

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 22, 1999

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, November 22, 1999 at 6:30 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, Rita Holthouse, Harriet Drummond, Kathi Gillespie and Debbie Ossiander.

Excused Absence: Bettye Davis

Others Present: Bob Christal, Carol Comeau, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Pat McDowell, Fred Stofflet, Norm Holthouse, Russ Ament, Ed Conyers, Steve Kalmes, Ed Blahous, Bill Mikawa, Lee Wilson, Teresa Johnson, Ellen Montague, Larry Wiget, Michelle Egan, Bob Price, Ray Amsden, Marie Laule, Jim Taylor, Brent Rock, Hans Bernard, Sid Trevethan, Patrick Butler, Mary Tanghe, the press and other interested people.

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

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Robinson announced the scheduled up-coming meetings.

Debbie Ossiander represented the Board at the Alaska Music Educators Conference in Fairbanks and presented the Board with an award they received in appreciation for the Board's support of music education in the State of Alaska.

Kathi Gillespie stated that Debbie Ossiander was honored by the Alaska Association of School Boards as the School Board member of the year.

Bob Christal noted that a revised site improvement layout sheet (L1.0) has been provided for Memorandum #128.

Bob Christal announced that public hearings will be conducted on November 30th and December 1st to address the future use of the schools located on Fort Richardson.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved by unanimous consent noting that Memorandum #126 has been moved to the end of the Consent Agenda.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

ASD Memorandum #131 – USA Today Teacher First Team Award Winner

Bear Valley Elementary School teacher Jody Solmonson tries to make each day special for her fifth-grade students. Recently she enjoyed a special day of her own when she learned she was selected as one of USA Today's All-USA Teacher First Team.

Ms. Solmonson was one of 16 teachers and four teaching teams nationwide selected for this award. Through this honor USA Today pays tribute to some of our nation's top teachers for their ability to both inspire and educate. Twenty-year teaching veteran Jody excels in both counts.

Ms. Solmonson, donning big hats and bright-red high-tops, serves her students hot cocoa and Shakespeare in the morning. She writes weekly letters to each of her students, promotes hands-on learning, and employs innovative teaching methods to enhance the ability of each member of her class.

It's easy to see why this award was given to Jody, but there's no doubt the real winners are her students.

The School Board recognized Jody Solmonson for being named a member of USA Today's All-USA Teacher First Team.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory

Hans Bernard commented that he attended the AASB Annual Conference and will be returning to the National Conference in the spring. Mr. Bernard further commented that the Student Advisory Committee met today and that a policy recommendation will come before the Board in the near future addressing how the District could handle senior pranks.

2. Military Delegate

Patrick Butler commented that the post schools will soon be receiving additional computers. Lt Col Butler also noted that he will make sure that word gets out about the up-coming public hearings on the future use of post schools.

3. M.E.C.C.

Sid Trevethan gave a brief report about the November 17th M.E.C.C. meeting.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ASD/MAINTENANCE/WAREHOUSE UNIT (TEAMSTERS LOCAL 959), FOOD SERVICE UNIT (TEAMSTERS) AND ANCHORAGE PRINCIPALS’ ASSOCIATION

The School Board will provide an opportunity for the public to provide comment on collective bargaining between the Anchorage School District and Maintenance/Warehouse Unit (Teamsters 959), Food Service Unit (Teamsters) and the Anchorage Principals’ Association contracts.

There were no public comments. Peggy Robinson announced that the Board will accept written comments.

G. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Polly Carr, Alaska Community Action on Toxics, expressed appreciation for the time the Administration and the Superintendent spent working with their group and listening to their concerns about the use of pesticides in schools. Ms. Carr noted that the group would like the District to incorporate the least toxic pest management procedures for control of pests and to eliminate toxic pesticides from schools.

Kay Brown, representing the Alaska Conservation Alliance, commented that she was pleased that the School Board and the District were moving forward in the area of limiting the use of pesticides in our schools. Ms. Brown further commented that she is hopeful that a policy can be established to truly protect the health of children.

