

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 21, 1999

The Anchorage School Board met in Special Session on Wednesday, April 21, 1999 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, Dave Werdal, Kathi Gillespie, Bettye Davis, Rita Holthouse and Debbie Ossiander.

Others Present: Bob Christal, Carol Comeau, Janet Stokesbary, Carolyn Buckley, Mark Pasier, Arge Jeffery, Fred Stofflet, Robyn Rehmman, Norm Holthouse, Ed Conyers, Steve Kalmes, Pat McDowell, Ed Blahous, Lee Wilson, Teresa Johnson, Gail Opalinski, Mary Lou Boughton, Jane Berglund, Heather Wagner, Brent Rock, Marie Laule, Lucita Ranon-Toussant, 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 thanked the community for passing the school bonds.

Bettye Davis requested a moment of silence for the people of Colorado.

Bob Christal, on behalf of the District and the Board, expressed concern for the young men and women in Colorado. Mr. Christal noted that staff, students and parents all share significant concern about safety. Communication with parents, students, teachers and counselors is of the utmost importance. Schools now have two-way radios for principals and security staff for direct communication with authorities. A public hearing will be scheduled to review the District's safety/security plans that are currently in place so that the community is aware of what is happening in our schools.

Bob Christal announced that the Seymour Award has been presented to the Anchorage School District's School Business Partnership program from the Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved by unanimous consent noting that the Personnel Report has been revised and that an addendum has been added.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS1. ASD Memorandum #251 – Create A Community Contest Winners

The Anchorage Home Builders Association "Create a Community Contest" was devised 13 years ago by area builders as a way to get students interested in the different elements involved in developing a community. In the contest, participants are challenged to design a "dream" community in which they would want to live, work and play.

Eighty-eight students entered this year's contest by designing two- or three-dimensional community models accompanied by essays detailing the important qualities which characterize their ideal communities.

Congratulations to these winning designers!

Fifth-grade winners in the two-dimensional category include:

First place:	Saeless Smith of Northern Lights ABC
Second place:	Derek Tennant of Spring Hill Elementary
Third place:	Alex Bonneze of Spring Hill Elementary

Sixth-grade winners in the two-dimensional category include:

First place:	Jeremy Ottum of Inlet View Elementary
Second place:	Chase Hawley of Gladys Wood Elementary
Third place:	Cory Knowles of Gladys Wood Elementary

All the fifth and sixth grade winners in the three-dimensional category attend Inlet View Elementary. They include:

First place: Courtney Prokosch, whose entry was also awarded "Best of Show"
Second place: Paul Campbell
Third place: Daichi Ito

2. ASD Memorandum #252 – Imation Computer Arts Scholarship Finalist

East High School's Rim Lee creates beautiful works of art in a most unconventional fashion. He never touches a paintbrush or mixes colors on a palette. In fact, he never even gets his hands dirty. His canvas is the screen of an IBM computer and his "brush strokes" are created by precise and skilled maneuvering on the mouse pad.

The result of this creativity is Rim's selection as one of the 100 finalists in the 1998-99 Imation Computer Arts Scholarship Program. This national program, now in its second year, is sponsored by Imation Corporation, in conjunction with the National Art Education Association and the American Association of School Administrators. The competition supports the use of technology in arts and encourages creative thinking by recognizing and rewarding students who design original works of art on the computer.

Rim's artwork took several months to complete and features the image of a multi-colored robot. His dedication to this project was matched by East High art teacher Bill Mans who supported Rim throughout the design and completion of this project.

In addition to receiving Imation's National Certificate of Achievement, Rim's entry now advances to the finals where the top 25 of the 100 finalists will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and an Imation SuperDisk Drive for their school.

Congratulations to Rim Lee, whose creativity and skill captured the judges' attention and led to his selection as National Merit finalist in this scholarship program. We're proud that the state-of-the-art is so exceptional in this East High School student. Good luck in the finals.

3. ASD Memorandum #273 – Alaska State Science And Engineering Fair-Best Project, Romig Middle School

The 1999 Alaska State Science and Engineering Fair was held on March 27. Anchorage School District students did very well in the competition, earning many grand prize awards in main categories and many top awards in secondary categories.

Romig Middle School did especially well, winning four main category grand prize awards. Romig students also won 20 first-place awards and 40 other awards.

Romig's grand prize winners were:

- Erica Rothman in Gerontology,
- Emily Phillips in Physics,
- Dezi Rae Robb in Botany, and
- Mara Rosenthal and Catherine Steele in the Team category.

