

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 9, 2001

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, April 9, 2001 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, Rita Holthouse, Tom Anderson, Harriet Drummond, and Debbie Ossiander.

Board Members Absent: Dave Werdal and John Floyd.

Others Present: Carol Comeau, George Vakalis, Pat McDowell, Jim Taylor, Gail Opalinski, Patricia McRae, Robyn Rehmann, Norm Holthouse, Fred Stofflet, Lee Wilson, Ellen Montague, Michelle Egan, Bob Henry, Stan Syta, 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 welcomed the individuals to the meeting and announced that the Birchwood Dynamic Choir was here to give a performance.

Peggy Robinson announced up-coming meetings.

Carol Comeau informed the Board that the Administration made a decision to not support "Take Our Daughters/Sons to Work Day" because of the interruption to the instructional program. The Administration believes that there is merit in going to work with your parent, but not at the price of losing another instructional day. Ms. Comeau suggested that parents take their children to work with them on an inservice day or during the summer months.

Ms. Ossiander stated that there are important issues being discussed in the legislature this session concerning education. She suggested that if you have an opinion, it is very helpful to contact the Legislative Information Office or contact your individual legislators either by telephone or e-mail.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved with the following change: an additional resolution was added to ASD Memorandum #276 in support of K-12 funding.

Passed by unanimous consent.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONSASD MEMORANDUM #255 - SCHOLASTIC ART AWARD GOLD WINNERS

Since 1923 the Scholastic Art Awards have given young artists in grades 7-12 an avenue to receive recognition and rewards for their achievements. These awards have helped nurture the vision of students by providing acknowledgment, cash awards and college scholarships.

Each year 250,000 works of art and writing are submitted to this prestigious competition. Approximately 50,000 students across the nation receive regional awards and 1,100 are selected as national award winners.

This year, out of approximately 100 state and regional entries, 44 award winners were from the Anchorage School District. Fifteen of the pieces received Gold Key, Portfolio or American Vision awards and will be sent to New York for the national competition. The remaining students received silver awards and their artistic creations were included in the state exhibition display.

Congratulations to the following Gold Award winners:

Anya Demming, Amanda F. Saylor, Colin Meglitsch and Hye Jin Lee from West High School;

John Postlethwait, Vanessa Rathbun, Ian Chang and Sarah Piper from Service High School;

Anna Morgenthaler and Alaine Jones from Dimond High School; and Benjamin Cromwell and Justina John-Baptiste from Wendler Middle School.

It is requested the School Board recognize these Scholastic Art Award Gold Medal winners.

MEMORANDUM #256 - AWARD-WINNING BIRCHWOOD CHOIR

In a well-known marketing pitch competitors, fresh from a hard-fought victory, are asked, "What are you going to do *now*?" The question is followed by the familiar declaration, "I'm going to Disney World!"

It seems the members of the Dynamics choir from Birchwood ABC like to do things their own way. So they traveled to Mickey's home *first*, and won a prestigious competition afterwards.

In March the students arrived in Orlando, Florida, to participate in Disney World's Magic Music Days where they entertained Magic Kingdom patrons with a performance of "Sing and Celebrate the 20th Century." Afterward they tested their skills against choirs from throughout the United States at the 2001 All American Music Festival.

When the performances were over the Dynamics earned the first place award. However the accolades didn't end there. Each group in the festival was also judged and rated by music experts using National Music Standards. The experts gave the Dynamics a superior rating. These honors were even more meaningful considering that elementary students rarely compete in this festival.

It is requested the School Board recognize the Birchwood ABC Dynamics choir for their noteworthy performance at the All American Music Festival.

Mike Martinson thanked the School Board for their continued support of music in our schools and presented CDs to the Board and the Superintendent.