Bob Christal noted that once the Policy Subcommittee develops their recommendation on pesticide use in the schools, that recommendation will come before the Board at a future meeting.

Robert Hayes expressed concern about the safety of the fire alarm systems in the District's schools. Mr. Hayes also commented on the alleged bribery going on in the District.

Bob Christal read the following letter from Robert Taylor, Municipal Fire Marshal: "Mr. Christal: It has been brought to my attention that Mr. Robert Hayes continues to offer testimony at your School Board Meetings alleging impropriety regarding the inspection of fire alarm systems in Anchorage public schools. He further claims some of the systems are unsafe. I once again wish to reiterate that this office, the State Fire Marshall, the Ombudsman's office, and the State Attorney General have reviewed Mr. Hayes' allegations. The conclusion has always and continues to be the same. The schools are safe and the alarm system meets the regulatory requirements that were in place at the time of construction. One could ask whether there are more complex systems available and the answer is yes. Nonetheless, the cost effectiveness of more sophisticated systems must be considered for any potential added benefit they may offer. For the past several decades throughout these United States there has never been a loss of a student or faculty member in a school fire. This can be directly attributed to the development of nationally recognized fire codes. The same codes you comply with. Schools continue to be safer than the homes. Recent school inspections have revealed discrepancies that fall into categories common throughout the schools. The use of extension cords and storage of combustible materials are the most serious but not so severe as to require immediate closure of a facility. In no case has any school fire alarm system come into question. I am unsure of and not really qualified to determine why Mr. Hayes persists in raising questions that have been answered numerous times. Be that as it may, rest assured your schools meet the regulatory requirements pertaining to fire alarm systems under the code in force during the time they were built is safe. Should you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at your convenience. Respectfully, Robert Taylor, Fire Marshal."

Bob Christal commented that an investigation is on-going in regards to the comment about bribery and that issue is in the hands of the State prosecutor.

H. 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 – October 11, 1999

- b. Regular Meeting – October 11, 1999
- c. Special Meeting – October 25, 1999
- d. Regular Meeting – October 25, 1999
- e. Special Meeting – October 27, 1999

2. ASD Memorandum #125 – Conflict Of Interest Waiver – Susan C. Anthony

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a conflict of interest waiver to allow Susan C. Anthony, teacher at Family Partnership Charter School, to sell curriculum materials for which she is the author, to the Anchorage School District for use in the school system.

3. ASD Memorandum #112 – Acceptance Of grant Award: Steward B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act Grant

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a McKinney Homeless Assistance continuation grant award from the Alaska Department of Education for \$34,081.

4. ASD Memorandum # 117 – Award Of Contract: Curriculum And Instruction Support Center Mechanical And Electrical Improvements

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Curriculum & Instructional Support Center (CISC) Mechanical & Electrical Improvements to F & F Construction in the amount of \$298,488.

It is further recommended that the School Board approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$88,017 from unexpended accounts in the General Fund resulting from reduced enrollment to cover this project.

5. ASD Memorandum #119 – Award Of Contracts: Frozen Potato Products

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of contracts to the low responsive bidders as shown on the Recommended Awards by Vendor for Frozen Potato Products (Attachment B) in the estimated total amount of \$206,188.

6. ASD Memorandum #126 – Increase In Project Funding: Creekside Park Elementary School Renovations And Additions

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the use of \$732,973 of bond premiums resulting from the sale of \$55.9 million of General Obligations bonds and \$130,507 of interest earnings to increase the funding of the Creekside Park Elementary School renovation project to a total of \$9,963,480. This will fund the anticipated remaining costs for renovation of Creekside Park Elementary School.

(This memorandum has been moved to the end of the Consent Agenda.)

7. ASD Memorandum #128 – Approval Of Schematic Design For Chugiak High School Renovation, Phase I

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the schematic design for Chugiak High School and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the Design Development and Construction Documents for the Chugiak High School Renewal Phase 1.

8. ASD Memorandum #94 – Appeal Of Hazardous Transportation Committee Decision – Kasuun Elementary School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board consider the appeal by the Essex Homeowners Association for transportation to and from Kasuun Elementary School, which was denied by the Hazardous Transportation Committee.

