

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING OF JUNE 5, 2000

The Anchorage School Board met in Special Session on Monday, June 5, 2000 at 3:00 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President Peggy Robinson presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE

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

Others Present: Bob Christal, Carol Comeau, Janet Stokesbary, Carolyn Buckley, Ed Blahous, Marie Laule, Neil Black, Tom Bernard, Steve Garritson, Bob Price, Ed Conyers, John Alexander, Betsy Nickels, Roger Fiedler, Norm Holthouse, Alden Thern, Mary Lou Boughton, Stan Syta, Pat McDowell, Jim Taylor, Patricia McRae, Steve Kalmes, Ray Amsden, Michelle Egan, Fred Stofflet, Larry Wiget, Ellen Montague, Bill Mikawa, Russ Ament, Karen Moore, Teresa Johnson, Brent Rock, Mary Tanghe, the press and other interested people.

Peggy Robinson announced the scheduled up-coming meetings.

Peggy Robinson announced that two addenda have been added to the Personnel Report and that AASB will be funding Ms. Robinson's trip to Homer, Alaska in July for the AASB Meeting (not the School District as stated on the travel addendum).

B. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. ASD Memorandum #370 – Revision To FY 2000-2001 Financial Plan

Recommendation #1:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to reduce the Anchorage School District's FY 2000-2001 Financial Plan from \$413,416,593 to the reduced amount of \$413,230,474, as approved by the Anchorage Assembly. This includes individual fund budgets in the following amounts:

General Fund	\$334,202,954
Food Service Fund	10,650,000
Debt Service Fund	42,377,520
Local/State/Federal Projects Fund	<u>26,000,000</u>
Total - All Funds	<u>\$413,230,474</u>

Recommendation #2:

It is further recommended that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to make the revenue increases and expenditure reductions in the General Fund, as listed on Attachment A, to bring the budget in balance.

Recommendation #3:

It is further recommended that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to increase the high school activity fee from \$75 to \$175 for all high school activities and to reinstate swimming, hockey and gymnastics at a cost of \$414,000 contingent upon the Anchorage Assembly approval to raise the upper limit spending authorization of the Anchorage School District budget.

2. ASD Memorandum #135 – Revisions To School Board Policy Section 700 – Business And Non-Instructional Operations Policies (Revised) (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on revised second reading the attached revisions and modifications to School Board Policy Section 700, Business and Non-Instructional Operations Policies.

3. ASD Memorandum #331 – Revision To School Board Policy 493 – Secret Clubs; And Policy 493.1 – Prohibited organizations And Groups (Revised) (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the renumbering of, and revisions to, School Board Policies 348.1, Student Clubs; the renumbering of Policy 493.1, Prohibited Organizations and Groups; and the deletion of Policy 493, Secret Clubs, as shown on Attachment A on Second Reading.

4. ASD Memorandum #332 – Revision To School Board Policy 341.2 – Curriculum Committees (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the revisions to School Board Policy 341.2, Curriculum Committees as shown on Attachment A on Second Reading.

5. ASD Memorandum #346 – Personnel Report (With Addenda)

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

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: Memoranda #370, #135, #332 and #346.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #331.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #370 – Revision To FY 2000-2001 Financial Plan

Recommendation #1:

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to reduce the Anchorage School District's FY 2000-2001 Financial Plan from \$413,416,593 to the reduced amount of \$413,230,474, as approved by the Anchorage Assembly. This includes individual fund budgets in the following amounts:

General Fund	\$334,202,954
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Debt Service Fund	42,377,520
Local/State/Federal Projects Fund	<u>26,000,000</u>
Total - All Funds	<u>\$413,230,474</u>

Recommendation #2:

It is further recommended that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to make the revenue increases and expenditure reductions in the General Fund, as listed on Attachment A, to bring the budget in balance.

Recommendation #3:

It is further recommended that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to increase the high school activity fee from \$75 to \$175 for all high school activities and to reinstate swimming, hockey and gymnastics at a cost of \$414,000 contingent upon the Anchorage Assembly approval to raise the upper limit spending authorization of the Anchorage School District budget.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #370.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Bob Christal gave a brief overview of the three recommendations the Administration is recommending to the Board in order to achieve a balance in revenues and expenditures for the FY 2000-2001 budget.

