

**MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 30, 2001**

The Anchorage School Board met in Special Session on Monday, April 30, 2001, at 6:40 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, Jake Metcalfe, Harriet Drummond, Debbie Ossiander, and John Floyd.

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Janet Stokesbary, George Vakalis, Pat McDowell, Jim Taylor, Gail Opalinski, Patricia McRae, Robyn Rehmann, Norm Holthouse, Fred Stofflet, Lee Wilson, Bob Henry, Ray Amsden, Michelle Egan, Ellen Montague, Robin Siegfried, the press, and interested people.

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

B. OATH OF OFFICE OF NEW SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

Judge Sigurd Murphy administered the Oath of Office to Jake Metcalfe, who was sworn into office as the new School Board Member of the Anchorage School District.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

School Board President, Peggy Robinson, announced the upcoming meetings and events.

Debbie Ossiander gave the Board an update on the major issues in regards to education occurring at the state legislature. Ms. Ossiander urged the public to let their legislators know their concerns.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Robinson noted the addendum to the Personnel/Travel Report and a revision of ASD Memorandum #281, Ratification of APA/ASD Collective Bargaining Agreement (2001-2004). The Administration pulled the

memorandum regarding the East High School project. The Agenda, as amended, was approved by unanimous consent.

E. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. ASD Memorandum #257 - Award-Winning Principal And Librarian

Recently two district employees were honored with statewide awards recognizing their professional achievements.

Sheri Stears of Clark Middle School was named Alaska's 2001 Middle School Principal of the Year. This award, presented by the Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals, recognizes outstanding middle level and high school principals. Award-winning principals are chosen for their ability to: work with staff members to improve education; generate a positive school climate that reflects high staff and student morale; involve the community in school life; and use creativity and imagination to bring about positive change. Stears is now in the running for national principal of the year, to be announced in October.

Sue Hagedorn, Gladys Wood Elementary School librarian, was recently named Alaska State Librarian of the Year. This award honors Alaska school librarians who are an integral part of the school team; promote the development of independent lifetime readers and learners; and exemplify professional involvement by sharing expertise with colleagues both locally and statewide.

It is requested the School Board recognize honorees Sheri Stears and Sue Hagedorn for professionalism, dedication, and enthusiasm that led to these awards.

2. ASD Memorandum # 259 - Recognition For Phillips Alaska, Inc. And School Business Partnership

PHILLIPS, Alaska, Inc. has a long history of involvement in the Anchorage Community, and, first as ARCO and now as PHILLIPS, with the School Business Partnership program. Their employees are vital participants in school business partnerships across the School District; they adopted Clark Middle School and have spent hours of volunteer time working with students and staff. During the fall of 2000, members of the School Business Partnership Board of Directors had a conversation with Nancy Schoephoester, Manager

of Philanthropy and Community Services at PHILLIPS Alaska, regarding the future of School Business Partnerships in Anchorage and their potential support. An advocate for the program, Ms. Schoephoester promoted the concept of financial support to the company. In the winter of 2001, PHILLIPS Alaska Inc. presented the School Business Partnership Board with a \$50,000 award. The award will be used to deepen the connection and communication between the 487 partnerships thus far built, which support the success of students in the Anchorage School District.

It is requested that the School Board recognize PHILLIPS Alaska Inc. for their generous support of School Business Partnerships in Anchorage.

Carol Comeau stated that the National Symposium for Partners in Education will be coming to Alaska in early November and ASD is actively participating in that planning. It is an opportunity to highlight the many partnerships in the community.

Rita Holthouse commented that the Board did a letter requesting that the National Symposium for Partners in Education visit Anchorage and they were successful. Ms. Holthouse also stated that Jim Utter, ASD employee, was given the Meeting Planner of the Year award.

F. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory

Hans Bernard stated that the Student Advisory Board met and talked about the resolution they are preparing to bring to the Board regarding the discipline procedures for some of the students involved in fighting in the schools. They also discussed a resolution that is going to be prepared by a class at Gruening Middle School regarding a request to change the start times in the schools. They will be electing the new officers at their next meeting.