For their overall school performance, Romig Middle School was named the science fair's top middle school. This is the third time in the last five years that Romig students have brought home this coveted trophy.

The School Board recognized Romig Middle School as the 1999 Alaska State Science and Engineering Fair's best overall middle school.

4. Curriculum Presentation: Standards-Based Education

Teresa Johnson gave a presentation on standards, highlighting academic standards, content standards, performance standards, benchmarks, scoring guidelines, standards and students with disabilities, standards based classrooms, student assessments, and the high school graduation qualifying examination.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory

Hans Bernard noted that he attended the National School Board Conference in San Francisco with School Board members Bettye Davis, Rita Holthouse and Debbie Ossiander. Mr. Bernard commented that this conference was a wonderful learning

experience. Mr. Bernard also thanked the voters for approving the school bond package which will mean a lot to not only the students of today but also the students of future generations.

2. Military Delegate

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Carol Kilgrow commented that the Anchorage School District is not appropriately addressing the needs of FAS/FAE/ARND children. Ms. Kilgrow would like to see some type of curriculum for Transitional Education and urged the School Board to look into this issue.

Michelle Gregory, Ursa Major parent, expressed concern about the treatment of special education students at Ursa Major Elementary.

Bob Christal introduced Ms. Gregory to Arge Jeffery, Executive Director of Elementary Education and Robyn Rehmann, Executive Director of Special Education and suggested that a meeting be scheduled to address Ms. Gregory's issues.

Robert Hayes commented on a letter he received which he feels was written inappropriately.

Bob Christal indicated to Mr. Hayes that he could file a complaint with the Office of the Municipal Ombudsman to address his concerns/complaints.

Dave Hansen, Klatt Elementary parent, expressed concern about the overcrowding situation at Klatt Elementary and explained that the situation will only worsen with the new construction going on in the immediate Klatt area.

Tracy Rozell, Klatt PTA President, commented on the new construction occurring in the Klatt Elementary area and expressed concern about the serious overcrowding taking place at Klatt Elementary. Ms. Rozell encouraged the Board to look at a way to relieve this overcrowding situation.

Toni Lopez, Klatt Elementary parent, expressed concern about the overcrowded classrooms and urged the Board to bring some relief to this situation prior to the fall of 2000.

Loucrecia Collins, Klatt Elementary Principal, expressed concern about the ever increasing population being experienced in the Klatt community.

Carol Comeau explained that it is necessary to get space in Ocean View Elementary before the overcrowding at Klatt can be addressed. A boundary task force will be formed this fall to target ways to relieve the overcrowding at Klatt Elementary by the fall of 2000.

Bob Christal suggested that the Klatt parent group talk to Carol Comeau, Arge Jeffery, and Norm Holthouse to address the overcrowding issue at Klatt Elementary.

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 - March 8, 1999
- b. Regular Meeting - March 8, 1999
- c. Special Meeting - March 22, 1999
- d. Regular Meeting - March 22, 1999
- e. Special Meeting - April 6, 1999

2. ASD Memorandum #253 - A Resolution In Support OF National Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2-8, 1999

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board adopt the attached resolution in support of Teacher Appreciation Week May 2-8, 1999.

3. ASD Memorandum #254 - Bus Driver Appreciation Day

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached resolution recognizing May 7, 1999 as Alaska State School Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

4. ASD Memorandum #244 - Student Performance Standards: Language Arts

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the student performance standards for language arts presented in Attachment A. Those standards cover

grades K through 8 and the specific courses of English 9 and English 10.

5. ASD Memorandum #239 – Student Performance Standards: Math

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the student performance standards for mathematics presented in Attachment A. Those standards cover grades K through 8 and the specific courses of Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II.

6. ASD Memorandum #240 – Content Standards: Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, And Algebra II

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the content standards presented in Attachment A for the following math courses:

- 1) Pre-Algebra;
- 2) Algebra I;
- 3) Geometry; and
- 4) Algebra II.

7. ASD Memorandum #243 – Textbook Adoption: Healthy Life Skills

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve:

Meeks, Linda, Philip Heit, and Randy Page, Health and Wellness. Meeks Heit, Blacklick, Ohio, 1998.

and

Greenberg, Jerrold and Robert Gold, Health. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, Austin, Texas, 1999.

as the new textbooks for the **Healthy Life Skills** high school elective course.

8. ASD Memorandum #241 – Textbook Adoptions: High School Social Studies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to purchase textbooks and program materials which correlate to the newly approved Geography/Area Studies (Category A) and History/Social Science (Category B) courses.