9. ASD Memorandum #123 – Appeal Of Hazardous Transportation Committee Decision – Creekside Park Elementary School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board consider the appeal by the residents of the new Elmrich Subdivision for transportation to and from Creekside Park Elementary School, which was denied by the Hazardous Transportation Committee.

10. ASD Memorandum #109 – School Board Standards

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board adopt the Association of Alaska School Boards' (AASB)

Standards: A Framework for Alaska School Boards (Attachment A).

11. ASD Memorandum #111 – Reinstatement Of Eleventh Grade California Achievement Test

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to reinstate the administration of the California Achievement Test (CAT) to students in grade 11 during the 1999-2000 school year at a cost not to exceed \$6,600.

12. ASD Memorandum #120 – Personnel Report

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

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: ASD Memoranda #125, #128, #94, #123, #109, #111, and #126.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 11, 1999; the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 11, 1999; the Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 25, 1999; the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 25, 1999; the Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 27, 1999; Memorandum #112; Memorandum #117; Memorandum #119; and

Memorandum #120.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #125 – Conflict Of Interest Waiver – Susan C. Anthony

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a conflict of interest waiver to allow Susan C. Anthony, teacher at Family Partnership Charter School, to sell curriculum materials for which she is the author, to the Anchorage School District for use in the school system.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #125.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Debbie Ossiander inquired if Ms. Anthony is in a position to require her students to purchase the curriculum materials she authors.

Carol Comeau indicated that she could if she were contracted with a group of families.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Werdal, Robinson,
Gillespie, Holthouse

Nays: Ossiander

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #128 – Approval Of Schematic Design For Chugiak High School Renovation, Phase I

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the schematic design for Chugiak High School and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the Design Development and Construction Documents for the Chugiak High School Renewal Phase 1.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #128.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Dan Seiser and Scott Worthington of Bezek Durst Seiser gave a brief presentation of the schematic design for Phase I of the Chugiak High School renovation as well as a brief history of the original design of the school. Mr. Seiser noted that Phase I will begin in the spring of 2000.

Debbie Ossiander expressed concern that the memorandum addresses the site improvements to the "West Parking Lot" noting that this should read site improvements to the "Southeast Parking Lot." Ms. Ossiander requested that every reference to the site work for the "west" parking lot be changed to read "southeast" parking lot. Ms. Ossiander stated that she would like to see the southeast parking lot site improvements included in the initial Phase I contract.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander that site improvements to the
seconded by Kathi Gillespie southeast parking lot be
included in the initial Phase I
contract.

Debbie Ossiander explained that parking at the school is a high priority of the community and the students. Ms. Ossiander noted the many functions going on at the school and the limited number of available parking spaces. The Chugiak/Eagle River community has a very high interest in this project. Parking spaces have been at a premium for many years at the school. Ms. Ossiander further noted that playing fields and parking lots are heavily used by the community.

Kathi Gillespie inquired if there is enough funding available to include this in Phase I.

Ray Amsden responded that this is doable in the available construction funding.

Dave Werdal inquired about the cost estimate for this site improvement.

Ray Amsden explained that additional information will be gathered and the estimate will be refined noting that there will be funds available to cover these site improvement expenses without putting the project over-budget. A construction contingency has been established which is in-line with typical renovations. Mr. Amsden further explained that the cost will be known before the bid goes out on the street.

Kathi Gillespie requested that the Board receive a copy of the parking lot changes that will be incorporated in Phase I. Ms. Gillespie further noted that sufficient parking at the school will be a visible improvement to the community.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

AMENDMENT PASSED.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED.

ASD Memorandum #94 - Appeal Of Hazardous Transportation
Committee Decision - Kasuun Elementary School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board consider the appeal by the Essex Homeowners Association for transportation to and from Kasuun Elementary School, which was denied by the Hazardous Transportation Committee.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

that the School Board support
the decision of the Hazardous
Transportation Committee in
the appeal by the Essex
Homeowners Association.