PRESENTATION – 2001 SPECIAL OLYMPIC WORLD GAMES

Nicole Egan, Enrichment Program Manager; Melissa Anderson, Chief Operating Officer; Gwen Schnable, Special Education Resource Teacher at Susitna; and Ernie Barker, World Game Athlete, thanked the District for the role they played in supporting the 2001 Special Olympic World Games. Each described their involvement in the games and how it has enriched their lives as well as the volunteers. Ms. Anderson reported that Ms. Egan would be moving to the Alaska Special Olympics Program, taking the school enrichment program with her that she developed for the World Games. Ernie Baker thanked the District and said he had a great time participating in the games; he also recited the oath of the games.

Peggy Robinson presented Tom Anderson with a plaque and thanked him for his time served on the School Board. Carol Comeau presented him with

an ASD shirt, mission and goals statement, and a picture of him with the School Board. Mr. Anderson thanked the Board and the Superintendent and stated that his service on the board was definitely a learning experience and public service does matter--it makes you a part of the community.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

Student Advisory:

Hans Bernard reported that the Student Advisory Board met and discussed the failure of the school bonds. They are also looking at a fighting resolution from Service and other high schools; changes will be made and then the resolution will be brought forward to the Board. The harassment policy they have been working on will be forwarded to Ms. Ossiander for review along with Section 800. An application for his position is currently being faxed to all high schools since he will be graduating this year.

Military Delegate:

LTC Peter Mulcahy reported that he had just attended an Alaska Military Education Forum sponsored by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Alaska PTA, and West High PTSA on February 3, 2001. Two copies of the final report will be provided for the Board and the Administration. Fort Richardson Youth Services has also received a small grant to help new students coming into the District for the first time; he looks forward to working with the Administration.

MECC

Rev. William Greene did not have a report.

F. 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 12, 2001
- b. Regular Meeting – March 12, 2001
- c. Anchorage School Board/Planning And Zoning Commission
Joint Meeting – March 21, 2001

2. ASD Memorandum #276 – A Resolution In Support Of Debt Reimbursement For Capital Improvement And A Resolution Asking for Increased State Funding for K-12 Education

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached resolution in support of debt reimbursement for capital improvement projects.

3. ASD Memorandum #233 – Boundary Changes For Alpenglow Elementary School (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation to rescind the March 19, 2001 Boundary Change (First Reading) and return to the current boundaries for Alpenglow and Ravenwood Elementary Schools as shown on Attachment I. It is further recommended that the Administration continue to monitor the enrollment at both schools and reconstitute a Boundary Task Force when necessary to address overcrowding at Alpenglow Elementary School.

4. ASD Memorandum #250 – Acceptance of Grant Award: Toyota Tapestry Grant

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant from the National Science Teachers Association and Toyota Motor Sales USA, Inc., in the amount of \$10,000.

5. ASD Memorandum #253 – Acceptance of Grant Award: McKinney Homeless Assistance Act Grant

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a McKinney grant award for \$39,000 from the Alaska Department of Education. This is a continuation grant for projects first implemented under McKinney grants in FY 1996-1997 and expanded through McKinney grants in FY 1997-1998, FY 1998-1999 and FY 1999-2000. McKinney funds are administered by the Title I Child In Transition/Homeless Project.

6. ASD Memorandum #254 – Acceptance Of Grant Award: Title VII Program Development And Implementation Grants: Project Adelante

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant funds from the U.S. Department of Education in the amount of \$171,646.

7. 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 courses outlined in Attachment A as elective courses within the Art Program.

8. ASD Memorandum #251 – Proposed Charter Changes: Family

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the request of the Family Partnership Charter School Principal and Academic Policy Committee to revise their charter as described in Attachments C and D of this memorandum. It is further recommended that the Board deny reimbursement for Family Partnership Charter School students for membership dues, initiation fees, and clothing and equipment required by the Local Service Vendors listed on Attachment F for physical education, music, art, drama, and driving instruction.