9. ASD Memorandum #242 – Textbook Adoptions: Seventh Grade Social Studies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to purchase new seventh grade social studies textbooks and program materials as identified in Attachment A.

10. ASD Memorandum #247 – Acceptance Of Grant Award: Alaska Science And Technology Foundation Direct Grants To Teachers

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept 15 grant awards totaling \$83,849 from the Alaska Science and Technology Foundation's (ASTF) "Direct Grants to Teachers" program.

11. ASD Memorandum #255 – Grant Application: IASA Federal Programs Integrated Application

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to submit the consolidated FY 1999-2000 Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) grant application covering Titles I, II, IV and VI, in the amount of \$7,166,435, to the State Department of Education for review and approval.

12. ASD Memorandum #271 – Sale Of Surplus Property

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to dispose of the listed surplus property by sealed bid sale. Prior to the sale, these assets will be offered to the Municipality of Anchorage for extended public use.

13. ASD Memorandum #229 – Award Of Contract: East High School Gym Ceiling Upgrade

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for East High School Gym Ceiling Upgrade to the low bidder, Marengo Inc., in the amount of \$147,900.

14. ASD Memorandum #259 – Award Of Contract: Electrical System Upgrades – Abbott Loop, Bayshore, And Gladys Wood Elementary Schools And Bartlett High School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Electrical System Upgrade Projects at Abbott Loop, Bayshore, and Gladys Wood Elementary Schools and Bartlett High School to the lowest bidder, Wire Communications Inc., in the amount of \$256,996.

15. ASD Memorandum #260 – Award Of Contract: Electrical System Upgrades – Turnagain, O'Malley, Rabbit Creek, And Sand Lake Elementary Schools And East High School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Electrical System Upgrade Projects at O'Malley, Rabbit Creek, Sand Lake, Turnagain Elementary Schools and East High School to the lowest bidder, Electrical Construction and Consulting Inc., in the amount of \$140,650.

16. ASD Memorandum #261 – Award Of Contract: Baxter Elementary School Renovations And Additions

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for Baxter Elementary School Renovations and Additions to the low bidder, Matrix General, Inc., in the amount of \$6,787,420.

17. ASD Memorandum #272 – Authorization To Proceed: Transfer Management Authority Of Eastern Portion Of Russian Jack Elementary Site To MOA Parks And Beautification

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to coordinate with the MOA Parks and Beautification to transfer the management authority of the eastern portion of the Russian Jack site for an addition to the Russian Jack Springs Park.

18. ASD Memorandum #223 – New Business System (IFAS) Update Budget Transfer Request--Business System And Other Data Processing Requirements

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to process a budget transfer required to allocate an additional \$325,000 for consultant support, advance hires, consultant travel, and extra help in the implementation of the Finance and Payroll/Human Resources modules of the new business system. It is further recommended that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to process a budget transfer in the amount of \$18,850 for the purpose of hiring the two microcomputer specialists approved in the fiscal year 1999-2000 financial plan as quickly as possible due to urgent need.

19. ASD Memorandum #274 – Acceptance Of Grant Award: Youth Restitution Program

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board accept a pass-through grant from the Municipality of Anchorage, Youth Restitution Program, in the amount of \$35,000.

20. ASD Memorandum #262 – Personnel Report

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

21. ASD Memorandum #296 – Minority Education Concerns Committee Appointments

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board appoint Rosalie Sandoval to the Minority Education Concerns Committee for a one year term.

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: ASD Memoranda #253, #254, #244, #239, #240, #243, #241, #242, #255, #261, and #223.

ACTION:

Moved by Peggy Robinson
seconded by Dave Werdal

to approve the Minutes of the
Special Meeting of March 8,
1999; the Minutes of the Regular

Meeting of March 8, 1999; the Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 22, 1999; the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 22, 1999; the Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 6, 1999; Memorandum #247; Memorandum #271; Memorandum #229; Memorandum #259; Memorandum #260; Memorandum #272; Memorandum #274; Memorandum #262 (Revised) with Addendum; and Memorandum #296.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #253 – A Resolution In Support Of National Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2-8, 1999

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board adopt the attached resolution in support of Teacher Appreciation Week May 2-8, 1999.

ACTION:

Moved by Peggy Robinson to approve Memorandum #253.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

The School Board read the resolution.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #254 – Bus Driver Appreciation Day

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached resolution recognizing May 7, 1999 as Alaska State School Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

ACTION:

Moved by Peggy Robinson to approve Memorandum #254.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

The School Board read the resolution.