Steve Kalmes outlined the process of appealing to the Hazardous Transportation Committee. The committee did an on-site review and discussed their findings noting that this route was similar to most other routes in the District and did not warrant a change at this time.

Glen Starr, Essex Homeowners Association President, explained the process he went through to bring this issue to the attention of the Hazardous Transportation Committee. Mr. Starr noted that the route in question surpasses the qualifications for hazardous transportation and urged the Board to grant bus service for the students who reside in the Essex Square Subdivision.

Rita Holthouse expressed concerned about this route noting that a Municipal engineer was asked to walk this route and it was determined that there was insufficient lighting along the route which won't be completed for one or two years. Dr. Holthouse stated that she would like to see this motion voted down and to designate this route as a hazardous route for a period of one year.

Debbie Ossiander inquired about the form used by the Hazardous Transportation Committee in these types of appeals.

Steve Kalmes explained the form used is part of the Hazardous Transportation Procedures and Guidelines which asks that concerns are put in writing. The form is quite often misunderstood by those filling out the form and it is basically used for short stretches of roadway or when crossing a street that carries a large volume of traffic. If there was not a crossing guard at 68th Street, this route would have rated beyond 45. The committee did feel that walking conditions could be improved by adding some additional lights; however, the guidelines do not require lighting. Lighting is considered an enhancement and not necessarily a risk to students.

Peggy Robinson requested that Board members receive a copy of the Hazardous Transportation Procedures and Guidelines.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie

Nays: Holthouse

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #123 – Appeal Of Hazardous Transportation
Committee Decision – Creekside Park Elementary School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board consider the appeal by the residents of the new Elmrich Subdivision for transportation to and from Creekside Park Elementary School, which was denied by the Hazardous Transportation Committee.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

that the School Board support
the decision of the Hazardous
Transportation Committee in
the matter of the appeal by the
residents of the new Elmrich
Subdivision for transportation
to Creekside Park.

Steve Kalmes gave a brief overview and history of this request for bus transportation.

Joann Nero, parent of a student in Elmrich Subdivision, urged the Board to approve bus transportation for the students residing in this subdivision. Ms. Nero explained that bus transportation is provided to a nearby trailer park which actually passes the kids in the Elmrich Subdivision.

Rita Holthouse inquired as to why the kids in the trailer park are provided bus transportation.

Steve Kalmes explained that Boundary Avenue is on the list of hazardous routes approved last spring and it does carry a higher number of hazardous problems which includes an area of very limited visibility for walking students.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie

Nays: Holthouse

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #109 – School Board Standards

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board adopt the Association of Alaska School Boards' (AASB) Standards: A Framework for Alaska School Boards (Attachment A).

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to approve Memorandum #109.
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Kathi Gillespie commented that when the Board last discussed this issue, the Board talked about how it would align the key work of school boards with the School Boards Standards and inquired if decisions have been made yet or if the Board would form a committee to address this (how will the Board approach both pieces of information).

Peggy Robinson explained that the Board talked about the indicators that are given as examples from AASB which are really things the Board needs to determine on their own (the Board's self-evaluation would then be based on those indicators). There is work to do in order to develop those indicators.

Kathi Gillespie volunteered to be part of that committee. Ms. Gillespie further commented that school boards across the state are in the process of adopting standards for themselves. Standards have been adopted for students, content and performance, teachers, principals and central service administrators. The Board is showing leadership in adopting standards for themselves that meet or exceed the national standards for school boards.

Peggy Robinson noted that the goal is to have these indicators identified by June.

Kathi Gillespie suggested that a letter be sent to AASB informing them of the approval of these AASB standards.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #111 – Reinstatement Of Eleventh Grade California Achievement Test

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to reinstate the administration of the California Achievement Test (CAT) to students in grade 11 during the 1999-2000 school year at a cost not to exceed \$6,600.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to approve Memorandum #111.
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Bob Christal explained that during the last budget deliberations the CAT testing for 11th Grade was eliminated. Since that time high school principals have asked to have this test reinstated.

Pat McDowell commented that high school principals have discussed the need for more available testing data on older students. Principals have indicated a desire to have testing data on the 11th Grade students.