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: ASD Memorandums #276, #233, #212, and #251.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Harriet Drummond

to approve the Minutes for the:
Special Meeting of: March 12, 2001;
Regular Meeting of March 12, 2001;
and
School Board/Planning and
Zoning Commission Joint Meeting of
March 21, 2001;
Memorandum #250;
Memorandum #253; and
Memorandum #254.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Robinson, Ossiander, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #276 – A Resolution In Support Of Debt Reimbursement For Capital Improvement And A Resolution Asking For Increased State Funding for K-12 Education

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached resolution in support of debt reimbursement for capital improvement projects.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #276.
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Debbie Ossiander stated that she would like to divide the question in order to make the voting more simple.

Passed Unanimously.

Theresa Obermeyer stated that the Board should know about debt reimbursement prior to a bond election. She did not support the bonds because she could not support the new Eagle River High School. Ms. Obermeyer stated that she thinks Eagle River will eventually secede from the Municipality.

Debbie Ossiander stated that the legislature has a long history of supporting bonds. There has been a precedent set in the past for waiting until after the election to grant the debt reimbursement.

Peggy Robinson mentioned a waiver from the legislature for last year's projects and asked if there had been any discussion in regards to debt reimbursement.

Debbie Ossiander stated that the District has been very supportive and offered testimony and personal encouragement to legislators to move forward with reauthorizing the funding that was approved last year. The discussion and general tenor of comments received in return was that this was an efficient and effective way to go; they recognize that we are in a "Catch 22" situation because the Department was prohibited from examining projects in order to see if they qualify until there was a funding mechanism in place. At this time, they have not heard of a legislator that has come forward to try to change DEED's regulations criteria in order to be sure they fund ahead of time. They have made a strong commitment that they will continue supporting a minimum of 50/50 and some 70/30 match.

Peggy Robinson commented that she talked with Senator Phillips and he was the one who suggested we ask for a waiver to the regulations to be able to get the reimbursement for the Eagle River High School.

1. To approve the Resolution in Support of Debt Reimbursement for Capital Improvement Projects.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Robinson, Ossiander, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

MAIN MOTION PASSED AS DIVIDED.

Debbie Ossiander asked to offer one slight amendment based on an analysis by Janet Stokesbary about the language on the second resolution requesting increased state funding for K-12 education.

Peggy Robinson asked Ms. Ossiander to point out that clarification.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Harriet Drummond

to amend on the fifth Whereas
to say that "the Board had to
deal with approximately a \$12
million deficit just to maintain
current levels of service in
other areas."

Ms. Ossiander read the resolution to the public since it was not available prior to the Board meeting.

Peggy Robinson commended Debbie Ossiander for doing such an outstanding job on legislative issues.

Carol Comeau stated there were a series of discussions between the Mayor, Assembly members, and the School Board members regarding what could be done due to the failure of our bonds. One of the things that came out of that discussion was that the School District would send a resolution in support of debt reimbursement and understands that the Assembly would be doing the same thing. Ms. Comeau urged support of this resolution and suggested that the resolution be sent to the Legislature, Assembly, and the Mayor with a cover letter requesting support.

Debbie Ossiander commented that this resolution is particularly timely and appropriate since the money coming in has not kept up with the inflationary costs and has caused an increased tax burden to local taxpayers instead of the state to pay for public education. It would be helpful if the general public would take a loud vocal position on the issue of public school funding and support this resolution.

Carol Comeau publicly thanked Larry Wiget for putting the resolution together.

2. To approve the Resolution and Amendment Asking for Increased State Funding for K-12 Education.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Robinson, Ossiander, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

AMENDMENT AND MAIN MOTION PASSED AS DIVIDED.

ASD Memorandum #233 – Boundary Changes For Alpenglow Elementary School (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation to rescind the March 19, 2001 Boundary Change (First Reading) and return to the current boundaries for Alpenglow and Ravenwood Elementary Schools as shown on Attachment I. It is further recommended that the Administration continue to monitor the enrollment at both schools and reconstitute a Boundary Task Force when necessary to address over-crowding at Alpenglow Elementary School.

ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse
seconded Debbie Ossiander

to approve Memorandum #276.

