

## **MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD**

### **SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2001**

The Anchorage School Board met in Special Session on Monday, March 19, 2001 at 6:50 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, Tom Anderson, Harriet Drummond, John Floyd, and Debbie Ossiander.

Others Present: Carol Comeau, George Vakalis, Pat McDowell, Jim Taylor, Patricia McRae, Robyn Rehmann, Norm Holthouse, Thom Ely, Lee Wilson, Ellen Montague, Michelle Egan, Bill Mikawa, Bob Henry, Marie Laule, Stan Syta, Steve Kalmes, Ray Amsden, Mary Kay Sambo, the press, and 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 publicly thanked George Vakalis and the Chamber of Commerce for endorsing Bond Proposition 12. A copy of the resolution passed by the Chamber of Commerce was provided to the Board.

Carol Comeau informed the School Board that she was going to withdraw ASD memorandum #212 – Art I and Art II course Approval: Grades 9-12 from the agenda until the April 9, 2001 School Board meeting; and move ASD Memorandum #239 – Report on Eagle River High School Conceptual Planning Study from the Superintendent’s Report to the Consent Agenda.

#### **C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Agenda was approved by unanimous consent noting the two changes above on ASD Memorandums #212 and #239.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONSASD Memorandum #222 - Spirit of Community Awards' Top Youth Volunteers

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards is a nationwide program that recognizes middle and high school students who have demonstrated exemplary community service. Each year the top two students from each state receive an award of \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for national recognition events. This year the top two Alaska honorees are Anchorage School District students Kari Wise and Justin Gonka.

Kari Wise, a junior at Polaris K-12 School, developed a program to help middle school students lead healthy lives. The idea for this program, titled "View on Your Future is all about You," developed when she learned a close friend was contemplating suicide. Kari realized that many young people turn to destructive behaviors because they don't know how to deal with difficult life experiences. So Kari solicited the help of local businesses for donations of material and services and produced a youth-friendly booklet about making healthy choices.

Justin Gonka, an eighth-grader at Central Middle School, has volunteered to support and encourage Special Olympics athletes for the past five years. He started helping with the bowling team and then moved on to other sporting events. Justin also encouraged his school to sponsor two teams from Spain and France for the Special Olympics World Winter Games. He hopes to one day become a Special Olympics coach.

Olga Patak, a Prudential Associate and parent of a student at Service High School, introduced Jacob Fuller, who is a distinguished finalist for the Spirit of Community Award. Jacob is a senior at Dimond High School and coordinated a community service scholarship program at his high school. He acquired over 100 hours of community service. Jacob is also the student representative on the State School Board for Education and Early Development.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTSStudent Advisory:

Hans Bernard stated that the Student Advisory Board has met and continued discussion on the suspension issues and will have a report at

the April 9 meeting outlining the summary of discussion. The SAB is trying to promote the bond in the community and encouraging students to register to vote through social studies classes and counseling offices. New SAB members will be announced at the May 14 meeting. Mr. Bernard is traveling to San Diego for the National School Board Conference along with several School Board members.

Military Delegate:

No report given.

MECC:

Reverend William Greene stated that the MECC had met with Dr. Stofflet about the Benchmarks and the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam and came up with the following concerns:

1. Are students taught the same curriculum that will help them past the test?
2. Are the teachers qualified to teach the curriculum?
3. Do all students have the correct resources available to them?
4. Is there adequate training for teachers?
5. Are we preparing students early enough for the tests?
6. Is there early identification for students in trouble?
7. How are we helping the students who fall through the cracks?
8. Does every student have the opportunity to take the classes needed to pass the HSGQE?
9. Are we too test minded?
10. There is a concern with the wide difference of high school test results. What caused the wide difference in scores when all are taking the same test? What is ASD doing about this? If ASD is waiting until graduation, it's too late.

Superintendent Comeau stated that the Administration is in the process now of preparing a report to the legislature on these same issues.

Peggy Robinson informed the Board and MECC that the current legislature is working very hard on coming up with several bills to change and address these very issues. These types of comments are very important as the District is in a position to provide influence to the legislature.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. ASD Memorandum #246 – A Resolution In Support Of The Week Of The Young Child – April 1-7, 2001

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the attached resolution in support of the Week of the Young Child, April 1-7, 2001.

2. ASD Memorandum #248 – A Resolution In Support Of The Recommendation Of The Bipartisan Education Funding Task Force

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached resolution in support of recommendations of the bipartisan Education Funding Task Force.

