

**MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 28, 2002**

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, January 28, 2002, at 6:37 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, Jake Metcalfe, Tim Steele, Rita Holthouse, Harriet Drummond, and Debbie Ossiander.

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Janet Stokesbary, Pat McDowell, Mike Henry, Gail Opalinski, Patricia McRae, Jerry Sjolander, Duane Moran, Dale Cope, Marie Laule, Debbie Bogart, Lee Wilson, Michelle Egan, Stan Syta, Ray Amsden, Marilyn Barbeau, Arge Jeffery, Bob Henry, Mary Marks, Corey Rennell, Robin Siegfried, the press, and other interested people.

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

Musical entertainment was provided by the Orion Elementary Choir, directed by Mr. Kevin Downey.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Robinson announced the upcoming meetings.

Carol Comeau informed the Board that the minutes of the regular meeting of November 26, 2002 were updated due to an editorial change.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved with revision to the minutes.

D. AWARDS/ RECOGNITIONS

1. ASD MEMORANDUM #169 - RECOGNITION OF DICK LOBDELL

On Friday, December 14, 2001, radio broadcaster Dick Lobdell retired after 41 years in the communications business. During his long and distinguished career Lobdell served as a cameraman, engineer, announcer, and through the years became known as the state's premier play-by-play sports broadcaster.

Carol Comeau read the memorandum recognizing Mr. Dick Lobdell. Peggy Robinson presented Mr. Lobdell with a certificate.

E. PRESENTATION

No presentations were given.

F. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory

Corey Rennell reported to the Board on the different happenings and fundraisers at each of the high schools. Ms. Comeau met with students from the Stellar Secondary School Operational Group. The group discussed how their student government fit into the districtwide student government; how the staff and principal relate to them; and how to teach them to discuss problems, concerns and issues that they want to see improved in the next five years. A strategic plan was developed to help accomplish their goals.

Corey Rennell attended an environmental leadership training and also the Martin Luther King event leadership training. Mr. Rennell stated that at the next Student Advisory Meeting there would be a presentation by the Superintendent and by the M.E.C.C. The group will also be addressing resolutions that include a districtwide recycling policy, reassessing the menus and healthy foods in the District and reassessing the paper contract and looking at more environmental options for paper choices.

2. Military Delegate

Lt. Col. Mulcahy attended the Army family action plan meeting. Some of the concerns were the amount of lunchtime allowed to eat and how to handle lunch breaks and recess. Lt. Col. Mulcahy had a meeting with the principals and there were no significant issues there.

3. M.E.C.C.

Mary Marks stated that at their last meeting they did not have a quorum but listened to the Superintendent's report where she went over the budget and talked about school start times. The committee stressed the importance of drawing parents into the schools and participating in the classrooms, PTA meetings and coming to the School Board meetings.

G. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Robert Hayes, parent of two children in the school district, stated that he respected Dick Lobdell's radio show and his impact on the community.

Theresa Obermeyer mentioned the advisory vote on subsistence would be on the Assembly's agenda and her concern over a senator being able to appoint his daughter to the Senate if he wins the election.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approval Of Minutes:

- a. Joint School Board/Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting - December 13, 2002 - 7:00 p.m.

2. ASD Memorandum #170 - Acceptance Of Grant Award: Advanced Placement

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant funds from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$10,000. The grant will fund professional development for teams of teachers who teach Advanced Placement (AP) courses and who teach course series which precede AP courses.

3. ASD Memorandum #183 - Acceptance Of Grant Award: Municipality Of Anchorage WIA In-School Youth Program Grant Extension

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant from the Municipality of Anchorage Workforce Investment Act In-School Youth Program in the amount of \$74,116. This ongoing program is designed to help prepare students for postsecondary training and careers upon graduation from high school.