Rita Holthouse asked if the group was still working on the resolution regarding harassment. Carol Comeau stated that she has received the copy of the resolution and will be giving it to Ms. Ossiander at the next Policy Sub-committee meeting.

Debbie Ossiander commented on the book that Hans Bernard wrote regarding youth involvement with school boards. Ms. Ossiander stated that the book was well written and thanked Hans Bernard for the wonderful job he has done on the Board.

2. Military Delegate

None

3. M.E.C.C.

None

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 19, 2001 - 4:30 p.m.
- b. Special Meeting - March 19, 2001 - 6:30 p.m.

2. ASD Memorandum #231 - Award Of Contract: Service High School Telecommunications And Power Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Service High School Telecommunication and Power Upgrades to Karma Contracting for the Base Bid in the amount of \$175,000 and to accept Additive Alternates 1, 2 and 3 in the amount \$256,000 for a total award of \$431,000. It is further recommended to reallocate \$215,000 of FY 97-98 Major Maintenance Funds to provide supplemental funding for this project.

3. ASD Memorandum #263 - Award Of Contract: Whaley School Reroof And Structural Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for Whaley School Reroof and Structural Upgrades to the low responsive bidder, Anchorage Roofing & Contracting Inc. for the Base Bid in the amount of \$497,850, and accept Alternate #1 in

the amount of \$3,950, and Alternate #2 in the amount of \$3,780 for a total award price of \$505,580.

4. ASD Memorandum #265 - Award Of Contract: Polaris K-12 School Structural Upgrades And Roof Replacement

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for Polaris K-12 Structural Upgrades and Roof Replacement to F & W Construction Company, Inc. for the Base Bid in the amount of \$325,453 and accept Alternate #2 in the amount of \$66,531, for a total award of \$391,984.

5. ASD Memorandum #267 - Award Of Contract: Bartlett High School, Phase 1 Renovation

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Bartlett High School, Phase 1 Renovation to the lowest bidder, Janssen Contracting Company, Inc., in the amount of \$2,677,700 and accept Unit Prices A, B, C and D as proposed.

6. ASD Memorandum #262 - Acceptance Of Sub-Contract Award: Partnership Between Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory And North Star Elementary School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the Anchorage School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a subcontract award from Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NWREL) in the amount of \$25,000 from April through October 2001, with continuing funding through December 1, 2005.

7. ASD Memorandum #196 - Approval Of Schematic Design For Denali Replacement Elementary School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the schematic design for the Denali Replacement Elementary School and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the design, pending Municipal Assembly approval of schematic design.

8. ASD Memorandum # 274 - Personnel/Travel Report

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

9. ASD Memorandum #281 - Ratification Of APA/ASD Collective Bargaining Agreement (2001-2004)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the collective bargaining agreement between the District and the Anchorage Principals Association, which will establish terms and conditions of employment for principals and assistant principals during the period between July 1, 2001 and June 30, 2004.

10. ASD Memorandum #283 - Prior Approval Of Discretionary Grant: Alaska Technology Advancement Grant

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to apply for a grant from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

11. ASD Memorandum #284 - Acceptance Of Contract: State Of Alaska Department Of Health And Social Services

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a contract from the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services in the amount of \$6,000.

12. ASD Memorandum #285 - Acceptance Of Contract: Alaska Initiative For Community Engagement

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a contract agreement from the Association of Alaska School Boards in the amount of \$325,999.

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: ASD Memorandums #231; ASD Memorandum #196; and ASD Memorandum #274.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander  
seconded by Harriet Drummond

to approve Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 19, 2001 (4:30 p.m.); Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 19, 2001 (6:30 p.m.); Memorandum #263; Memorandum #267; Memorandum #262; Memorandum #281; Memorandum #283; Memorandum #284; and Memorandum #285.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Floyd, Werdal,  
Robinson, Ossiander,  
Metcalf, Drummond

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #231 - Award Of Contract: Service High School Telecommunications And Power Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Service High School Telecommunication and Power Upgrades to Karma Contracting for the Base Bid in the amount of \$175,000 and to accept Additive Alternates 1, 2 and 3 in the amount \$256,000 for a total award of \$431,000. It is further recommended to reallocate \$215,000 of FY 97-98 Major Maintenance Funds to provide supplemental funding for this project.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander  
seconded by Dave Werdal

to approve Memorandum #231.

