present: Harriet Drummond, Peggy Robinson-Wilson, Dave Werdal, Kathi Gillespie, Bettye Davis, Rita Holthouse and Debbie Ossiander.

Others Present: Bob Christal, Carol Comeau, Janet Stokesbary, Mark Pasier, Pat McDowell, Gail Opalinski, Arge Jeffery, Fred Stofflet, Robyn Rehmann, Norm Holthouse, Russ Ament, Ed Conyers, Kathy Christy, Ed Blahous, Bill Mikawa, Larry Wiget, Michelle Egan, Jill Waters, Lee Wilson, Teresa Johnson, Bill Turner, Hans Bernard, Mary Tanghe, the press and other interested people.

The School Board opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Harriet Drummond announced the scheduled up-coming meetings.

Harriet Drummond welcomed Boy Scout Troop #292 from Eagle River.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved by unanimously consent.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. ASD Memorandum #108 – Tyson Elementary Alaska Native Art Virtual Museum

During the 1997-98 school year, a team of William Tyson Elementary students, parents and teachers put together a web site on Alaska Native art. Included on the Tyson Alaska Native Art Virtual Museum web site are photographs and virtual reality movies featuring artwork and artifacts from Alaska Native

cultures. Also featured on the web site are student descriptions of the art, student interviews of local Alaska Native artists, and art projects. The web site is linked to Tyson Elementary's home page.

The school's web site was one of more than 300 sites entered in the Global Schoolhouse International Schools CyberFair. There were approximately 75 contestants in their category. In May of this year, Tyson learned that its web site had won second place overall in this international competition.

The School Board recognized William Tyson Elementary School students, teachers and parents for their award winning web site.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory

Hans Bernard noted that the Student Advisory Board met and expressed their support of the use of surveys that can gather information that is imperative to funding programs such as Red-Ribbon Week; however, the Advisory Board does not support the use of the current version of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey unless it is adapted to suit the needs of Anchorage students. If changes were made, the survey could become a powerful tool in obtaining funding for programs that could help teenagers in Anchorage.

2. Military Delegate

Bill Turner commented that he attended the National School Safety seminar which was very informative.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Theresa Obermeyer commented on how valuable the TOTEM employees are.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approval Of Minutes:

- a. Special Meeting – September 28, 1998
- b. Regular Meeting – September 28, 1998

2. ASD Memorandum #107 – Revision/Addition To School Board Policy Section 851.5 – Optimum Facilities Use (First

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve, the following addition to School Board Policy Section 851.5 - Optimum Facilities Use, on First Reading, as shown on Attachment A.

3. ASD Memorandum #106 – Surplus School Bus Transfer

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the transfer of a surplus school bus, #1089, 1980 Blue Bird, License #XXR345, to the Municipality of Anchorage. In accordance with School Board Policy 734.1, school bus #1089 was declared surplus and approved for disposal by sealed bid sale by the School Board on July 6, 1998, ASD Memorandum #7. However, the Municipality of Anchorage has asked that school bus #1089 be transferred to the Municipality for use by the Parks and Recreation Department.

4. ASD Memorandum #98 – Personnel Report

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

5. ASD Memorandum #95 – District And School Report Cards

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to forward the enclosed **School District Report Card to the Public: 1997-98 School Year** and **Educational Plan: 1998-99 School Year** to the Department of Education in fulfillment of the requirements of the School Report Card legislation, AS Sec. 14.03.120(e).

6. ASD Memorandum #96 – Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year 1997-98

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal

year-ended June 30, 1998 and authorize the Superintendent to forward this report to the Commissioner of Education, State of Alaska, and the Anchorage Assembly.

7. ASD Memorandum #97 – Award Of Contract: Copier Services

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a five-year contract with two one-year renewal options at the District's discretion, to Xerox Corporation, Xerox Alaska, and Xerox Business Services for Districtwide copier services on a price per copy basis as shown on the Tabulation of Proposals (Attachment A) for an annual estimated price of \$856,640.