4. ASD Memorandum #179 - Aquarian Charter School Reapplication

It is the Administration's recommendation that the Aquarian Charter School's Renewal Application (Attachment A) be approved by the School Board for a period of ten (10 years) beginning July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2112, subject to annual review and approval by the School Board. It is further recommended that all proposed charter changes shown in Section F, pages 1-16, be approved with the exception of page 11, Administrative Policies, paragraph 2, which would require a waiver from the Anchorage Education Association and the Anchorage School District, per School Board Policy 333.11, definitions section, Employees. In addition, the following must be added to the proposed changes in order to comply with EED and ASD requirements:

- page 3, section A, paragraph 2: add "and Performance Standards"
- page 7, section E, add "and Benchmark Exams in Grades 3 and 6"

5. ASD Memorandum #180 - Family Partnership Charter School Reapplication

It is the Administration's recommendation that the Family Partnership Charter School's Renewal Application (Attachment B) be approved by the School Board for a period of ten (10 years) beginning July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2112, subject to annual review and approval by the School Board. It is further recommended that the only proposed charter change referenced in Attachment A, Sections 9.4.1.2, 9.4.1.2.2, and 9.4.1.3 regarding Elective Credits be approved. In addition, the following must be added throughout the document to show clearly that State and ASD testing requirements will be followed by all students in this charter school.

- page 8, section 5.2.4: add "will" rather than "may" for CAT and State required testing as shown on page 63, paragraph 5.
- page 27, section 4.6, delete "scope and sequence," add "Content and Performance Standards"

6. ASD Memorandum #181 - Approval Of Partial Waiver For Rentals Fees: YMCA

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the request for a partial waiver of the Youth Activity Rentals Fees in Policy 855.4 (c) (Attachment A) for the YMCA in the amount of \$18,360, in recognition of their provision of direct services and benefits to the Adult Community Transition Services program at the YMCA facility, and to Clark Middle School students through the Youth Community Connection Program at the Success By Six facility, for the remainder of the 2001-2002 school year, and annually thereafter, subject to review and approval of a joint

written agreement by both the Anchorage School Board and the YMCA Board of Directors.

7. ASD Memorandum #171 - Conflict Of Interest Waiver - Bill Lasher

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a waiver from potential conflict of interest for Bill Lasher in accordance with School Board Policy, section 540.

8. ASD Memorandum #172 - Conflict Of Interest Waiver - Teisha L. Burke

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a waiver from potential conflict of interest for Teisha L. Burke in accordance with School Board Policy, section 540.

9. ASD Memorandum #173 - Conflict Of Interest Waiver - Sherry Girard

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a waiver from potential conflict of interest for Sherry Girard in accordance with School Board Policy, section 540.

10. ASD Memorandum #174 - Conflict Of Interest Waiver - Susan C. Weston

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a waiver from potential conflict of interest for Susan C. Weston in accordance with School Board Policy, section 540.

11. ASD Memorandum #175 - Conflict Of Interest Waiver - James E. Cunningham

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a waiver from potential conflict of interest for James Cunningham in accordance with School Board Policy, section 539.1.

12. ASD Memorandum #188 - Sole Source Procurement - NovaNet Software

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the sole source procurement of NovaNet software to provide prescriptive remediation and focused learning in the areas of math, reading and writing to assist students in acquiring the necessary skills to pass the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam.

13. ASD Memorandum #182 - Personnel Report

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

The following memoranda were removed from the agenda: ASD Memorandum #170, #183, #179, #180 and #175.

ACTION:

Moved by Harriet Drummond
seconded by Jake Metcalfe

to approve: the revised minutes from Joint School Board/Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting on December 13, 2002; ASD Memoranda #181, #171, #172, #173, #174, #188, and #182.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Steele, Holthouse,
Robinson, Drummond, Metcalfe,

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #170 - Acceptance Of Grant Award: Advanced Placement

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant funds from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$10,000. The grant will fund professional development for teams of teachers who teach Advanced Placement (AP) courses and who teach course series which precede AP courses.

ACTION:

Moved by Tim Steele to approve ASD Memorandum #170
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Speaker Theresa Obermeyer stated that she supports this grant and commended Bev Thornberg and the people that wrote the grant.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Steele, Holthouse,
Robinson, Drummond, Metcalfe,

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #183 - Acceptance Of Grant Award:
Municipality Of Anchorage WIA In-School Youth Program Grant
Extension

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant from the Municipality of Anchorage Workforce Investment Act In-School Youth Program in the amount of \$74,116. This ongoing program is designed to help prepare students for postsecondary training and careers upon graduation from high school.

ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to approve ASD Memorandum #183
seconded by Jake Metcalfe

Carol Comeau stated that this is an ongoing program with McLaughlin and the Municipality that assists young people with their transitions from McLaughlin to the community.