Carol Comeau commented that the map shows what the current boundaries are and the Administration's recommendation is that we stay with the current boundaries for Alpenglow.

Theresa Obermeyer congratulated Jake Metcalfe on winning his election. She stated that she cares about the community and the state; that is why she comes to School Board meetings.

Rita Holthouse called the Administration earlier in the day to inquire about the number of zone exceptions in and out of Alpenglow. The Administration reported that there are 46 zone exceptions in and 88 zone exceptions out of Alpenglow. The total enrollment is 604 students. Ms. Holthouse remains concerned about granting zone exceptions into an over-capacity school. Carol Comeau commented that Mr. Huff, Principal at Alpenglow, reviews the requests very carefully and also discusses each request with Elementary Education.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Robinson, Ossiander, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

MOTION PASSED.

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 courses outlined in Attachment A as elective courses within the Art Program.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #212.
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Carol Comeau informed the Board that she was present at the MECC meeting when Myrna Clark presented the art program. She was very pleased with the diversity of the materials.

Debbie Ossiander expressed her appreciation for the additional information contained in the memorandum this time. She questioned if there were current funds allocated to buy texts at this time. Dr. Fred Stofflet replied that there are no funds available at this time.

Carol Comeau reported that classes will be available this next fall in the high schools if the Board approves the courses, but a source of funds must be identified to purchase the materials. The Administration will spend time with the Curriculum Coordinator and the art teachers to come up with a base amount needed for each school and return to the Board with that information. Each school must make a decision on whether or not they choose to purchase a classroom set of books versus a book for each student. Also, the teacher may decide to use a magazine subscription as part of the materials.

Rita Holthouse commented that she liked the idea of integrating these art classes with various social studies classes.

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Robinson, Ossiander, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #251 – Proposed Charter Changes: Family Partnership Charter School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the request of the Family Partnership Charter School Principal and Academic Policy Committee to revise their charter as described in Attachments C and D of this memorandum. It is further recommended that the Board deny reimbursement for Family Partnership Charter School students for membership dues, initiation fees, and clothing and equipment required by the Local Service Vendors listed on Attachment F for physical education, music, art, drama, and driving instruction.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #251.
seconded by Tom Anderson

Carol Comeau informed the Board that this new memorandum has parts of the original memorandum, which was voted on for reconsideration at the March 12, 2001 Board meeting. At that meeting the Board requested a full procurement list and the Administration has returned with that information. The Administration is recommending non-reimbursement for certain things that all public students are required to pay for with personal funds.

Happy Chronister, one of the founders of the Family Partnership Charter School, has three students in the school, and teaches 73 additional students. She has a concern with not being reimbursed for field trips when she is actually teaching at the site chosen for the field trip. Ms. Chronister stated that she does not have a "regular" classroom and uses various sites to teach her students; she would like the Board to reconsider reimbursement for the cost of the field trips. She is aware that ASD students pay for field trips out of their own personal funds, but indicated that the Family Partnership student's money is available in their educational account and available to pay for such items.

Lynn Aleshire, parent and member of the Academic Policy committee, has had children enrolled for the past three years. She is very happy with the education that her children have received and has enjoyed her relationship with Mr. Arge Jeffery, ASD Charter School Liaison, and Ms. Comeau. They have been very candid about the obstacles and feels that the APC has addressed the requested changes. Family Partnership requested a work session with the School Board to discuss the reimbursement issue and that has not been scheduled. Ms. Aleshire commented that the administration at FPCS does an excellent job and has shown excellent financial accountability.

Betty Dickenson requested the Board to give the needed latitude to meet the needs of each student. Music is her daughter's life and home school allows her education and music to work together. Ms. Dickenson asked the Board to not limit the funds for fine arts activities as music has enhanced her daughter's academic career.

Elizabeth Dickenson is a full-time student at FPCS and enjoys home school so she can focus on her music studies. She feels that field trips are very beneficial to her education, and swimming is also very good for a violinist. Elizabeth requested the Board allow school funds to be used for exercise lessons and lap time at the local swimming pools.