3. ASD Memorandum #212 – Art I And Art II Course Approval: Grades 9-12

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Art I and Art II course proposals which will be listed in the Program of Studies for high school students as outlined in Attachment A.

4. ASD Memorandum #228 – Renew Of Contract – Natural Gas Supplies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of a contract extension for Natural Gas Supplies to Aurora Power for the one-year period effective July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002 at a discounted price of 10.9 percent off the regular ENSTAR price.

5. ASD Memorandum #229 – Award Of Contract – Chugiak High School Renewal Phase 2 – House 3 Plus 2 Classrooms

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Chugiak High School Renewal Phase 2 – House 3 plus 2

Classrooms to the lowest bidder, Consolidated Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$3,338,000 and accept Unit Price A as proposed.

6. ASD Memorandum #230 – Award Of Contract: Klatt Elementary School Re-roof

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for Klatt Elementary School Roof Upgrades to the low responsive bidder, Goertz Construction, Inc., for the Base Bid in the amount of \$194,502, and accept Alternate #1 in the amount of \$68,439, for a total award of \$262,941, and to accept Unit Prices 1 and 2 as proposed.

7. ASD Memorandum #240 – Award Of Lease(s) For General Office Space for Curriculum and Instructional Support Departments

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the selection of Pacific Tower Properties, Reality Executives, Sixth and K Street Limited Partnership, and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium as lessors for general office space, and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into contracts with Pacific Tower Properties, Reality Executives and Sixth and K Street Limited Partnership as addressed in the Request for Proposals dated February 23, 2001, and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium.

8. ASD Memorandum #232 – Housing For Ptarmigan Elementary School Students

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the recommendation of the Ptarmigan Elementary Boundary Task Force to move Ptarmigan Elementary Kindergarten classes to Chester Valley on a temporary basis beginning in the fall of 2001-2002 to relieve overcrowding at Ptarmigan Elementary School. This recommendation would remain in place as long as Ptarmigan is overcrowded.

9. ASD Memorandum #233 – Boundary Changes For Alpenglow Elementary School (First Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on First Reading the recommendation that no changes be

made to the current school boundaries except for a modification to include all addresses on Highland Ridge Road in the Alpenglow boundary, including the area east of Alpenglow, below the bluff (Eagle Crossing), from the Ravenwood attendance area to the Alpenglow attendance area (Attachment A).

10. ASD Memorandum #234 – Personnel/Travel Report

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

11. ASD Memorandum #243 – Continuing Grant Application For Indian Education Program FY 2001-2002

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Indian Education Formula Grant continuing application for the second of a five year period, with the second year funding in the amount of \$1,516,800.00 for the 2001-2002 school year.

12. ASD Memorandum #214 – Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis And Recommendations: July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2007

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Anchorage School District *Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis and Recommendations: July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2007*.

13. ASD Memorandum #244 – Ratification Of Agreement Between The District And Teamsters Local 959 (Food Service Bargaining Unit

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the collective bargaining agreement between the District and the Food Service Bargaining Unit, which will establish terms and conditions of employment for food service employees during the period between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2003.

14. ASD Memorandum #245 – Reinstatement of High School Activities Buses

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve reinstating varsity busing for high school sports for the

remainder of the 2000-2001 school year. The cost would be \$23,840 to pay for buses for the soccer and track and field seasons.

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: ASD Memorandums #246, #248, #240, #232, #233, and #214.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #228;  
seconded by Harriet Drummond Memorandum #229;  
Memorandum #230;  
Memorandum #239;  
Memorandum #234;  
Memorandum #243;  
Memorandum #244; and  
Memorandum #245.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Werdal reminded the Board on Memorandum #239 – Report on Eagle River High School Conceptual Planning Study, that the Administration is using the new Dimond design thus saving money and allowing the school to be built one year earlier. This is something to keep in mind while doing bond presentations.

ASD Memorandum #246 – A Resolution In Support Of The Week Of The Young Child – April 1-7, 2001

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the attached resolution in support of the Week of the Young Child, April 1-7, 2001.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #246.  
seconded by John Floyd

Carol Comeau requested Pat Byrne and Kerry Reardon to come forward to explain the activities planned for this special week.

Pat Byrne thanked the School Board for recognizing the Week of the Young Child and stressed the importance of a child's early years through this proclamation. Each Board member was provided a pin, brochure, and poster. Kerry Reardon invited each Board member to attend one of the local events during the conference.

Robert Hayes, father of two elementary students, reminded the District that supporting children includes making sure the schools are safe for children. ASD must make sure the funds that schools receive are spent wisely and not wasted. He wants to ensure parents that children will have a full education and receive a diploma.