Theresa Obermeyer thinks this is a very important undertaking. Ms. Obermeyer commends all of the people who teach at McLaughlin and admires Bev Thornberg's efforts in applying for this grant.

Tim Steele commented that he also commends the people who apply for the grants.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Steele, Holthouse,
Robinson, Drummond, Metcalfe,

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #179 - Aquarian Charter School Reapplication

It is the Administration's recommendation that the Aquarian Charter School's Renewal Application (Attachment A) be approved by the School Board for a period of ten (10 years) beginning July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2112, subject to annual review and approval by the School Board. It is further recommended that all proposed charter changes shown in Section F, pages 1-16, be approved with the exception of page 11, Administrative Policies, paragraph 2, which would require a waiver from the Anchorage Education Association and the Anchorage School District, per School Board Policy 333.11, definitions section, Employees. In addition, the following must be added to the proposed changes in order to comply with EED and ASD requirements:

- page 3, section A, paragraph 2: add "and Performance Standards"
- page 7, section E, add "and Benchmark Exams in Grades 3 and 6"

ACTION:

Moved by Peggy Robinson to approve ASD Memorandum #179
seconded by Harriet Drummond with the change from year 2112 to
2012.

Carol Comeau stated that Aquarian Charter School is also requesting to add a lottery in mid - May, which could be an addition to the recommendation. It would help them make sure they have the best information for their student enrollment. Ms. Comeau has no objection to it. Ms. Comeau stated that she appreciates Mr. Jeffery and the Academic Policy Committee who worked on this reapplication. If the Board approves the recommendation, the packet will be forwarded with the draft minutes to the State for their March meeting. The only request she is not recommending is where it's asking that if an employee does not agree with the mission of the charter school the employee would not be allowed to continue. That would require a waiver from the Anchorage Education Association as well as the School District and Board Policy 333.11. Ms. Comeau stated that the charter school needs to be clear about what the philosophy is and feels that if issues come up they have to be worked through with the Labor Relations Department. Ms. Comeau feels this is a well-written proposal and recommends that the Board approve it. Ms. Comeau stated that she thinks this is a very successful charter school.

Peggy Robinson moved an amendment asking that a May lottery be added to the approval of Aquarian Charter School's application.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Peggy Robinson to move that a May lottery be added
seconded by Harriet Drummond to the approval of Aquarian Charter
School's application.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the amendment.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Steele, Holthouse,
Robinson, Drummond, Metcalfe,

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED

ASD Memorandum #180 - Family Partnership Charter School
Reapplication

It is the Administration's recommendation that the Family Partnership Charter School's Renewal Application (Attachment B) be approved by the School Board for a period of ten (10 years) beginning July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2112, subject to annual review and approval by the School Board. It is further recommended that the only proposed charter change referenced in Attachment A, Sections 9.4.1.2, 9.4.1.2.2, and 9.4.1.3 regarding Elective Credits be approved. In addition, the following must be added throughout the document to show clearly that State and ASD testing requirements will be followed by all students in this charter school.

-page 8, section 5.2.4: add "will" rather than "may" for CAT and State required testing as shown on page 63, paragraph 5.

-page 27, section 4.6, delete "scope and sequence," add "Content and Performance Standards"

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve ASD Memorandum #180
seconded by Jake Metcalfe with the change from year 2112 to
2012.

Carol Comeau asked that Tim Scott and Narda Butler come forward to speak to the Board. Ms. Comeau stated that this charter school has had struggles over the years but she is proud to say that this is a very strong, viable school that represents a true partnership between home-schooling families and teachers in the District. The application is very well written

and thorough and Ms. Comeau appreciates Arge Jeffery for working through this with the Academic Policy. Ms. Comeau stated her concern with elective credits. The Superintendent's additions were on Page 8 Section 5.2.4 where it states "The California Achievement test may be utilized when applicable. Sponsoring teachers will formally evaluate each students new to them at the beginning of the contract." The State Board will mandate that all testing that is required in the State will be required in the charter schools. The teachers and parents need to know that the performance standards in reading, writing and math are expected to be incorporated into the instruction that's given so that when the students take the assessments they will have a fair opportunity at being proficient or above in those standards. Ms. Comeau commended the Charter School in putting together an excellent program and making the revisions they and the Administration have struggled with for many years.