8. ASD Memorandum #117 – AASB Board Of Directors' Nomination

The Anchorage School Board recommends that Board member Peggy Robinson-Wilson be nominated to serve on the Alaska Association of School Boards' Board of Directors.

9. ASD Memorandum #119 – Budget Transfer For Related Services

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to process a budget transfer for the amount of \$56,200 to support one speech therapist hired through a contract signed with EBS Healthcare Staffing Services.

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: ASD Memoranda #107, #98, #95, and #96.

ACTION:

Moved by Peggy Robinson-Wilson
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 28, 1998; the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 28, 1998; Memorandum #106; Memorandum #97; Memorandum #117; and Memorandum #119.

Peggy Robinson-Wilson noted that a minor change will be made to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 26, 1998. (On page 14 the word interrupted should read interpreted.)

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson-Wilson, Drummond,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #107 – Revision/Addition To School Board Policy
Section 851.5 – Optimum Facilities Use (First

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve, the following addition to School Board Policy Section 851.5 - Optimum Facilities Use, on First Reading, as shown on Attachment A.

ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to approve Memorandum #107.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Jill Waters commented that the change to this policy will allow better utilization of resources, will improve the quality of services to users, will strengthen the use of District facilities, and will greatly enhance how and what the District offers to the community.

Debbie Ossiander noted that this policy change will allow a more efficient use of facilities which will be more fair to everyone.

Theresa Obermeyer commented that it's important that the public has access to school facilities.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson-Wilson, Drummond
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #98 – Personnel Report

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

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #98.
seconded by Peggy Robinson-Wilson

Theresa Obermeyer expressed concern about the number of terminations/dismissals listed on the Personnel Report.

Rita Holthouse questioned why a classified employee was listed twice for the same position.

Russ Ament responded that it was a typographical error.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson-Wilson, Drummond,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #95 – District And School Report Cards

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to forward the enclosed ***School District Report Card to the Public: 1997-98 School Year*** and ***Educational Plan: 1998-99 School Year*** to the Department of Education in fulfillment of the requirements of the School Report Card legislation, AS Sec. 14.03.120(e).

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #95.
seconded by Bettye Davis

Bob Christal noted that an addendum has been added to Memorandum #95 to address a duplication of a statement on page 3 of Attachment A and drop-out information for grades 7 – 12 has been added to page 22 of Attachment A.

Theresa Obermeyer commented that she has worked on accreditation of studies at four different colleges in the Lower 48.

Debbie Ossiander inquired if the staff report card survey was completed by the entire staff of each school or just the teachers.

Fred Stofflet noted that it is his understanding that the survey was completed by the entire staff of each school.

Rita Holthouse inquired if there is a plan in place for an improved attendance rate at West High School.

Pat McDowell replied that she plans to address this issue with Dr. Bowie.

Kathi Gillespie requested that the Board receive the guidelines (as soon as they are available) as to when the schools will get their school rating in accordance with the new state standards.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson-Wilson, Drummond,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #96 – Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year 1997-98

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year-ended June 30, 1998 and authorize the Superintendent to forward this report to the Commissioner of Education, and the Anchorage Assembly.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #96.
seconded by Peggy Robinson-Wilson

Bill Mikawa gave a brief slide presentation explaining the highlights of the Annual Financial Report.

Debbie Ossiander requested information on whether or not the 87 percent expended on Personnel Services is higher or lower as compared to past years.

Peggy Robinson-Wilson inquired if after it was known that the Pupil Transportation reimbursement was decreased by \$336,662 due to the proration of FY 1996-97 revenues, if the Department of Education was asked to go to the Legislature for additional appropriation to cover this shortage.

Debbie Ossiander requested information as to why all Title I funds were not spent.

Peggy Robinson-Wilson requested information as to why Clark Middle School has so much money in their student activity account.