Theresa Obermeyer commended Pat Byrne and Kerry Reardon for their dedication to young children. She supports the memo and the resolution for the Week of the Young Child.

Debbie Ossiander encouraged Board members to attend the tour if possible.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #248 - A Resolution In Support Of The Recommendation Of The Bipartisan Education Funding Task Force

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached resolution in support of recommendations of the bipartisan Education Funding Task Force.

ACTION:

Moved by Harriet Drummond to approve Memorandum #248.  
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Carol Comeau urged consideration of the resolution by the Board in support of this bipartisan education that goes along with the legislative priorities that we have for increasing our foundation funding and our concern with adequate funding.

Theresa Obermeyer asked for the names of the individuals on the Task Force. She informed the Board that it should be non-partisan instead of bipartisan. Bipartisan is a coming together of both political parties; education should not be about politics.

Harriet Drummond informed Ms. Obermeyer that the report is on the State of Alaska web site and is easily accessible. She provided the names of the committee members: Carl Marrs, President & CEO of CIRI; Janice Loudon, President of Alaska PTA; Jim Palmer, Vice President, BP Exploration; Bob Weinstein, Mayor of Ketchikan; Rich Kronberg, President, NEA Alaska; Carl Rose, Executive Director, AASB; Roger Chan, Vice President & CFO of VECO; Pat Abney, Anchorage Assembly Member and retired ASD teacher; Darroll Hargrave, Executive Director of ACSA; Roy Nageak, State Board of Education and Early Development; and Ernie Hall, State Board of Education and Early Development. Ms. Drummond read the resolution.

Debbie Ossiander stated that this A+ Report is particularly valuable because it is an analytical look at the needs in public education and the funding is directed toward increasing student achievement. The report focuses on updating appropriate and necessary instructional materials aligning curriculum and lesson plans; providing direct student intervention; meeting the needs of Alaska's diverse student population; and providing competitive salaries and benefits to attract and retain quality teachers.

Tom Anderson applauded Governor Knowles for his choice of committee members.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #240 – Award Of Lease(s) For General Office Space for Curriculum and Instructional Support Departments

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the selection of Pacific Tower Properties, Reality Executives, Sixth and K Street Limited Partnership, and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium as lessors for general office space, and authorize the Superintendent to

negotiate and enter into contracts with Pacific Tower Properties, Realty Executives and Sixth and K Street Limited Partnership as addressed in the Request for Proposals dated February 23, 2001, and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium.

ACTION:

Moved by Dave Werdal to approve Memorandum #240.  
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Carol Comeau explained why there is a need to negotiate a new lease effective July 1, 2001. The District was notified on February 15, 2001 that they were not successful negotiators in a continuing lease at the Curriculum and Instructional Support Center. The Administration has been aggressively looking at the properties that have come in under the Request for Proposal. The properties identified in the memorandum will meet the needs even though they are in different locations. Talks are continuing with the Native Tribal Health Consortium to see if there may be continued use of some space in the current building; they will let the District know by Wednesday, March 21, 2001.

George Vakalis stated that the facilities do meet our needs. The Administration has looked at the space and they all came in with rates that are negotiable, have tenant improvements, and include full service. Full service is important to us because under our current lease, ASD is providing maintenance, snow removal, and custodial service. Mr. Vakalis feels that the leases will not exceed what is budgeted, and had the lease continued at the CISC building, costs would have increased. Tenant improvements at each facility are something that still needs to be resolved with each landlord.

Mr. Werdal is concerned with the labor agreements and if the Administration can work around them. Mr. Vakalis explained that his understanding is that we have the ability to use custodial services from leased facilities. Carol Comeau stated that we have a precedence already in place as some charter schools are currently using services provided from the leased facility. The District anticipates no layoffs because there has been an increased number of square footage added and the three individuals from the CISC building will be reassigned to different locations. Mr. Werdal also requested a correction to the memorandum for the minutes; the word "Realty" is misspelled.

The Superintendent will provide information to the Board as to where the different departments will go. It is planned to have the leases signed by

March 30, 2001, if negotiations are complete, and then bring the leases back to the School Board on April 9, 2001 for final approval.

Lee Wilson said he has informed Local #71 that the District was looking at building leases with full service so they are aware of the District's intent. No reduction is planned so it should not be a problem. The existing contract does not restrict use of a full-service staff; it is similar to the one in the Administration Building where the maintenance services are provided by the landlord. The subject of moving out of the CISC building is still being discussed.