The School Board recessed at 8:10 a.m. to set-up for a presentation from the Family Partnership Charter School.

Teresa Kress, Vice Chair of the APC, and Tim Scott, Principal at FPCS, made a brief presentation on the FPCS Charter changes outlining their short-term and long-term goals and objectives of the program.

Ms. Kress noted that they found room to improve in the area of the student's educational plan. They now require parents to explain how they are going to evaluate lessons and who will complete the instruction services for the child; each family must design a budget, which has to align with the student's educational plan; and a schedule must be completed as to when the tasks will be completed. Academics must be a stated priority before electives are allowed. Ms. Kress further explained that it is important to make sure that the vendors on the procurement list are appropriate to their program and meet the students ILPs.

Rita Holthouse inquired if a student can receive funding for 25 percent if they take a class in the fall and spring, and can the money be used for electives. The answer was no, the student must be funded 50 percent to be allowed funding for electives.

Ms. Kress explained that athletic club memberships make better financial sense. The lessons from the club memberships are cheaper than those offered at the Municipality and more convenient for families.

Rita Holthouse commented if she understands the recommendation correctly, public monies would not be used for memberships, but could be used for lessons. FPCS supports this recommendation, but would like to discuss the issue of the club memberships further. They agree that initiation fees should not be reimbursed.

Carol Comeau asked for clarification on team sports, i.e., YMCA Basketball and if lessons could be broken out from membership fees. If FPCS can do this, Ms. Comeau stated that she would be comfortable in accepting this.

FPCS does not support competitive sports; the lesson portion is prorated out and the parents bear the burden of the remaining cost for competition. Tim Scott explained that practices are considered lessons and the games are considered competition. This is a relatively new approach and will be broken down in the future. FPCS has not authorized any team sports. Mr. Scott has expertise in running athletic events and feels comfortable in this evaluation process. He stated that he could line out all costs breaking down instruction versus competition.

Debbie Ossiander questioned how does FPCS define extra curricular. Tim Scott replied that there was no formal definition, but he sees sports activities as extra curricular. A government class would be considered an elective. The administration at FPCS will be establishing a list to share with the District.

Teresa Kress brought up the subject of horseback riding and understands that it may be an issue for some people, but requests the freedom to create unique educational plans for students and families. Horseback riding is definitely exercise and should be considered a physical, skill related, health fitness activity.

Debbie Ossiander has heard concerns from the community regarding financial accountability for extra curricular activities. Ms. Ossiander asked if FPCS has thought about the idea of allowing only a portion of the student's funds to be used for extra curricular activities. Ms. Kress stated that the educational plans are all reviewed very carefully and if the budget is out of balance, the plan is not approved.

Debbie Ossiander stated that she does not have a problem with field trips or for competitive sports, but would like to see the money spent on core academics. She would be willing to give more flexibility if there was a dollar amount listed for different activities.

Peggy Robinson asked if FPCS is still accepting secular programs even though public funds are not paying for them. The answer from Mr. Scott was yes, as long as the parents purchase them out of their personal funds. Parents may then buy other items, such as a computer and tie it to their portion of the academic program. Their ILP will reflect this so they do accept this as part of the student's educational plan.

Carol Comeau cautioned FPCS about public funds being used for subsidizing secular educational programs. Ms. Comeau deferred to the Board for direction and stated she still has concerns about what public funds are being used to purchase. Ms. Comeau stated that she does not think public funds should be used to subsidize private schools low enrichment areas, i.e., art, music, and physical education.

Rita Holthouse thought the original idea of the FPCS was to match home schooled students up with core curricular subjects. She also commented that she heard, for a fee, that some people will write an educational plan for a family. Ms. Holthouse asked Mr. Grant if charter school funds were being used to fund this type of activity. Mr. Grant explained that he has stopped this practice but yes, some funds had been used.

