

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 26, 2000

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, June 26, 2000 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, Kathi Gillespie, Rita Holthouse, Bettye Davis, and Harriet Drummond.

Excused Absence: Debbie Ossiander.

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Janet Stokesbary, Carolyn Buckley, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Pat McDowell, Fred Stofflet, Robyn Rehmann, Norm Holthouse, Russ Ament, Ed Conyers, Pam Chenier, Bill Mikawa, Lee Wilson, Ellen Montague, Karen Moore, Michelle Egan, Ray Amsden, Marie Laule, Stan Syta, 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.

Carol Comeau announced that Bob Christal is out of town.

Carol Comeau announced that the Administration Building will be closed the week of July 4th.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

ASD Memorandum #395 – CIRI Corporation Book Donation

Even with the growing dependence on computers, books remain an invaluable component in education. Our school libraries still rely on the written word in its traditional form to entertain, inform and

enlighten students. So anytime the district receives a donation of quality books, it is accepted with sincere appreciation.

The book "Growing Up Native in Alaska" contains a collection of interviews with 27 Alaska Natives who share their perspectives on what Native cultures and traditions mean to them today. Cook Inlet Region Incorporated felt this literary selection would be an insightful and educational resource for Anchorage School District students, so they donated 48 copies to District high schools and middle schools.

According to CIRI president Carl Marrs, this book, 20 years in the making, has much to offer young people. He states, "This work is a way to bring the voices of younger Alaska Natives and all their perspectives to the forefront. We need to ensure these voices are heard, as well as learn from them."

The School Board recognized CIRI for their generous donation.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

Student Advisory:

Military Delegate:

M.E.C.C.:

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Lillian Person, Family Partnership Charter School parent, encouraged the School Board to continue and maintain their support of their charter school. Ms. Person noted that this charter school is trying to operate within their charter parameters and asked the Board to look more broadly into what is really going on rather than to just what is being told to the media.

Pat Shelton, Family Partnership Charter School parent, commented that charter schools are intended to offer alternative choices in public education and each school operates differently. Operating a charter school is a learning process that requires a tremendous amount of time and paperwork from everyone. Ms. Shelton further commented that she is confident that observations based on assumptions and information taken out of context can be rectified and asked that this charter school be evaluated without bias.

Dawn Mendias inquired if anything has been done to identify the kids who cannot read in the primary grades and noted that a more centralized code of discipline needs to be provided to help students.

Students need to enter school with a sense of purpose. Ms. Mendias suggested that hats should not be worn during school and that food or drinks not be allowed in classrooms when class is in session. Ms. Mendias noted that if kids do not value education then the system needs to set more stringent guidelines.

Lynn Hammond announced that he will be resigning his position as Chairman of the School Budget Advisory Commission and noted that he has enjoyed the challenge of serving on this commission. Mr. Hammond commented that the Administration and the Board has his deepest respect and thanked the staff for all their help over the years.

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 – November 19, 1999
- b. Special Meeting – May 22, 2000
- c. Regular Meeting – May 22, 2000
- d. Special Meeting – May 25, 2000
- e. Special Meeting – June 5, 2000

2. ASD Memorandum #333 – Revision To School Board Policy 343.41 – Graduation Requirements (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the deletion of section 343.41: Graduation Requirements for those students (Prior to the Class of 2000) as shown on Attachment A from School Board Policy on Second Reading. It is further recommended that the changes to School Board Policy 343.41 for those students in the Class of 2000 and beyond as shown on Attachment B be approved on Second Reading.

3. ASD Memorandum #344 – Family Partnership Charter School Budget Revision FY 1999-2000

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept additional funding from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) in the amount of \$1,285,541. The District will receive \$1,285,541 as a result of the reversal of a prior DEED decision regarding their program designation for Family Partnership Charter School (FPCS) for FY 1999-2000. This

additional \$1,285,541 will be allocated to the General Fund with \$691,346 specifically going to FPCS.

It is further recommended that a budget transfer be authorized to place the \$691,346 in the appropriate accounts in the FPCS budget.

4. ASD Memorandum #390 - Budget Transfers: Family Partnership Charter School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve Budget Transfers in the amount of \$377,779 for the Family Partnership Charter School to meet required expenses in their budget for 1999-2000.

5. ASD Memorandum #375 - Budget Transfer: McLaughlin High School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a Budget Transfer in the amount of \$121,780 for the Youth in Detention Grant for McLaughlin High School for the 1999-2000 school year.

6. ASD Memorandum #374 - Prior Approval Of Discretionary Grant: Smaller Learning Communities

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to apply for a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to enable one or more large Anchorage School District high schools to implement a planning process for creating smaller learning communities within the high school.

7. ASD Memorandum #376 - Acceptance Of Continuation Grant Award: Safe And Drug-Free Schools Greatest Need

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$100,000.