Rita Holthouse asked if the decision on how to move out of the CISC building is being left to Mr. Wilson. Carol Comeau replied that once the locations are determined and who is going to move where, we will work the moving issue through the labor unions. Ms. Comeau also stated that there are numerous large school "move-outs" this summer due to construction; we need to let the employees do their jobs and not use them as movers all summer.

Ms. Holthouse asked Mr. Vakalis if tenant improvements include telephones and computer links. Mr. Vakalis responded that it could, but it has not been determined yet. Board action tonight will allow the Administration to work with the building owners to determine what tenant improvements will include. If the leases are negotiated at a lower rate, there may be money that could be used to offset three possible expenditures: 1) movement costs; 2) telephone costs; and 3) computer links. Mr. Vakalis stated that it is probable that some additional funds may be needed.

Debbie Ossiander commented that the community believes that the District put \$602,000 into remodeling the CISC building for office space.

Mr. Vakalis stated that approximately \$465,000 was used for the E-1 standard upgrade, which basically brought the facility up to educational standards due to the Russian Jack fire. Approximately \$137,000 was used for various upgrades and some cabling.

Ms. Holthouse asked how much reimbursement was received from the insurance company. Janet Stokesbary was not available and will provide more information. Carol Comeau stated that the District was reimbursed for some of the expenses prior to the end of that school year. Debbie Ossiander commented that the amount that was reimbursable was \$430,000.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #232 – Housing For Ptarmigan Elementary School Students

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the recommendation of the Ptarmigan Elementary Boundary Task Force to move Ptarmigan Elementary Kindergarten classes to Chester Valley on a temporary basis beginning in the fall of 2001-2002 to relieve overcrowding at Ptarmigan Elementary School. This recommendation would remain in place as long as Ptarmigan is overcrowded.

ACTION:

Moved by Dave Werdal to approve Memorandum #232.  
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Julie Ginder, Supervisor for Elementary Education, informed the Board that the Task Force had met several times and spent many hours coming up with the recommendation to move the Ptarmigan kindergarten students to Chester Valley Elementary School temporarily. Ptarmigan currently has 150 percent capacity, which is the largest of any elementary school. Many scenarios were discussed, but the Task Force was very sensitive about keeping the Ptarmigan community together. The boundary surrounding Ptarmigan is well defined and indicates a close knit community. Jimmie Daniels, Ptarmigan principal, has concerns about the safety of students. He indicated that Chester Valley was the safest choice; Wonder Park was not chosen because it is too tempting for students who miss the bus to try to cross the four lanes of traffic on Boniface to get to school.

Dave Werdal asked if the students would remain at Chester Valley for one and one-half years and move back to Ptarmigan at mid year. Carol Comeau replied that assuming the bond passes, that is the plan. If the bonds do not pass, the only solution may be to house the kindergartners at Chester Valley longer. Students will walk to Ptarmigan and then be bussed to Chester Valley. Their return trip would be the same in reverse allowing younger students to walk home with older siblings. The loss of



Julie Ginder thanked the Task Force for working so hard. Three scenarios were brought forward and described in Attachment E. After the public hearings, the Task Force reviewed the public input and determined that the boundaries should not be changed. A slight modification is recommended; the north south boundary moving to an east west direction is being recommended. This change would accommodate students in the Driftwood Bay area. They would be in the Alpenglow attendance area and would not have to drive past Alpenglow to get to Ravenwood.

Larry Huff, principal at Alpenglow, stated that the majority of growth is occurring east of Alpenglow on Driftwood Bay and a new development is going in along Highland Ridge road, which is zoned for Ravenwood. Those students are currently attending Alpenglow on zone exceptions. Mr. Huff reported that the information he received from the Municipality and from Dr. Ely, in terms of projections, determined the Task Force to take a "wait and see approach" and not make a hasty decision. If the growth does occur, then the Task Force would need to revisit the issues.

Dave Werdal asked Mr. Huff if he would be scrutinizing the number of zone exemptions allowed into Alpenglow. Mr. Huff stated that he reviews zone exceptions very carefully; there are currently 86 zone exceptions out and 46 zone exceptions in. Mr. Huff has approved 15 new exceptions this year; 11 live in the area recently discussed in the boundary change recommendation and the other six are kindergarten students. He will keep careful watch on the zone exceptions and grant approvals only on hardship. Mr. Werdal asked Mr. Huff what he meant by hardship. Mr. Huff responded that he would approve zone exceptions for kindergarten students whose child care provider lives in the Alpenglow area or for children that have both parents working and are in the child care program at Alpenglow. Dave Werdal stated that principals must enforce boundary changes.