Peggy Robinson asked Mr. Scott if a percentage of money could be set aside just for electives. Mr. Scott stated that it is hard to put a percentage of money into a plan. Parents are doing a lot of the instruction themselves and purchasing their own educational materials, so they can use the student educational fund for electives, such as music. Mr. Scott reviews each plan and works individually with the family to make sure the child is succeeding academically. If the student's test scores are not up to par, Mr. Scott may alter the educational plan and not allow so much money to be spent on electives.

Ms. Ossiander asked for clarification on electives at middle schools. Ms. Dickenson reported that she knew of a student attending Wendler five years ago, who took three music electives, had no time for P.E., and received credit for his P.E. class through sports. This may have been a possibility when the school was still a junior high school instead of a middle school. Gail Opalinski will provide a clarification for Ms. Ossiander.

Rita Holthouse commented that she believes that there are a number of students close to graduation that have a high number of electives in their daily schedules.

Peggy Robinson stated that she is interested in doing an amendment. She feels that it is unwise to spend more money for lessons when you can find them cheaper at the athletic clubs. Ms. Robinson wants to make sure that the membership dues are prorated so it does not include adult family members. Carol Comeau commented that she has no problem approving lessons even if they are through a club membership.

Rita Holthouse asked what constitutes a budget--is it purely school funds or does it include the personal funds spent by the parents. Tim Scott replied that only school funds make up the student's budget.

Peggy Robinson asked why the field trips are not reimbursed. Mr. Scott stated that no clear criteria has been set for how to approve field trips and they are often too controversial. If the parent would clearly define what types of goals and objectives will be met for the student on each of these field trips, he would most likely approve the reimbursement. Too many "laundry lists" have been turned stating the location of the field trips with no clear direction on how these trips will meet the goals and objectives of the student's ILP. Also, public school children are expected to pay their own fees for field trips.

Debbie Ossiander commented that it sounds like she is more receptive than the Administration is to certain expenses. She has no problem with technology or pieces of equipment in support of secular curriculum as long as the District is not paying. She would consider more flexibility for FPCS if there was a guarantee that half of the money would be spent on core academics. Ms. Ossiander feels that the average taxpayer would not be happy if they found out their dollars went to extra curricular activities instead of core academics. She requested a response from the Board and FPCS on how they would feel about putting this restriction on the program.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Harriet Drummond

that no more than 50 percent
of the available ASD funds can
be used for elective units as
defined by Family Partnership
School.

Rita Holthouse asked if there are seniors that take more than 50 percent of electives during the school day. Jim Taylor responded that it is entirely possible if the graduation requirements have been met. Hans Bernard stated that it is possible in the second semester of the senior year.

Ms. Ossiander thought that this could only happen if classes were taken in the summer or outside the school year. She also thought that when the graduation requirements were changed, this was not suppose to occur.

Peggy Robinson commented that she thought some of the ASD electives might be considered a core unit for FPCS. King Career Center also offers dual credit, i.e., elective and core. Pat McDowell also explained that some electives help a student meet graduation requirements.

VOTE:

Ayes: Robinson, Ossiander, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: Holthouse

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

AMENDMENT TO THE MAIN MOTION PASSED

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Harriet Drummond

to delete the last sentence in the recommendation.

(It is further recommended that the Board deny reimbursement for Family Partnership Charter School students for membership dues, initiation fees, and clothing and equipment required by the Local Service Vendors listed on Attachment F for physical education, music, art, drama, and driving instruction.)

Carol Comeau asked if by deleting this sentence in the last line of the recommendation will the Board allow memberships to be paid and clothing purchased.

Debbie Ossiander stated that she feels Family Partnership is doing a good job of reviewing the educational plans and parents want the flexibility as long as we stress accountability.

Rita Holthouse strongly argued against this amendment. She does not believe the District should be paying for any memberships to clubs because it is not a proper use of public funds. Ms. Holthouse stated that she will vote against the amendment and if it passes, she will vote against their charter. Ms. Holthouse stated that the very reason she asked for a reconsideration on the memorandum was to get a recommendation like this one prepared by the Administration.