8. ASD Memorandum #393 - Acceptance Of Discretionary Grant: Goals 2000

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant

funds in the amount of \$99,908 from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

9. ASD Memorandum #397 – Acceptance Of Grant Award: BLM To School Business Partnerships

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant funds from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in the amount of \$ 700,000 over a five year period. This grant will fund employment training for students in the Anchorage School District.

10. ASD Memorandum #338 – Approval For Transfer Of Funds To The Municipality Of Anchorage For Road Improvements Related To The Polaris K-12 School Site

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize use of \$380,000 from the undesignated fund balance of the Capital Projects Fund to reimburse the Municipality of Anchorage for improvement of East 64th Avenue.

11. ASD Memorandum #336 – Award Of Contract: Girdwood Elementary School Electrical Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Girdwood Elementary School Electrical Upgrade to Air Tek, Inc. in the amount of \$196,078.

12. ASD Memorandum #377 – Award Of Contract: Inlet View Elementary School Window Replacement

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Inlet View Elementary School Window Replacement to the low bidder, S R Bales Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$167,305.68.

13. ASD Memorandum #378 – Award Of Contract: Mt. Spurr Elementary School Gymnasium And Two Classroom Addition

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Mt. Spurr Elementary School Gym/Two Classroom

Addition to the low bidder, F & W Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$1,755,328.

14. ASD Memorandum #381 – Award Of Contract: King Career Center Asbestos Ceiling Tile Replacement

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the King Career Center Asbestos Ceiling Tile Replacement to the low bidder, H. Watt & Scott, Inc., in the amount of \$344,076; and authorize the use from the W.R. Grace Asbestos Settlement account to establish the King Career Center Asbestos Abatement project in the amount of \$486,000.

15. ASD Memorandum #382 – Award Of Contract: Bakery Products

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of a contract to Interstate Brands Corporation as shown on the Recommended Award by Vendor for Bakery Products (Attachment A) in the estimated total amount of \$81,666.

16. ASD Memorandum #383 – Award Of Contract: Dairy Products

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of a contract to Matanuska Maid Dairy, as shown on the Recommended Award by Vendor for Dairy Products (Attachment A) in the estimated total amount of \$674,826.60.

17. ASD Memorandum #384 – Award Of Contracts: Custodial Supplies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of contracts to the low, responsive bidders as shown on the Tabulation of Recommended Awards by Vendor for Custodial Supplies (Attachment A) in the total amount of \$260,537.

18. ASD Memorandum #385 – Renewal Of Contract: Employee Assistance Program

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of a contract extension for the Employee Assistance Program to Magellan Behavioral Health (formerly known as Human Affairs of Alaska) for the period

July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001, for a total contract award of \$179,840.

19. ASD Memorandum #391 – Renewal Of Contract: Group Life Insurance

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorizes the Superintendent to renew the contract for the 2000-2001 fiscal year with States West Life Insurance for Group Term Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance. The total contract award is approximately \$765,000 depending upon the number of eligible District employees.

20. ASD Memorandum #392 – Award Of Contract: Reimbursement Account

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract to American Fidelity Assurance Company to administer the District's Reimbursement Account for the 2000-2001 fiscal year.

21. ASD Memorandum #396 – Schools And District Report Card To The Public

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to submit the attached 1999-2000 Schools and District Report Card to the Public in compliance with AS 14.03.120.

22. ASD Memorandum #373 – Ratification Of 2000-2001 Health Insurance Contribution Rate For Local 71 (Custodial Employees)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the health insurance contribution rate of \$427.50 per month, per eligible employee covered by the collective bargaining agreement between the District and Public Employees Union Local 71 which will cover the period between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2001. The tentative agreement is attached.

23. ASD Memorandum #380 – 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 #390, #338, #378, #381 and #385.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie
seconded by Harriet Drummond
November 19,

to approve the Minutes of the
Special Meeting of

1999; the Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 22, 2000; the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 22, 2000; the Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 25, 2000; the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 5, 2000;

Memorandum #333;

Memorandum #344;

Memorandum #375;

Memorandum #374;

Memorandum #376;

Memorandum #393;

Memorandum #397;

Memorandum #336;

Memorandum #377;

Memorandum #382;

Memorandum #383;

Memorandum #384;

Memorandum #391;

Memorandum #392;

Memorandum #396;

Memorandum #373 and

Memorandum #380 with

Addendum.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ossiander

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #390 – Budget Transfers: Family Partnership Charter School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve Budget Transfers in the amount of \$377,779 for the Family Partnership Charter School to meet required expenses in their budget for 1999-2000.

ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to approve Memorandum #390.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Rita Holthouse inquired as to what is being referred to in the sentence, "Parent direction of student account spending shows far greater use of instructional services compared to purchases of textbooks and teaching supplies."