Mr. Werdal stated that it is difficult to understand the granting of zone exceptions in an overcrowded school. Mr. Huff replied that he has scrutinized zone exceptions very carefully the last few years.

Carol Comeau said that it was very clear that the community is comfortable and does not support boundary changes at this time. Mr. Werdal reminded the Board that no one likes boundary changes, but sometimes they have to be made.

Rita Holthouse supports the Administration's recommendation at this time to not make a boundary change. Zone exceptions remain a concern

for her and thought the policy had been changed a few years back to not allow zone exceptions into a building that is over capacity. Carol Comeau stated that the District has always allowed for hardship cases.

Debbie Ossiander stated that she received many calls from upset community members during this long process. Ms. Ossiander strongly urged the District not to change the demographic figures during the middle of the boundary change process. Ms. Ossiander visited the Eagle River Valley Community Council and the subject of zone exceptions is a big concern in the community. Information on holding zone exceptions to a minimum and only for hardship needs to be shared with the community. She believes the memorandum has a very misleading recommendation and would like to amend and clarify the recommendation. Ms. Robinson reread the recommendation to read as stated below; Ms. Ossiander was amenable to the rewrite.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander  
seconded by Rita Holthouse

approve on First Reading the recommendation except for a modification to include all addresses on Highland Ridge Road in the Alpenglow boundary, including the area east of Alpenglow, below the bluff off Driftwood Bay Road, from the Ravenwood attendance area to the Alpenglow attendance area.

Debbie Ossiander stated that it is a total misnomer to say that it is not a change. The area off Driftwood Bay and Highland Ridge now only has a few students, but is projected to have a great number of students as soon as Eagle Crossing opens up. The recommendation on the memorandum does specify the area below the bluff and the map that Julie Ginder provided to the Board does show this area. Ms. Ossiander wanted to bring to the Board's attention the numbers for Eagle Crossing, but was unable to obtain that information. Eagle Crossing is a seven year build-out and may only have eight to ten students now in this area, but will increase in the future. Ms. Ossiander suggested to the Board that she is supportive of this recommendation, but must be clear that this will put Alpenglow in an untenable situation in the future. The Board must push for some kind of roadway connection between Driftwood Bay and Ravenwood, or we start preparing the community now that Alpenglow is only going to serve students below the bluff and all of Eagle Wood

subdivision is going to be going to Homestead and Ravenwood in the future. This change will have a big impact on Alpenglow in the future.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

AMENDMENT TO THE MAIN MOTION PASSED.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MAIN MOTION PASSED.

Dave Werdal commented that some people question the sensitivity of Board members regarding zone exceptions. Board members have to make difficult decisions when changing boundaries, and principals need to support those decisions by not granting zone exceptions in overcrowded conditions.

The School Board recessed for a break at 8:20 p.m. and returned at 8:30 p.m.

ASD Memorandum #214 – Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis And Recommendations: July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2007

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Anchorage School District *Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis and Recommendations: July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2007*.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #214.  
seconded by Rita Holthouse

Carol Comeau stated that the CIP is one of the most important documents that ASD uses. It serves as a guidance on how bond recommendations are brought forward, looks at our long-range needs, and where there are studies that need to be completed. Ms. Comeau encouraged everyone to review the Comp 2020 Plan and how it relates to the CIP as well as any other demographic information. It is also important to look at how

numbers change during the year when new information is received. Ms. Comeau apologized to the public and explained that the CIP document was not available until just before the School Board meeting due to a new printer problem. The District staff did not receive their copies until late this afternoon.

Norm Holthouse and Tom Ely gave the Board a brief, condensed presentation of the CIP as well as an historical profile of the enrollment of the District. Dr. Holthouse reviewed a slide on the Permanent Fund applications, which is new this year. It was not included in the CIP document, but will be provided to the Board and to the Administration.

Kitte' Miller, Co-Chair, Polaris K-12 Parent Group, received her CIP at 7:00 p.m. and has spent the last two hours reviewing the document. There was some trouble last year because Polaris K-12 was divided into two categories K-6 and 7-12 in the CIP. She noted that there were several improvements in the document, which she considered to be helpful.