Kathi Gillespie suggested that parents be notified that May 7 is Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #244 – Student Performance Standards: Language Arts

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the student performance standards for language arts presented in Attachment A. Those standards cover grades K through 8 and the specific courses of English 9 and English 10.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #244.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Fred Stofflet explained that this recommendation is a culmination of a great deal of work, time and effort by committee members who have been meeting since last October to compile this document. Dr. Stofflet noted that the age group on pages 52, 53 and 58 should be changed to reflect *ages 15-18* (not 11-14).

Carol Comeau noted that the Public Affairs Department will be putting together a brochure identifying these performance standards for

distribution this coming fall. A copy of the final standards document will be sent to the State Department of Education.

Diane Etter, President of the Anchorage Council of PTAs, commented that she participated in the Middle School Language Arts portion of the standards document. Ms. Etter noted that the PTA Executive Board has reviewed the standards and feel very positive about this document.

The meeting recessed at 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 9:10 p.m.

Bob Christal commented that the key to the standards issue is to develop a good set of standards for quality teachers to instruct students. At some point in time, all students will reach up to meet these standards which will increase their learning capacity, their skills and their ability. The honors program will not be eliminated, children with learning disabilities will not be left behind, and the District's methodology will not be drastically changed.

Fred Stofflet explained that the committee worked with the District's existing frameworks and also the State's performance standards. The standards in this recommendation are not set in cement; adjustments can be made to them.

Dave Werdal noted that the second bullet under *Writing – Kindergarten* addresses approximate standard letter formation and inquired if that was a little weak and inconsistent with the statement just above it regarding *printing name using appropriate capital and lower-case letters*.

Meg Marman, teacher and committee member, explained that it is important to make sure that it is developmentally appropriate and that standard letter formation is being taught (performance will begin to approximate that standard).

Dave Werdal suggested that an example of *environmental print* be included in the RK.2 section on page 6.

Meg Marman noted that an example could be included.

Dave Werdal suggested that a statement be added to R1.2 on page 9 to clarify the use of rimes.

Debbie Ossiander suggested that perhaps there is clearer way to express *phonetically regular words* as noted in W1.2 on page 8 and perhaps an example could be included.

Bettye Davis suggested that Board members submit a list of suggestions to the Administration to be incorporated in the standards. The Administration could then review the suggestions and decide if they are appropriate to be included in the document.

Debbie Ossiander commented that this is a very important document and that she would like input about specific concerns by Board members before this recommendation is approved.

ACTION:

Moved by Peggy Robinson
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

to table Memorandum #244
until a future meeting this
spring, with Board members
submitting their suggestions
to the Administration within
the next week.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #239 – Student Performance Standards: Math

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the student performance standards for mathematics presented in Attachment A. Those standards cover grades K through 8 and the specific courses of Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Bettye Davis

to approve Memorandum #239.

Fred Stofflet explained that the age groups noted in Attachment G should be changed to reflect *ages 15-18* (not 11-14).

Debbie Ossiander noted that when compared item by item with the State standards, the District's standards really shine; they are more specific, more thorough and more in-depth. Ms. Ossiander further noted that the only State standard the District didn't cover as strongly as the State did

was in the area of strengthening the terminology in getting math facts down with paper and pencil.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

(Page 59) Change A3.2.2
statement to read: Recall
and use basic multiplica-
tion and division facts
orally, with paper and
pencil in the 5th Grade.

With more and more calculators being used in the classroom, Kathi Gillespie inquired if that will have implications on how the costs for calculators will be addressed in the budget.

Carol Comeau explained that all students will need to have equal access to calculators.

Fred Stofflet stated that money for materials associated with the number of high school level courses has been allocated in the FY 1999-2000 budget.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

AMENDMENT PASSED.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MAIN MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED.

ASD Memorandum #240 – Content Standards: Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, And Algebra II

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the content standards presented in Attachment A for the following math courses:

- 1) Pre-Algebra;

- 2 Algebra I;
- 3) Geometry; and
- 4) Algebra II.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #240.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Kathi Gillespie inquired if this recommendation will meet the content standards for these courses.

Fred Stofflet replied that yes, this recommendation will meet the content standards.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Robinson,
Drummond, Gillespie,
Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #243 – Textbook Adoption: Healthy Life Skills

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve:

Meeks, Linda, Philip Heit, and Randy Page, Health and Wellness.
Meeks Heit, Blacklick, Ohio, 1998.

and

Greenberg, Jerrold and Robert Gold, Health. Holt, Rinehart, and
Winston, Austin, Texas, 1999.

as the new textbooks for the **Healthy Life Skills** high school elective course.