Harriet Drummond asked the Board President if she would accept a friendly amendment. President Robinson stated that she prefers amendments to the main motion. Ms. Drummond commented that striking the word "membership" is the intent of the amendment. She suggested that the Board vote down this amendment and redo the language.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander

Nays: Holthouse, Robinson, Anderson, Drummond

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

AMENDMENT TO THE MAIN MOTION FAILS

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Harriet Drummond
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

that membership dues be removed from the second sentence and the following sentence be added:

“Membership dues will be reimbursed on a prorated basis for the FPCS student’s share providing the student’s Individual Learning Plan for this expenditure meets the criteria in Attachment D.”

Rita Holthouse asked if a student could receive P.E. credit for working out. Mr. Scott replied that the student must have goals and objectives outlined in his/her educational plan to receive credit, oversight must be completed, and verification must be outlined and documented.

Tom Anderson asked if the Administration would prefer that the Board left the recommendation alone for FPCS. Carol Comeau stated that she believes the recommendation is right, and it is not a good use of public funds to pay for membership fees at a private club.

Harriet Drummond stated that she does not understand why the District has an objection to paying membership dues, as long as they are prorated out just for the student.

Rita Holthouse commented that just being a member of the Alaska Club does not entitle you to free lessons. Lessons must be paid for; membership fees only give you access to the building.

VOTE:

Ayes: Robinson, Ossiander, Drummond

Nays: Holthouse, Anderson

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

AMENDMENT TO THE MAIN MOTION FAILS

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Peggy Robinson
Rita Holthouse

that all references to the seconded by
“California Achievement Test”
or the “CAT” are changed to the
“state-mandated norm
referenced test.”

(This was approved at the meeting in February, but is not included the document the Board is currently working from.)

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Robinson, Ossiander, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

AMENDMENT TO THE MAIN MOTION PASSES

Debbie Ossiander urged FPCS to give feedback to the Board on how the changes are working for them, and suggested that the Board do the same.

Peggy Robinson stated that she is against spending money for equipment for sports activities unless it becomes the property of the school. Public schools have purchased various types of equipment, which are tagged and loaned to students. Ms. Robinson asked if this recommendation would disallow this type of purchase for equipment for FPCS.

Carol Comeau stated that she does not interpret the recommendation in this way. She believes that if a student wants to take tennis lessons, the student should be able to purchase a tennis racquet out of his/her educational fund, but the racquet becomes inventory for FPCS. Ms. Comeau's intent is that any equipment purchased with public funds becomes ASD inventory.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Peggy Robinson
seconded by Harriet Drummond

to eliminate the words “and
equipment” from the
recommendation.

(It is further recommended that
the Board deny reimbursement
for Family Partnership Charter
School students for initiation
fees, and clothing and equipment
required by the Local Service
Vendors listed on Attachment F
for physical education, music, art,
drama, and driving instruction.)

VOTE:

Ayes: Holthouse, Robinson, Ossiander, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

AMENDMENT TO THE MAIN MOTION PASSES

VOTE:

Ayes: Hothouse, Robinson, Ossiander, Anderson, Drummond

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal, Floyd

MAIN MOTION PASSES

- I. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
- J. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
- K. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Debbie Ossiander requested a clarification from the Board on the mid-level gifted plan of service. Her understanding is that gifted students would be placed on one or two teams instead of being split into four or five teams. Ms. Ossiander’s preference is that all the gifted students are placed on one team.

Peggy Robinson commented that there are multiple opinions by Board members on this subject and perhaps a work session would be appropriate as well as advice from the educational experts.

Harriet Drummond agreed with the possibility of a work session if the State changes the regulations regarding gifted students.

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

M. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of April 9, 2001 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:45 p.m.

Peggy Robinson, President

Debbie Ossiander, Clerk

Date Minutes Approved