- Page 50 – description of relos is not considered as permanent.
- Page 51 & 52, Table 20A, reflects correct square footage of the building if you combine the two square footages.
- Page 54 & 56, Table 21, numbers were not changed—looks like Polaris has double the space they actually have.
- Page 54 & 56, category for the acreage of the site should be reviewed and checked. The size of the site is not clear.
- Pages 195 & 233, Tables 31 & 35, there is now a category for Districtwide schools. Chugach Optional, Northern Lights ABC, and Polaris K-6 were now listed as Districtwide schools. On page 233, Steller and Polaris are listed but Polaris is listed as Polaris K-6 and should be listed as Polaris 7-12. These were not carried over to Table 38, which is where you list the projects that you are seeking the bond funding for.
- Page 248 – Polaris still falls under the East High attendance area.
- Page 240 – Chugach still falls under the West High attendance area.

Ms. Miller noted that on Tables 38 and 39, there are sequential projects for the phased renovations at Service and Wendler so that next year, the next phase at Service and Wendler will come in the following year's bond. East, Bartlett, and Polaris K-12 will skip a year before being funded. It looks like a move to fund a Muldoon middle school in the intervening year and is a priority for the District. Ms. Miller just wanted the Board to know that she noticed this in the document.

Harriet Drummond thanked Kitte' Miller for promoting the school bonds.

John Floyd questioned if the high schools were being built for 1,600 students or 2,000 students. Mr. Amsden stated that the District has prepared a Districtwide education specification, which has a component for 1,200, 1,600, and 2,000 student capacity. Schools that were built for 2,000 students will remain at 2,000. New schools will be built for 1,600 students, with the exception of the new Eagle River High School.

Debbie Ossiander expressed her concern on making this document more accurate. She has defended and advocated for greater reliance on interagency cooperation in terms of getting accurate forecasts. Ms. Ossiander feels that the information in the CIP is contradictory with the Anchorage 2020 Plan and information from the state demographer. The 2020 Plan indicates a substantial growth and the District shows a decline in enrollment.

Dr. Holthouse stated that he has taken the information from the state demographer into consideration in preparation of the CIP and has read the 2020 Plan. Over the past five years, considering the Municipality as a whole, there has been a significant "out-migration." Dr. Holthouse feels that the population increases in the 2020 Plan are due to the aging of the community, i.e., births versus deaths. Our projections are based on what the District has seen over the past five years. The trend that we are seeing this year may indicate that we are getting more "in-migration" into Anchorage. Until the District sees how many students enroll next fall, it is difficult to project out. Dr. Holthouse said if a major project were to come to Anchorage such as the gas pipeline or the missile defense system, we might very well see a increase in student population.

Debbie Ossiander pointed out to the Board that this document did not assume that any new major project would happen, but assumed the continuation of the level of growth, 1.6 percent over the past ten years. She is also concerned about the impact on the Chugiak/Eagle River area with all the vacant land available. Many new homes are planned to be built, but the CIP document indicates an enrollment drop in that area.

Debbie Ossiander offered an apology to the Board for belaboring her concerns with the CIP, and requested a future discussion with the Board on the Anchorage Comp 2020 Plan.

Ms. Ossiander is very concerned about the assumptions made in the CIP on pages 5-7:

- Net migration of students leaving the District versus the students coming to the District for the first time will be equal.
- Did ASD listen to AEDC prognosis of what our economy would be in terms of growth?
- The District is projected to remain around 50,000 for the following two years followed with a membership decrease in the following years.
- The K-6 population is projected for decline of 1,514 during the following five years. How did we come to this?

Peggy Robinson asked if the changes in the Alaska Village Trailer Court and Mayflower Trailer Court have been taken into consideration in the preparation of this document. Mr. Ely stated that yes, the movement of the one trailer court and the addition of double-wide trailers in the other were taken into consideration. The area around Ptarmigan Elementary School is a very fast growing area. Demographics has also been watching the on-base and off-base housing very carefully.

Carol Comeau asked LTC Mulcahy if once the renovations are done on the base and post, and the waitlist for housing is exhausted, does he anticipate military personnel currently living off base/post would return to base or post housing. LTC Mulcahy stated that they do anticipate a large number of people returning to base/post housing, but the impact will not be felt for several years. Carol Comeau asked if there was an interest in busing students to Kennedy should the other schools on base and post become over enrolled. LTC Mulcahy replied that it would be the preference to fill all the base and post schools to capacity before busing off base and post.

Peggy Robinson commented that she always likes to track Tables 9 and 10, which have to do with private school enrollment. She noticed the number of private school students has decreased this year over the past four to five years.

Norm Holthouse stated he assumes it is because the District has added additional full-day kindergartens.

Carol Comeau said a large number of former private school students are now going to home school or doing correspondence studies on-line. It would be an interesting study to look at that issue now that technology is so prevalent in some of the charter schools statewide. Also, many private school students are now attending charter schools.