ACTION:

Moved by Peggy Robinson to approve Memorandum #243.
seconded by Bettye Davis

Fred Stofflet explained that this recommendation, which came from the textbook review committee, is a carryover and finalizes the health materials adoption for K-12.

Peggy Robinson expressed concern that the books appear to cover the same topic areas but in a different presentation.

Fred Stofflet explained that in the past there were multiple series adopted in a number of areas and that practice is being lessened wherever possible. The assumption is that within a school, it would be one book or the other (not both).

Debbie Ossiander inquired as to how much the textbooks will cost.

Fred Stofflet will bring that information back to the Board.

Debbie Ossiander requested that the cost of textbooks be included in future textbook adoption memorandums.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #241 – Textbook Adoptions: High School Social Studies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to purchase textbooks and program materials which correlate to the newly approved Geography/Area Studies (Category A) and History/Social Science (Category B) courses.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to approve Memorandum #241.
seconded by Bettye Davis

Doug Phillips explained that this recommendation is the culmination of the high school graduation requirements for this year and it completes the task of the geography area studies recommendations.

Kathi Gillespie expressed concern about not providing all the materials in the textbook adoptions that are necessary to complete the social studies

curriculum and inquired if maps, globes, atlases, etc. will be included, as appropriate, since more money has been added to textbook adoptions.

Doug Phillips replied that maps, globes and atlases should be able to be addressed for this particular adoption.

Carol Comeau noted that there will be a distribution of information between the curriculum departments and the librarians to also address this issue.

Peggy Robinson commented that it is exciting to look at all the options being offered in this area. Ms. Robinson inquired if there were a course that has not been offered before, at what point would materials be purchased for that course and at what point of not having materials available would keep that course from being offered.

Doug Phillips responded that many times interchanging between schools addresses this issue.

Peggy Robinson commented that she would appreciate it if the Administration would make sure that either all the elective courses are being offered to students who are registering for them or to try to group enough students in a particular area and let them know in enough time which courses are actually going to be offered.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #242 – Textbook Adoptions: Seventh Grade Social Studies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to purchase new seventh grade social studies textbooks and program materials as identified in Attachment A.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

to approve Memorandum #242.

Debbie Ossiander noted that there are actually eight Prentice Hall World Explorer books and inquired if all eight will be purchased.

Doug Phillips responded that all eight books wouldn't necessarily need to be purchased however, the multiple text is almost the same price as the single text.

Peggy Robinson inquired if every school will purchase all three selections (Geography, the World and Its People, World Geography, and Prentice Hall World Explorer).

Doug Phillips responded that schools will basically decide on one of the three books.

Dave Werdal commented that given the high mobility rate that is experienced throughout the District in the middle schools, why would the District want to have a number of different selections for the 7th grade.

Fred Stofflet explained that basically one book is at a higher, advanced reading level and the others are basically at a typical 7th grade reading level. World Geography is written at the 9th grade reading level and the rest at the 7th grade reading level.

Peggy Robinson commented that she would be prone to strike the 9th grade reading level book except in the accelerated program.

Rita Holthouse noted that she is uncomfortable with having three choices given the high mobility rate in the middle schools and some of the implications of the different reading levels.

Gail Opalinski noted that basically, the middle school principals were not very interested in having the 9th grade reading level book in their schools.

ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to table this motion.
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Rita Holthouse requested the Administration take into consideration the mobility issue in the middle schools when this recommendation is brought back to the Board.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,

Robinson, Drummond,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis
Nays: None
MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #255 – Grant Application: IASA Federal Programs
Integrated Application

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to submit the consolidated FY 1999-2000 Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) grant application covering Titles I, II, IV and VI, in the amount of \$7,166,435, to the State Department of Education for review and approval.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to approve Memorandum #255.
seconded by Bettye Davis

Kathi Gillespie commented that currently in Congress there is talk about combining money in some of these large grant programs and inquired if that were approved if that will change how the District can use these funds.

Carol Comeau explained that this amount is for this school year and that Ed/Flex funding would be for future years.

Kathi Gillespie inquired about the class size for elementary Title I schools.

Kathy Wilson explained that the goal is to make sure funds are equitably distributed and noted that these funds will be used to reduce class size at all levels of Title I schools which are lower than the District's average class size.