Kathi Gillespie inquired about the Sitka School District adopting the Terra Nova testing assessment.

Fred Stofflet noted that he recently read where the District cannot use the Terra Nova method at Grades 9, 10 and 11 because of the similarities with the high school competency exam. Dr. Stofflet stated

that it is his understanding that Terra Nova could be used in the primary and middle grades.

Board members requested further information about the Terra Nova testing assessment.

Dave Werdal stated that he would like to see something on the feasibility of the use of the CAT test.

Hans Bernard commented that the Student Advisory Board discussed this issue and decided that it is not a good idea to give tests to students just to keep them busy. The Student Advisory Board did not think it would be a good idea to bring back the CAT test. Mr. Bernard commented that it would be nice to have reading and writing help for the qualifying exam.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Gillespie

Nays: Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson, Holthouse

Absent: Davis

MOTION FAILED.

ASD Memorandum #126 – Increase In Project Funding: Creekside Park Elementary School Renovations And Additions

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the use of \$732,973 of bond premiums resulting from the sale of \$55.9 million of General Obligations bonds and \$130,507 of interest earnings to increase the funding of the Creekside Park Elementary School renovation project to a total of \$9,963,480. This will fund the anticipated remaining costs for renovation of Creekside Park Elementary School.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #126.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Bob Christal commented that this project is one that has been underway this fall and requested that a discussion take place in executive session regarding issues concerning this project prior to getting into full discussion.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to recess to executive session for
seconded by Kathi Gillespie the purpose of discussing issues
and unanimously approved relative to ASD Memorandum
#126 that could potentially

negatively impact the financial conditions of the District and/or potential litigation in this matter.

The Regular Meeting recessed at 9:40 p.m. and reconvened at 10:45 p.m.

Debbie Ossiander stated that she will vote for approval with reluctance and concern.

Peggy Robinson noted that the restrooms in the south wing were re-done and the hand-washing sinks were the original ones from 1959 that were reinstalled and do not work very well. Ms. Robinson inquired if those could be replaced with Bradley sinks.

Ed Conyers responded that the sinks can be replaced with existing funds.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #118 - New Muldoon Elementary School One Percent For Art

According to the procedures in the Anchorage Municipal Code 7.40, funds for Works for Art in Public Places, New Muldoon Elementary School Jury have chosen the artist to design artwork for the school.

Gerry Newcomb, Seattle, Washington, has been chosen to do the artwork. The artwork consists of reflective cast glass trees which will be attached to seven columns in the front entry, the commons and the library. Multicolored leaves will be suspended on steel cables in both clerestory areas (commons and library) and cast glass leaves will be sprinkled throughout the commons flooring. The Anchorage School District Risk Manager, Tom Bibeau, has approved the entire project, including the integration of the glass leaves in the floor. The contract award amount is \$67,311.

ASD Memorandum #113 – Facility Project Report And Change Order Report For The Month Of October 1999

The monthly Facility Project Report Update and Change Order Report for the month of October 1999 is attached. It should be noted that some change orders are still outstanding in the current phases of work at Creekside Park and Scenic Park Elementary Schools. It should also be anticipated that some will occur in the final phases of work at these schools. There are no exceptions to report this month.

ASD Memorandum #114 – Operating Budget Transfers – October Monthly Report FY 1999-2000

The attached report of budget transfers for October 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 October 1999. Abbreviations in titles represent how data is stored in IFAS; continuity in the abbreviations within IFAS is an on-going process.

The budget transfer forms and related information for all of the transfers are available in the Budgeting Department office for review by the School Board and members of the public.

ASD Memorandum #115 – End-Of-Month Membership Summary For October 1999

The end-of-month membership report for October 29, 1999 is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of October was 49,028, a decline of 430 students from the October 30, 1998 total of 49,458. Table 1 compares the membership on October 29, 1999 with the totals from October 30, 1998.

Kathi Gillespie suggested that a copy of this report as well as Memorandum #116 be shared with Scott Goldsmith.