Peggy Robinson-Wilson inquired if the \$217,415 left over from the library bond is available for upgrading the library system.

Peggy Robinson-Wilson suggested that the pie charts be expanded a little more so they are more readable for public relations purposes to show where the District's money is going.

Dean Nelson of Deloitte & Touche commented that a status report as to where the District is at the present time will be prepared for review by the Audit Committee and will be presented to the Board at a later date. Mr. Nelson noted that a copy of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report will be submitted to the Association of School Business Officials. Mr. Nelson also commented that it is imperative that specific steps be taken relative to the Y2K issue.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson-Wilson, Drummond,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

Discussion Item – Impact Of Assembly Resolution On School Designs

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie
seconded by Bettye Davis

to move this discussion item
from the Superintendent's
Report to the Consent Agenda.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson-Wilson, Drummond,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

Bob Christal explained that he received a call late Tuesday evening informing him that the Assembly passed a resolution directing the Board to submit design and construction approvals to the Assembly. Mr. Christal explained that the School District has proceeded in good faith following the 1982 memorandum which addressed this issue. Even though the Assembly has the right to take back the design/construction of school facilities, it is important to talk with the Assembly to see what is

expected at this point. This action may delay the construction of the new Muldoon Elementary School by a year. Mr. Christal further stated that a resolution to repeal last week's resolution is scheduled to be addressed at tomorrow night's Assembly meeting.

Kathi Gillespie expressed disappointment about the Assembly's action and commented that it's very important to have a serious discussion with the Assembly regarding this issue.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie
seconded by Rita Holthouse

that the School Board support
Assemblyman Wohlforth's
resolution to rescind Assembly
Resolution 98-346 which was
passed on October 20, 1998.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson-Wilson, Drummond,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

Debbie Ossiander suggested that one or two Board members, along with the Superintendent, attend the Assembly meeting tomorrow night and to call the City Clerk's office to see if they can address the Assembly regarding this issue. (It was agreed that the Superintendent, Debbie Ossiander, and Kathi Gillespie would represent the District at the Assembly Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 27, 1998.)

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #74 – Full-Day Kindergarten Report

Enclosed is a "follow-up" review of the entering Anchorage School District kindergarten classes from 1987-88, 1988-89, and 1989-90. These years correspond to the last year in which there was no Full-Day Kindergarten Program in the District, the first year of such a Program, and the second year of the Program.

The report examines matriculation patterns, special education identification, middle school and high school credits and grade point averages, and norm referenced test results for students from those kindergarten classes who moved through the District's schools through

the 1997-98 school year. The purpose of the review was to identify long-term effects, if any, of the Full-Day Kindergarten Program in Anchorage.

Bob Christal introduced the Full-Day Kindergarten Report noting that there is not a single, simple conclusion that is an answer to all kids.

Peggy Robinson-Wilson inquired as to where kids are academically as they come out of full-day kindergarten compared to half-day kindergarten.

Rita Holthouse commented that this is an excellent report and that the history of the development of full-day kindergarten is very interesting. Dr. Holthouse commented on the transiency issue and requested a Work Session, to include principals, to discuss this issue and how it impacts their schools.

ASD Memorandum #99 – Class Size Report

For many years, the District has compiled an Elementary and Secondary class size report; five years ago information relative to Bilingual and Special Education classes and staffing was added to the report. This report for the 1998-99 school year is divided into the following categories: Elementary Education, Middle School Education, High School Education, Special Education, Bilingual Education, and Charter Schools. In addition, the Administration has compiled information on class sizes in the alternative programs and the counselor to student ratio at the six major high schools.

In addition to the class size statistics, information is provided on the high school student to counselor ratio and the class size information for the ninth and tenth grade core classes (language arts, math, science, and social studies). The additional counselor positions were authorized for the six major high schools as a result of the additional funding from the Legislature through Senate Bill 36; this same source was also used to fund additional teaching positions in grades 1 and 3 and has had a positive impact on services to students in the high schools and the elementary schools. The information is based on the September 30, 1998 enrollment for everything except Middle Schools and Bilingual Education and that information is accurate as of October 8, 1998.