Debbie Ossiander expressed her concern about the change to middle school building capacity on Page 4. Ms. Ossiander asked the Administration to come and explain the frameworks and rationale used to change building capacity.

Carol Comeau commented that Gail Opalinski, Ray Amsden, Norm Holthouse, and the building principals will get together to discuss this issue. Ms. Comeau stated that she understood from Ms. Opalinski that the principals were part of the original discussion; she will check on this and bring more criteria and more information back to the School Board for discussion.

Ray Amsden gave a brief condensed presentation on the CIP Recommendation and Project Schedule for 2001-2007.

Dave Werdal reviewed Table 30 and does not agree with the order or everything on the list. Mr. Werdal is concerned about the addition of the Muldoon Middle School and how we can justify it to the taxpayers when we indicate that there is a declining population.

Carol Comeau stated that Clark Middle School currently has six relocatables and is overcrowded. Elementary schools in the northeast corridor are severely overcrowded and something will need to be done in the future.

The renovation costs remain a concern and were discussed in depth. Mr. Amsden commented that a renovation can make an old school look like a new school. Debbie Ossiander asked if there was a cap put on how much could be spent on the renovation of a school. Carol Comeau stated that in the early 1990s, it was \$5 million dollars, but now it is about 75 percent of the value of the school.

Mr. Amsden introduced Table 40, which is a new table this year. It is an outcome of discussions with the Municipality as a result of the new South Anchorage High School. Table 40 is the Agency Interface Required for Infrastructure at listed sites.

Carol Comeau stated that the Administration has spent a considerable amount of time discussing each one of the projects on these tables. They have brought information forward on the schools to address some of the issues brought forward by the Board in the last few months, while recognizing that some of these are going to be very different from last

year's CIP. This CIP is our best recommendation for long-term capital needs.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Floyd, Werdal,  
Robinson, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: Ossiander

MOTION PASSED.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #235 – Facility Project Report And Change Order Report For The Month Of February 2001

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

ASD Memorandum #236 – Operating Budget Transfers – February Monthly Report FY 2000-2001

The attached report of budget transfers for February 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 February 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.

ASD Memorandum #237 – End-Of-Month Membership Summary For February 2001

The end-of-month membership report for February 28, 2001, is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of February was 49,204, an increase

of 159 students from the February 29, 2000, total of 49,045. Table 1 compares the membership on February 28, 2001, with the totals from February 29, 2000. The comparison and official membership for February 29, 2000, vs. February 28, 2001, is shown on Attachment A.

Carol Comeau commented that there are 500 more high school students this year than at this time last year.

ASD Memorandum #238 - Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap:  
February 28, 2001

The Anchorage School District Treasurer's Report includes a summary of the total demand deposits and investments which are at hand February 28, 2001, and a summary of the investment transactions completed February 1 through 28, 2001.

The demand deposits in the General Fund reported a deficit of (\$5,007,058) due to three investments made on February 28, 2001, which total \$27,057,293 that mature after month-end. The District's banking services contract includes the investment of the bank float that provides additional interest revenue to the District. The total amount of investments on hand February 28, 2001 was \$148,005,033 and the combined total of these liquid assets consisting of the demand deposits and investments were \$142,997,975. A schedule of investments is presented on page 3.

The District transacted 70 investments during the month of February. The specific investments purchased are presented commencing with page 4 of the Treasurer's Report. The anticipated earnings for these investments are \$127,017 which will be recorded in the General, Capital Projects, and Debt Service Funds. The interest earnings on investments made by the District are recorded upon receipt of the actual interest earnings on the various dates of maturity. The interest earnings on investments made by the Municipality of Anchorage on behalf of the District are accrued on a monthly basis.

In summary, the District's investment performance for fiscal year 2000-2001 is shown by the following three-portfolio yield calculations:

- 1) The annualized End-of-Month Portfolio Yield, noted on page 3, represents the weighted average yield on investments outstanding with the District on February 28, 2001. The Annualized End-of-Month Portfolio Yield was 6.55 percent.

- 2) The Weighted Average Interest Rate for investments purchased during February was 4.95 percent and is noted on page 6.
- 3) The Year-to-Date Cumulative Yield, noted on page 6, represents the weighted average yield of all investments purchased by the District since July 1, 2000. On February 28, 2001, the Year-to-Date Cumulative Yield was 6.15 percent.