ASD Memorandum #116 – Student Membership Projections For September 30, 2000

Attachment A presents the fall forecast for the September 30, 2000 Anchorage School District student membership. The following items highlight trends in the 2000-2001 student population forecast:

- The total projection for September 30, 2000 is 49,297 students. This reflects a decrease of 15 students from the September 30, 1999 official membership total of 49,312.
- While the projected decline for September 30, 2000 is minimal, it stands in marked contrast to the significant gains observed at the start of the 1996-97 and 1997-98 school years.
- The two major assumptions influencing the projections for next year are a smaller kindergarten class entering the District and the loss of students due to more students leaving the District than entering for Grades 1-12.
- The September 30, 2000 projection for kindergarten is 3,533 students. This projection is 89 less than the 3,622 students observed on September 30th of this school year. Kindergarten is the most difficult grade to project as there is no preceding grade available. The projections for September 30, 1999 were based in part on data obtained from the State Demographer regarding the number of four year old students in the Anchorage population as well as the number of live births in Anchorage five years ago.
- The effect of negative migration rates in the other grades is best illustrated by the following observation. This school year the incoming kindergarten enrollment was 3,622 and the 12th grade was 3,102. If one assumed that the next year would also be 3,622 and that all other grades would move up without any gain or loss, then the expected enrollment for September 30, 2000 would be 49,832, a gain of 520 students.
- Elementary schools are projected to decline by 326 students (-1.2 percent) for next year. This can be compared against the actual loss of 203 students for elementary schools from September 30, 1998 to September 30, 1999.
- Middle schools are projected to remain at the same level as this year, with a numerical loss of two students. This can be compared against the observed loss of 103 students from September 30, 1998 to September 30, 1999.
- Senior high schools are projected to gain 255 students. This increase can be compared against the observed loss of 13 students from September 30, 1998 to September 30, 1999.

- The other secondary schools and programs (secondary students not attending a middle school or a senior high school) are projected to increase by 75 students.
- Pre-elementary special education students, Level 3 special education students, and special services program students are projected to decrease by 17 students.
- Charter schools are projected for 1,276 students next year, an increase of 2,051 students over the 1,071 students enrolled in charter schools this year. It should be noted that if additional charter schools are approved by the School Board for the 2000-2001 school year, then the total District enrollment for September 30, 2000 would also increase by a proportionate amount. The amount of the increase would depend upon the type of charter schools approved, i.e., charter schools that have a home school focus, such as Family Partnership, tend to enroll more new to the District students, while other charter schools tend to draw the majority of their students from existing Anchorage School District schools.

Norm Holthouse stated that on Page 2 the projected increase in charter school students for next year is 205 students (not 2,051 students).

Dave Werdal suggested that the total projected numbers be looked at again in a few weeks to make sure the most accurate numbers are used in establishing the up-coming budget.

ASD Memorandum #132 – Technology Plan Implementation Update

On January 29, 1999, the Anchorage School District School Board approved the ASD Instructional Technology Plan.

This memorandum was moved to the December 13, 1999 School Board Meeting.

ASD Memorandum #133 – Substitute Teacher Report

Recently the Anchorage School District has had difficulty on certain days meeting the demand for substitute teachers. This problem is not unique to Anchorage, many districts across the country are experiencing substitute problems. Many of the reasons for shortages in Anchorage and across the country are the same. A strong local and national economy with low unemployment rates has reduced the pool of substitutes. In addition, hiring initiatives (such as efforts to lower class size) have drawn people from the substitute pool into employment. Since 1997 the Anchorage School District has hired more

than 875 teachers who are currently employed. This significantly impacts the pool of available certificated subs. Nevertheless, we do not expect staff to come to work when they are sick.

This memorandum was moved to the December 13, 1999 School Board Meeting.

J. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

K. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Rita Holthouse commented that community councils in South Anchorage have inquired if there is room for a swimming pool on the site of the new South Anchorage High School.

Bob Christal responded that the District is not proposing to build a pool at the new South Anchorage High School.

Information will be provided to School Board members relative to school report cards.

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

M. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of November 22, 1999 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 11:10 p.m.

Peggy Robinson, President

Rita Holthouse, Clerk

Date Minutes Approved