Diane Etter, parent of one recent high school graduate and one high school student, commented that while she is sympathetic to the District's financial position she is also very aware of the importance that sports plays in the lives of high school kids. Ms. Etter further commented that an increase in fees would be reasonable and also suggested that if cuts need to be made in the area of sports that those cuts be made equitably at both the middle school and the high school level.

Bettye Davis inquired if Recommendation #3 were accepted if it would make the sports program whole again at the high school level.

Bob Christal replied that it would reinstate the three sports that were eliminated (hockey, gymnastics and swimming). The increase in fees would be for all activities. Currently the sports fees are \$75 with a family cap of \$225. Waivers are available for those students needing help with the fees.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander that high school sports fees
seconded by Harriet Drummond be reduced to \$150 per sport and an additional fee would be charged for hockey and swimming for ice and pool rental charges.

Debbie Ossiander explained that rental charges for hockey ice and for swimming pools can be very expensive and this would be a way to help subsidize the costs associated with these two sports.

Pat McDowell noted that swimming pool rental is approximately \$116,000 per year and ice rental is approximately \$104,000 per year.

Bob Christal explained that if the fees were reduced from \$175 to \$150 per sport, there would be approximately a \$100,000 reduction in revenues. It would be necessary to charge the swimming and hockey kids about double the standard fee to pick up the cost of the pool and ice rental charges.

Peggy Robinson noted that a discussion on the family cap cost will need to be held separately, shortly after school begins in the fall.

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to specify a \$100 fee per high school sport.
seconded by Bettye Davis

Rita Holthouse explained that this action would be consistent with what was done with the middle school fees. Dr. Holthouse noted that it is very important to be careful about reinstating three sports and in the process pricing out a certain segment of the student population. Not all students will be able to afford the high fees and many kids won't humiliate themselves by requesting a waiver of the fees.

Kathi Gillespie inquired if the sports fees would subsidize sports activities.

Bob Christal explained that sports fees do not come close to covering the costs associated with extracurricular activities noting that the cost of activities is close to \$1.8 million.

Kathi Gillespie suggested that the fees be reduced to \$100 per activity and to then take the shortfall out of the fund balance to allow a year to work through this issue.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT:

Ayes: None

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

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT FAILED.

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to specify a \$100 fee per high school activity, using the fund balance to make up any funding difference to the 2000-2001 School Year.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Rita Holthouse explained that this motion still contains the extra fees for swimming and hockey and would also allow a one-year reprieve for the sports programs.

Dave Werdal inquired as to how much would be taken out of the fund balance to support this amendment.

Bob Christal explained that up to \$300,000 would be taken out of the fund balance noting that this is all still dependent on whether or not the upper limit is raised. Mr. Christal further explained that fees for hockey and swimming would be \$150 to help with the rental of swimming pools and ice rinks. The family cap issue would be addressed after school starts in August.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT:

Ayes: Werdal, Robinson,
Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: Drummond, Ossiander

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT PASSED.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT AS AMENDED:

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

Nays: Drummond

AMENDMENT AS AMENDED PASSED.

MOTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie
seconded by Rita Holthouse

to divide the question taking up
Recommendation #3 first, then
the remaining

recommendations.

VOTE:

Ayes: Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson

MOTION FAILED.

Rita Holthouse inquired about when the Administration first presented the recommended budget cuts to the Board which included the elimination of the three sports, if they are not truly recommending that the Board put these three sports back for next year.

Bob Christal noted that in his opinion, it was an unfortunate error when the Board put middle school sports back in the budget and cut the high school sports. It's hard to defend leaving sports in the middle

schools when the middle school administrators supported the Administration's recommendation. The real issue is that the District has been forced into this scenario given the present situation the District is in and the Assembly activities over the past two months relative to the District's budget. Outsourcing sports is one avenue to look at; however, that process is not without its own set of problems as well.

Rita Holthouse stated that she absolutely supports high school competitive sports but at the same time, attention is not being directed to the academic cuts that were made and sports is the only area being considered at this point. Dr. Holthouse further stated that high school sports are being put at the top of the priority list in this budget.