#### FINANCIAL RECAP

The Financial Recap is a summary of revenues, expenditures and encumbrances for the current fiscal year through February 28, 2001. The funds presented are the General Fund; Debt Service Fund; Food Service and Local/State/Federal Projects Special Revenue Fund; and Capital Projects Funds. The expenditures are on generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) basis. This means the amount in expenditures include payments on encumbrances from the prior year. For example, the working budget expenditures budget includes the current years revised budget plus the prior year encumbrances of approximately \$13.5 million. Year-to-date (YTD) expenditures, therefore, reflect expenditures from the current fiscal year and expenditures from prior year encumbrances that were carried forward. The appropriations from the prior years for these encumbrances were also carried forward.

The General Fund revised budget totals \$342.8 million as compared to the revised budget of \$328.0 million for the prior year. The cumulative actual GAAP expenditures and encumbrances for the eight-month period ended February 28, 2001 were \$198.2 million or 55.6 percent of the \$356.3 million working budget (revised budget plus encumbrance budget).

The Expenditure Summary by Object report reflects additional object codes for 1000 series salary/wage accounts in compliance with the State of Alaska change in their Chart of Accounts. The State now requires reporting of certificated staff separately from non-certificated staff.

Summary and detailed budget reports are available to each school, department, and other budgetary unit on IFAS on-line with current up-to-date data. This information is available to assist in daily operations.

ASD Memorandum #239 – Report on Eagle River High School Conceptual Planning Study

In April 1999, the voters approved funds to design a new high school in Eagle River. On October 9, 2000, the School Board approved the Educational Specifications, ASD Memorandum #58 (2000-2001). Funding for the construction of the new school is included as part of the upcoming Bond Proposition. The District contracted with USKH, Inc. to perform a conceptual planning study to examine the options for delivery of the New Eagle River High School.

The study focused on two options: develop a new school design or reuse an existing high school design (Dimond), modify it for the site and an 800 student capacity, but also allow future expansion to 1,600 students. The study developed design feasibility concepts, project schedules, comparative design and construction costs, and pro's and con's for each option. This study showed that the option to reuse and modify the Dimond High School Design will allow completion of the school one year earlier, cost approximately \$1,000,000 less, and provide approximately 10,000 square feet of additional space.

ASD Memorandum #247 – Denali Replacement Elementary School Status Report

The District received the Denali Elementary Replacement School Project Schematic Design drawings with construction cost estimate in February 2001.

The estimated construction cost of \$12.3 million is \$3.9 million above the budget of \$8.4, resulting in insufficient project funding to construct the project as currently designed and funded. The original budget was based upon the Fairview project, but recent changes in the construction market have significantly increased construction costs.

To validate the construction cost estimate the District contracted with Olympic Associates. Olympic Associates' assessment concluded that the probable construction cost would be approximately \$12 – \$12.5 million, which validated the original cost estimate.

Preliminary reviews indicate that there are cost reductions that can be made to the design without significantly compromising the program or quality of the project. However, it will not be possible to make sufficient

reductions to bring the project within current funding and still meet these objectives.

Carol Comeau stated that the staff at Denali is frustrated, but aware of the significant cost issues and the fact the design must be reviewed by an outside source. Talks on where to house the Denali students will be suspended until a decision can be reached on the cost issues.

Ray Amsden indicated that they will return on April 30, 2001 to discuss what changes could be made, what we need for funding, and the schedule impact of the delay in construction.

Debbie Ossiander commented that by not going with the Fairview design, the District lost the 30 percent design savings. She hopes that the Board will rethink the Fairview design.

Rita Holthouse commented that she would like to see what the Administration brings back to the Board on April 30.

Peggy Robinson asked what the cost of demolition would be for Denali. Mr. Amsden informed her that the estimated cost would be approximately \$500,000.

J. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

K. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

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

The special meeting was not adjourned earlier giving the Board the right to return for a legislative discussion.

Debbie Ossiander stated that the Board has been challenged with setting the School District's position on significant legislation. Because there is no working legislative committee, she and Ms. Comeau are moving forward unless she hears something significantly different or interest from other Board members.

Peggy Robinson inquired if the Board members had any problem with the direction that Ms. Ossiander is proceeding. Ms. Robinson said the Board is delegating the authority to Ms. Ossiander to proceed.

M. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of March 19, 2001 (6:30 p.m.) was adjourned by unanimous consent at 11:10 p.m.

The Special Meeting of March 19, 2001 (4:30 p.m.) was adjourned by unanimous consent at 11:11 p.m.

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Peggy Robinson, President

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Debbie Ossiander, Clerk

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Date Minutes Approved