Bob Christal introduced the Class Size Report.

Peggy Robinson-Wilson inquired if it would be possible to add an Excel category to the printouts so that everyone can see the Excel electives that are available.

Kathi Gillespie inquired if there are national standards for speech therapists or OP/OT and if this information could be included in future reports.

Peggy Robinson-Wilson inquired about the percentage of elementary special education students coming into the District from out-of-state.

ASD Memorandum #87 – Charter School Update For 1998-99

The Administration would like to update the School Board on 1) the application submitted for a charter school to begin in the 1999-2000 school year, 2) an update of the four charter schools currently in operation during this school year, 3) a status report on the SPYDER Charter School which has been approved, but has requested a postponement of their opening until July of 1999, and 4) information on the process being used to revise the current Charter School Policy 333.

Carol Comeau commented that overall the charter schools are going fairly well and informed the Board that the Village Charter School is in the process of re-locating their school to available space at the Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church.

ASD Memorandum #100 – End-Of-Month Membership Summary For September 30, 1998

The end-of-month membership report for September 30, 1998 is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of September was 49,551, an increase of 758 students over the September 30, 1997 total of 48,793. Table 1 compares the membership on September 30, 1998 with the totals from September 30, 1997.

Rita Holthouse requested information as to why some middle schools, not filled to capacity, have waiting lists.

ASD Memorandum #101 – Facility Project Report And Change Order Report For The Month Of September 1998

The monthly Facility Project Report Update and Change Order Report for September 1998 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

Required activities regarding Bayshore Boiler are being reported in the attached list in accordance with ASD Memorandum #45.

ASD Memorandum #103 – Conflict Of Interest – First Quarter Report FY 1998-99

The attached listing of employee Conflict of Interest Waiver and Disclosure actions is forwarded in accordance with School Board Policy Section 725.22. This information is provided as the first quarter report for the FY 1998-99 school year.

ASD Memorandum #104 – Operating Budget Transfers – September Monthly Report FY 1998-99

This is the first monthly report of FY 1998-99 operating budget transfers prepared for the School Board which was generated from the Integrated Fund Accounting System (IFAS). The monthly reporting of budget transfers was approved by the School Board to provide information in a more timely manner. There were no budget transfers processed in July and August due to implementation of the new IFAS.

The attached report of budget transfers for the month of September 1998 includes the report of budget transfers over \$5,000 and the schedule of monthly budget transfers processed for the month of September 1998.

ASD Memorandum #105 – Status Report: Submission Of Discretionary Grants, First Quarter

The purpose of this report is to inform the School Board on a quarterly basis of new grants which have been submitted for funding, as well as grants which are being prepared for submission in the very near future.

ASD Memorandum #102 – Out-Of-District Travel – First Quarter Report FY 1998-99

The attached Travel Report summarizes the travel taken by District employees and School Board members during the first quarter of FY 1998-99 for both in-state and out-of-state travel. This report complies with the travel procedures established with the revision to School Board Policy Sections 156, Board Member Travel, and 526, Staff Travel.

There were 48 District employees who traveled in the first quarter of FY 1998-99 on 51 trips for a total cost to the District of \$43,672.20. Out-of-District travel in the General Fund has been limited to the School Board

and the Superintendent's budget for the past three years; therefore, the majority of the travel has been funded through external sources and by the individual or by grants.

Kathi Gillespie requested information about the Kagan Cooperative Learning trip that a number of teachers participated in during the past summer.

- I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
- J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS
- K. EXECUTIVE SESSION – (PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS/LITIGATION)
- L. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of October 26, 1998 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 12:10 a.m. on October 27, 1998

Harriet Drummond, President

Dave Werdal, Clerk

Date Minutes Approved