Kathi Gillespie commented that she also shares the concerns of Dr. Holthouse noting that it is hard to understand that sports has been given such a high priority.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson

Nays: Drummond, Gillespie, Holthouse, Ossiander

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED FAILED.

MOTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie
seconded by Rita Holthouse

to divide the question to take up
Recommendation #3, then
Recommendation #2, then
Recommendation #1.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson

MOTION PASSED.

Recommendation #3 As Amended:

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson

Nays: Drummond, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

MOTION FAILED.

Recommendation #2:

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Dave Werdal
#370,

to have Recommendation #3,
as written in Memorandum

be put on the table.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson

Nays: Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

MOTION PASSED.

Recommendation #1:

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie

Nays: Holthouse, Davis

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #135 – Revisions To School Board Policy Section
700 – Business And Non-Instructional Operations Policies (Revised)
(Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on revised second reading the attached revisions and modifications to School Board Policy Section 700, Business and Non-Instructional Operations Policies.

MOTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

to approve Memorandum #135.

Bob Christal thanked Ed Blahous for joining this evening's discussion on Policy Section 700. Mr. Christal noted that the Board received a list of several points regarding this policy revision from a citizen today. Staff has reviewed this list and will respond to questions.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
last
seconded by Kathi Gillespie
and unanimously approved

Section 725.21.b.: to omit the

sentence which reads:
~~Circulation may be requested to
vendors within the~~

~~Municipality~~

~~if required goods or services~~

~~are available through them and
adequate competition exists
among them.~~

Mr. Blahous noted that this sentence does not add any substance to the paragraph and deleting it would be appropriate.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Section 725.213: to change the
first sentence to read: When it
it best serves the interest of the
District and preapproval is

given

by DEED 4 AAC 31.00 (f), the use
of alternative techniques may be
approved by the Board if
necessary, as indicated below.

Debbie commented that State law requires prior approval by DEED if alternative approaches are used. The current language does not require prior approval.

Saul Friedman, Jermain, Dunnagan & Owens, stated that he does not believe the proposed policies conflict with the State regulations. The Board may approve alternative techniques. Clearly, an alternative technique would have to follow the law and this statement does not need to be stated in policy.

Peggy Robinson clarified that it is understood that everything in Board policy is to follow State law and it is not necessary to so state in every single section. State law overrides Board policy.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

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

Nays: None

AMENDMENT FAILED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

responsibility

Section 725.24: to change
sentence to read: When the
District undertakes

for rehabilitation, construction
or repair of school buildings, the
purchasing and contracting pro-
cedures of Board Policy 725 and
the written administrative
procedures set forth in the
Facilities Department Project
Procedures Manual shall apply.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

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

Nays: None

AMENDMENT PASSED.

Debbie Ossiander inquired if the District proceeds with design builds, would each proposer be provided with the District's prototype design so they will all have equal access.

Ray Amsden responded that yes, they will have access to the prototype design because the District will own the design.

Debbie Ossiander inquired as to why the rejected bidders and proposers are not immediately advised of their rejection.

Ed Blahous responded that bidders and proposers are notified in writing why their bid was rejected.

Debbie Ossiander inquired as to how the District deals with tie bids.

Saul Friedman explained that State regulation states that the bid has to be awarded without regard to any School Board resolution that grants a preference to local bidders. The bid must go to the lowest bidder. However, when it comes into play to the five percent of the lowest bidders and there is a tie, it comes down to State regulation and preferences are not given. Tie bids are normally awarded, by lot, to the lowest bidder and the Board could then give preference to the lowest bidder in the Municipality of Anchorage. Mr. Friedman assured the Board that the current language in Policy Section 725.363 is fine the way it is currently written.

Peggy Robinson noted that local bidders should be defined in the Procedures Manual as bidders in the Municipality of Anchorage.

Debbie Ossiander inquired as to how the time frame works in the notification of awards of contract.

Ed Blahous explained that on informal procurements, bidders are notified via fax on the same day of intent.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Section 725.366.a.: to insert the following underlined words to the statement: For awards not requiring Board approval, the Purchasing Office and/or Purchasing Contracting Office shall notify all participating bidders/proposers of the Intent to Award in writing on the same day of the issuance of intent to award.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

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

Nays: None

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Section 725.368.2(b): to add the following language to the end of the statement: If the Administration can obtain an independent third party review, within a three day window, such
recommendation would be made to the Board.