Carol Comeau explained that this sentence refers to contracted services for students such as art lessons, music lessons, etc. These would be services that would be approved by the Assistant Superintendent or the Administration.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ossiander

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #338 – Approval For Transfer Of Funds To The Municipality Of Anchorage For Road Improvements Related To The Polaris K-12 School Site

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize use of \$380,000 from the undesignated fund balance of the Capital Projects Fund to reimburse the Municipality of Anchorage for improvement of East 64th Avenue.

ACTION:

Moved by Harriet Drummond to approve Memorandum #338.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Harriet Drummond pointed out for the benefit of the public that this is one of those places where the District is caught between a rock and a hard place noting that this road is some distance from the school. The community needs to understand that the District is sometimes called upon to go beyond their scope of responsibility in areas that should come under the Municipality's responsibility.

Ray Amsden noted that this project should be completed this fall and will keep the Board informed as to when the road improvements will actually be completed.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ossiander

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #378 – Award Of Contract: Mt. Spurr Elementary School Gymnasium And Two Classroom Addition

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Mt. Spurr Elementary School Gym/Two Classroom Addition to the low bidder, F & W Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$1,755,328.

ACTION:

Moved by Harriet Drummond to approve Memorandum #378.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Harriet Drummond inquired as to what has changed in this construction project noting that it has been a quite a while since the Board has reviewed this project.

Ray Amsden responded that this is an addition to Mt. Spurr Elementary (the renovation portion was completed two years ago). Also, this project is being funded directly through a grant from the Federal Department of Education. This addition will consist of a gym, two kindergarten classrooms, a music classroom, music and physical education offices and a physical education storage room.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ossiander

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #381 – Award Of Contract: King Career Center Asbestos Ceiling Tile Replacement

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the

King Career Center Asbestos Ceiling Tile Replacement to the low bidder, H. Watt & Scott, Inc., in the amount of \$344,076; and authorize the use from the W.R. Grace Asbestos Settlement account to establish the King Career Center Asbestos Abatement project in the amount of \$486,000.

ACTION:

Moved by Harriet Drummond to approve Memorandum #381.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Harriet Drummond inquired if the source of funding is entirely from the W.R. Grace Asbestos Settlement account.

Janet Stokesbary responded that the entire project will be funded by the W.R. Grace legal settlement.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ossiander

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #385 – Renewal Of Contract: Employee Assistance Program

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of a contract extension for the Employee Assistance Program to Magellan Behavioral Health (formerly known as Human Affairs of Alaska) for the period July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001, for a total contract award of \$179,840.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to approve Memorandum #385.
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Peggy Robinson inquired as to how much employee usage has occurred with this program over the past year and if employee satisfaction is ever evaluated.

Karen Moore responded that Magellan Behavioral Health provides quarterly and annual statements regarding employee usage of the plan. To date, 251 employees utilized these services this year. Ms. Moore explained that the goal is to work with Magellan to make sure that all employees are aware that this is a benefit they can access.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ossiander

MOTION PASSED.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #386 – Facility Project Report And Change Order Report For The Month Of May 2000

The monthly Facility Project Report Update and Change Order Report for the month of May 2000 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

Rita Holthouse inquired about the fairly large change order for corrective action associated with the Baxter Elementary School Renovation project.

Ray Amsden explained that the condition of the floor was not adequate and that this change order is for additional flooring work that needs to be done.

ASD Memorandum #387 – Operating Budget Transfers – May Monthly Report FY 1999-2000

The attached report of budget transfers for May 2000 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 May 2000. Abbreviations in titles represent how data is stored in IFAS; continuity in the abbreviations within IFAS is an on-going process.

ASD Memorandum #388 – End-Of-Year Membership Summary For 1999-2000

The end-of-year membership report for June 5, 2000 is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of the 1999-2000 school year was 48,276, an increase of 174 students over the 1998-99 end-of-year total of 48,102. Table 1 compares the membership on June 5, 2000 with the totals from June 3, 1999.

Rita Holthouse requested information on what changes have occurred at SAVE I (or what is being done differently) to improve their retention rate.

Kathi Gillespie suggested that when there is a program that is doing an excellent job and showing a measured increase in its success, that perhaps this information could be communicated to other school/program sites.

Dave Werdal commented that the SAVE I program is a very valuable program.

ASD Memorandum #389 – Treasurer’s Report/Financial Recap: May 31, 2000

The attached report consists of two parts: the Treasurer’s Report and the Financial Recap. The Treasurer’s Report and the Financial Recap are presented on a monthly basis with year-to-date information as of May 31, 2000.

Rita Holthouse noted that she will submit a request for information regarding the end-of-year financial report to see what is remaining in the general fund.

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

Peggy Robinson commented on the article in the Alaska Star about the 68 Chugiak graduates who completed senior projects and would like more information to see if other schools could be doing similar projects. (Pat McDowell noted that Jan Christensen and her staff would be glad to make a brief presentation to the Board on this project at an up-coming Board meeting this fall.)

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

L. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of June 26, 2000 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:45 p.m.

Peggy Robinson, President

Kathi Gillespie, Clerk

Date Minutes Approved