Carol Comeau stated that the renovations for the Service telecommunications power will begin construction this summer. The Administration has identified funding to complete the project.

Theresa Obermeyer asked the Board to think about updating the telecommunications systems in all of the schools where they are needed.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Floyd, Werdal,  
Robinson, Ossiander,  
Metcalf, Drummond

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #196 - Approval Of Schematic Design For  
Denali Replacement Elementary School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the schematic design for the Denali Replacement Elementary School and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the design, pending Municipal Assembly approval of schematic design.

ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to approve Memorandum #196.  
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Carol Comeau stated that the Administration has had a struggle with the project for the replacement of Denali Elementary School. The recommendation is to move forward with the schematic design so that the Assembly can pass it. Then they will continue to look for funds to complete the project. The Administration feels the design is the appropriate one. The community and the staff are committed to doing everything they can to get the project built as soon as the funding can be identified for their three distinct programs that are integrated into their school.

Denali community member, Margie MacNeille, stated that the Denali community is ready to do whatever it takes to get the building completed. They are very much in favor of the schematic design presented to the Board.

Dave Werdal asked Ms. MacNeille if she felt that the school would still be built to the standards the community wanted with the \$1,118,000 million

dollar reduction. Ms. MacNeille stated that she thinks the reduced amount will provide them with a good school. Mr. Werdal asked Ms. MacNeille if the community has discussed or suggested ways to fund the project. Ms. MacNeille stated that it had been discussed and the community members feel the best opportunity for funding this project would be the next bond proposition.

Carol Comeau stated that the Administration would continue to look to see if there are additional funds from projects that have been completed. They do not anticipate that there will be enough, but they are still making the assessment.

John Floyd stated his concerns with starting a project without the funds for completion available. Carol Comeau stated that at the time when the project first went forward to the bonds, the experience from prior projects was used and the bidding climate was very good. However, many of the construction bids have been coming in higher than previously estimated. Now, due to the delay of the "big box" stores projects, the people in the construction industry are optimistic that there may be some reduction in many of the bids. The Administration feels that it needs to move forward with the project. Ray Amsden agreed with Ms. Comeau's statement.

Dave Werdal asked Ray Amsden if the completion of the school is delayed a year due to the lack of funds. Ray Amsden stated that they are currently not delayed a year, but several months. If they do not identify funds or have another bond proposition pass by April, it will be delayed. If the design is not approved at this time, then they will definitely lose a year.

Mr. Werdal also asked Ray Amsden if the amount of the shortage of funds could be more specific. Mr. Amsden stated that at this time the amount is approximately \$3,000,000. Mr. Werdal also questioned the fact that they were able to reduce the project by \$1,118,000 and still build an adequate school. Mr. Werdal questioned why the funds were not cut in the beginning before the fund shortage occurred. Mr. Amsden explained the process that they go through in the very early stages of the design and continue to during the course of the development of the project.

Harriet Drummond was concerned over the decision to cut the exterior snow melt system and felt that the elimination of the cost of the snow removal would be significant over many years in the future.

Debbie Ossiander expressed her concerns on going forward with the schematic design of the school without having funding to complete the project. Mr. Amsden explained that if they wait a year, inflation would bring the cost approximately \$500,000 higher.

Ms. Ossiander also asked if the Administration had discussed the possibility of moving the Intensive Needs program to another location since the school will be one of the largest on one of the smallest sites. Carol Comeau stated that the community and Administration strongly feel that the program needs to stay at that site.

Debbie Ossiander also expressed her concern with the current projects that are over budget. Ms. Comeau explained that the Administration has been reviewing every project repeatedly. Some will be delayed, such as East High School. That project will be re-packaged and re-bid at a later date.