Kathi Gillespie noted that typically, schools have all kinds of different programs and inquired how the District is measuring academic improvement and what targets have been set to meet specific goals.

Kathy Wilson explained that at this point the State is still in the process of determining what that will be (it's baseline at this point) however, benchmark tests, writing assessments and reading assessments will all be used to meet specific goals.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Drummond,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis
Nays: None
MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #261 – Award Of Contract: Baxter Elementary School Renovations And Additions

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for Baxter Elementary School Renovations and Additions to the low bidder, Matrix General, Inc., in the amount of \$6,787,420.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #261.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Debbie Ossiander expressed concern about housing for the Russian Jack students if the new Russian Jack school does not open as projected. Ms. Ossiander questioned if the Baxter students should be relocated to the old Northern Lights school during Baxter's renovation in case that school is needed to house the Russian Jack students (since there is a limited time frame for the use of the Alyeska Building for the Russian Jack students).

Ed Conyers explained that as far as he knew the Russian Jack schedule will be met.

Bob Christal explained that discussions continue with Alyeska relative to using that building, if necessary, for part of next year. Mr. Christal further explained that he has not received any indication that the target date for opening the new Russian Jack school has changed.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Drummond,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis
Nays: None
MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #223 – New Business System (IFAS) Update Budget Transfer Request--Business System And Other Data Processing Requirements

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to process a budget transfer required to allocate an additional \$325,000 for consultant support, advance hires, consultant travel, and extra help in the implementation of the Finance and Payroll/Human Resources modules of the new business system. It is further recommended that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to process a budget transfer in the amount of \$18,850 for the purpose of hiring the two microcomputer specialists approved in the fiscal year 1999-2000 financial plan as quickly as possible due to urgent need.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to approve Memorandum #223.
seconded by Bettye Davis

Bob Christal noted that Mark Pasier and Janet Stokesbary will present a brief overview of the status of the new business system and further noted that the two new microcomputer specialist positions are also included in this recommendation.

Mark Pasier explained the need to allocate additional funds for the implementation of the Finance and Payroll/Human Resources modules of the new business system. Mr. Pasier noted that it is important to recognize that this is not just an implementation of the system but it is also an introduction of doing business in a new way for the District. Mr. Pasier further noted that it takes time to make all the components work together and the target deadline of July 1, 1999 will be met for implementation of the Payroll Services module. Mr. Pasier explained that it's important to stress that this is the beginning of the implementation and when it is complete, the business system will be thoroughly integrated in the three phases (Payroll, Personnel, and Human Resources).

Janet Stokesbary explained that a lot has been learned since the implementation of the Requisition/Purchasing module and that one of the occurring problems is having to work with two systems all of which is slow and time consuming.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #263 – End-Of-Month Membership Summary For March 1999

The end-of-month membership report for March 31, 1999 is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of March was 48,821, an increase of 755 students over the March 31, 1998 total of 48,066. Table 1 compares the membership on March 31, 1999 with the totals from March 31, 1998.

Peggy Robinson noted that the numbers are going down at Denali and that at some point she would like a short memorandum on where they are and what's happening.

Rita Holthouse noted that she would like to continue to see the wait list for schools that are under capacity.

ASD Memorandum #264 – Facility Project Report And Change Order Report For The Month Of March 1999

The monthly Facility Project Report Update and Change Order Report for the month of March 1999 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

ASD Memorandum #265 – Operating Budget Transfers –March Monthly Report FY 1998-99

The attached report of budget transfers for the month of March 1999 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.

Attachment B: Schedule of monthly budget transfers processed for the month of March 1999. Abbreviations in titles represent how data is stored in IFAS; continuity in the abbreviations within IFAS is an on-going process.

Kathi Gillespie requested information on the budget transfer for another telephone line to Chugiak High School to support Web TV

ASD Memorandum #266 – Conflict Of Interest – Third 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 third quarter report for the FY 1998-99 school year.

ASD Memorandum #267 – Status Report: Submission of Discretionary Grants, Third 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 #268 – Out-Of-District Travel – Third Quarter Report FY 1998-99

The attached Travel Report summarizes the travel taken by District employees and School Board members during the third 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.

I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMSJ. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Rita Holthouse inquired as to when the comments should be turned in for the Language Arts Standards recommendation.

Bob Christal responded that any comments should be turned in within one week.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION – (PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS/LITIGATION)L. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of April 21, 1999 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 11:58 p.m.

Peggy Robinson, President

Rita J. Holthouse, Clerk

Date Minutes Approved