Debbie Ossiander commented that it would be in the Board's interest to have an informed third party give their recommendation in bid appeal issues.

Ed Blahous noted that there needs to be a limit as to how long the award takes.

Ray Amsden noted that a disinterested third party could be beneficial to the District but expressed concern that it would draw out the award process that could take several days.

Ed Blahous noted that no more than three days would be appropriate.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
the
seconded by Kathi Gillespie
together
and unanimously approved

to table this Amendment until
Administration can put
the appropriate language.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
section
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Section 725.43.b.: to delete
b.: ~~Subparagraphs a c (1) — (3)
herein do not apply to a
director or officer of a non-profit
organization that has been
granted tax exempt status under
Section 501 of the Internal
Revenue Code who receives no
salary or an insubstantial salary
from that organization.~~

Debbie Ossiander noted that this entire section is in conflict with the Municipal Code of Ethics. Ms. Ossiander suggested that a discussion take place with Assembly members regarding the conflict of interest code.

Saul Friedman stated that this deletion would be a more diplomatic approach.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

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

Nays: None

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Dave Werdal
The

Section 743.1.h.: to insert the
following underlined words:
Superintendent is authorized to

make contract modifications in excess of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) but not to exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) that are within the project's budget, unless the change order is greater than 10 percent of contracts over one million dollars (\$1,000,000).
And: Section 743.1.i. to read: All contract modifications or change orders above two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) or greater than 10 percent of contracts over one million dollars (\$1,000,000) shall be recommended by the Superintendent to the Board for its appeal.

Debbie Ossiander commented that the District needs to be accountable as it goes into large projects and it's imperative that the Board stays on top of specific change orders that are greater than 10 percent of the project. This wording would also answer some audit concerns.

Ed Blahous noted that when the Construction Management audit took place a year ago, it was suggested that some contract changes be made which have built-in controls and those have already been addressed in the current policy language.

Kathi Gillespie stated that the language in this amendment is significantly different noting that current policy language addresses this area.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal

Nays: Robinson, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

AMENDMENT FAILED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
end
seconded by Kathi Gillespie
and unanimously approved

Section 742.3.h.: to add to the
of the last sentence the words:
and code upgrades.

The previously tabled amendment was brought back to the table with substitute language which has been approved by the second.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Section 725.368.2.a: to add the following language to the end of the statement: The Administration shall obtain an independent review of the appeal issues. The findings of the independent review will be reported to the Board. If the independent review cannot be reasonably obtained within

three

calendar days of receipt of the appeal, the appeal shall still be presented to the Board with a written explanation of the reasons why an independent review has not been obtained.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

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

Nays: None

AMENDMENT PASSED.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

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

Nays: None

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #332 – Revision To School Board Policy 341.2 – Curriculum Committees (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the revisions to School Board Policy 341.2, Curriculum Committees as shown on Attachment A on Second Reading.

ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

to approve Memorandum #332.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Rita Holthouse
seconded by Kathi Gillespie
words:

Section 341.21.b.: to insert the
the following underlined

Develop recommendations for
curriculum frameworks, course
descriptions, and titles.

Rita Holthouse explained that it was simply an oversight that these words were omitted.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

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

Nays: None

AMENDMENT PASSED.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

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

Nays: None

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #346 – Personnel Report (With Addenda)

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

ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

to approve Memorandum #346.

Rita Holthouse noted that she does not support the recommendation of adding an Assistant Superintendent and an Executive Secretary when positions have been deleted from the FY 2000-2001 budget. Dr. Holthouse explained that she does believe that the person selected for the position of Assistant Superintendent of Support Services will be an asset to the District but does not support the addition of this position when other positions are being cut.

VOTE:

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

Nays: Holthouse

MOTION PASSED.

C. SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

D. EXECUTIVE SESSION - (PERSONNEL, FINANCE, NEGOTIATIONS, LITIGATION)

E. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of June 5, 2000 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:25 p.m.

Peggy Robinson, President

Kathi Gillespie, Clerk

Date Minutes Approved