Rita Holthouse stated that she felt that the Administration has given the Board a clear indication that their plan is to proceed with the planning part and work to find additional funding. She urged the Board to approve the memorandum and let the Administration proceed with the design and not go forward with the project until additional funding is found. Harriet Drummond mentioned other schools in the past that were not fully funded at the time of design. Ms. Drummond also urged the Board to approve the memorandum.

Dave Werdal expressed his concerns with the number of projects that are currently over budget.

Peggy Robinson stated her support for the recommendation and commented that until the current projects are completed, no new projects should be started. Ms. Robinson also agreed with Ms. Comeau's statement that more competitive bidding is possible with the delay of the "big box" stores.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Floyd, Werdal,  
Robinson, Ossiander,  
Metcalf, Drummond

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum # 274 - Personnel/Travel Report

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

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #274  
seconded by Harriet Drummond with addendum.

Carol Comeau stated that she was very pleased with the recommendation that Mike Graham be promoted to principal of East High School. Ms. Comeau also wanted to call to the Board's attention the fact that former ASD employee, Mark Pasier, would be returning to ASD as the Director of Contract Administration. Ms. Comeau commented on the number of principals that submitted their retirement papers. She thanked them for their service and stated that they will be recognized at a later date. Debbie Ossiander stated her concern over the fact that the District would be losing the expertise of many good principals. Ms. Robinson added that the Administration has assured the Board that there are some very good principal candidates that have been going through training for internships, and with experience, will also become wonderful replacements.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Floyd, Werdal,  
Robinson, Ossiander,  
Metcalf, Drummond

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. ASD Memorandum #280 - Facility Project Report And Change Order Report For The Month Of March 2001

The monthly Facility Project Report Update and Change Order Report for the month of March 2001 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

2. ASD Memorandum #275 - Operating Budget Transfers-March Monthly Report FY 2000-2001

The attached report of budget transfers for March 2001 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 2001. 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.

Rita Holthouse requested an explanation of the transfer for \$25,000 for counselors who called parents with the results of the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam. Jim Taylor explained that counselors notified parents of the students who did not pass the exam to give them the opportunity to help them facilitate their schedule for the following year in order to get classes that would help them be prepared for the next administration of the test.

3. ASD Memorandum #279 - End-Of-Month Membership Summary For March 2001

The end-of-month membership report for March 30, 2001, is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of March was 48,946, an increase of 232 students from the total of 48,714 on March 31, 2000. Table 1 compares the membership on March 30, 2001, with the totals from March 31, 2000. The comparison and official membership for March 31, 2000, vs. March 30, 2001, is shown on Attachment A.

4. ASD Memorandum #268 - Conflict Of Interest: Third Quarter Report FY 2000-2001

The attached listing of employee Conflict of Interest Waiver and Disclosure action is forwarded in accordance with School Board Policy Section 725.44. This information is provided as the second quarter report for the FY 2000-2001 school year.

5. ASD Memorandum #271 - 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 that have been submitted for funding.

6. ASD Memorandum #272 - Out-Of-District Travel - Third Quarter Report FY/2000-2001

The attached Travel Report summarizes the travel taken by District employees and School Board members during the third quarter of FY 2000-2001 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.

Debbie Ossiander requested that the chart in the report needs to be revised due to an error under School Board Travel Expenses. Ms. Ossiander also requested clarification of the travel of Rick Rios to the Department and Legislative Member Advisory meeting.

7. ASD Memorandum #273 - Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap: March 31, 2001

The attached report consists of three parts: the Graphic Overview, the Treasurer's Report, and the Financial Recap. The Graphic Overview is presented on a quarterly basis and the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap are presented on a monthly basis. The Graphic Overview is for the quarter ending March 31, 2001 and the Treasurer's Report and Financial Recap are year-to-date, as of March 31, 2001.

I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Narda Butler, a parent at Family Partnership Charter School, expressed her concern about the 50 percent elective funding limitation passed by the Board at an earlier meeting. Ms. Butler gave the Board a chart of the budget of a student's learning program. Ms. Butler asked the Board to reconsider the limitation.

J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

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

L. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of April 30, 2001, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:55 p.m.

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Peggy Robinson, President

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Debbie Ossiander, Clerk

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Date Minutes Approved