Speaker, Narda Butler, thanked the Board and Arge Jeffery for allowing them to get to this point. Mr. Jeffery has been invaluable. Ms. Butler addressed the issue of private students participating in the electives at the charter school.

Rita Holthouse asked that they explain the three sections in 9.4.1. that are being changed. Ms. Butler stated that it is a terminology change. Because they had defined another definition, "extra curricular" was used in the original charter and in the definition they had changed that meaning so they brought it in line with their vocabulary. The "extra curricular" funds referred to funds that weren't dedicated to teachers or curriculum. Everything else was called "extra curricular." Because they defined it in a way to suggest that no funds can be spent on extra curricular they deleted the words extra curricular and used the word "elective."

Ms. Ossiander asked Ms. Butler if she is comfortable with the private student law. Ms. Butler stated that she is and hasn't heard from a lot of parents regarding the issue.

Peggy Robinson, questioned the explanation of the ASAA sanctioned activities definition on Page 61. Ms. Robinson suggested that the sentence end after the words ..."competition those activities" and cross out the words "offered by ASAA." The Board members and Administration agreed.

Corey Rennell asked about the charter school's student government program. Tim Scott stated that it does not exist now, but the charter school has good student representation and they get to vote on the advisory board.

Peggy Robinson stated that she appreciates the charter school. This school certainly has been doing things out of the box. The school is very unique nationally and it helped bridge gaps with families who wanted to home school their students and still participate with ASD. Carol Comeau commented that this group is very hardworking and tolerant in working through the bureaucracy and the District is very proud of it.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Steele, Holthouse,
Robinson, Drummond, Metcalfe,

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #175 - Conflict Of Interest Waiver -
James E. Cunningham

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a waiver from potential conflict of interest for James Cunningham in accordance with School Board Policy, section 539.1.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve ASD Memorandum #175
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Carol Comeau asked Mr. Cunningham to come forward to speak to the Board.

Debbie Ossiander asked how this is different than any other teacher contract. Mr. Cunningham explained the process in building up contracts with the students. The conflict comes through with the programs he does the second semester - ski and snowboarding programs, and tutoring. If he's full at his 49 percent and the students need to be in his class, the conflict comes in and the waiver is needed.

Lee Wilson stated that the new law allows the retired teachers to work for us at any length if they do not join the retirement system. Carol Comeau stated that the conflict of interest waiver is needed because he is an employee who is providing these services to the charter school. In addition to teaching he is doing test proctoring, senior sponsorship, and could not fit that in under the 49 percent of his contract. He tutors some students and teaches some beyond the 49 percent.

Bob Henry was asked why some requests for waivers have Alaska business licenses and others do not. Ms. Drummond asked if the license is required by the District. Bob Henry stated that to be considered a contractor by the state they are required to have a business license and

they are encouraged to attain one. Ms. Drummond noticed that the conflict of waivers that were presented tonight were on two different forms. The new form does require the license. Bob Henry stated that he would check on why some of the conflict of waivers tonight do not have business licenses.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Steele, Holthouse,
Robinson, Drummond, Metcalfe,

Nays: None

Absent: Werdal

MOTION PASSED

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #176 - Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of January 1, through January 17, 2001. The Administration is in the process of revising the format of this report to enhance the consistent reporting of important elements of construction, including budget and schedule. This revised format will be used in reporting to the Board in February.

Ray Amsden approached the Board for questions. Peggy Robinson asked Mr. Amsden when Bartlett's design committee meeting would be scheduled. Mr. Amsden answered that committee members should be contacted shortly.

ASD Memorandum #177 - Facility Project Report And Change Order Report For The Month Of December 2001

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

ASD Memorandum #178 - End-Of-Month Membership Summary For December 2001

The end-of-month membership report for December 2001 is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of December was 49,230. This enrollment represents an increase of 40 students compared to end of December 2000. Table 1 compares the membership totals.

Ray Amsden stated to the Board that there was an error in Attachment E. The Board and Administration continued discussion of the discrepancies between the DEED capacity and ASD capacity numbers. Debbie Ossiander wanted to state her strong opposition to moving towards capacity figures based on square footage instead of program. Ms. Ossiander believes that the District has spent a lot of time in bond campaigns talking about how important it is to look at programs in the schools and she feels this is a wrong move. Ms. Ossiander hopes the Board can continue to look at this and direct the Administration to go back to looking at programs.

Carol Comeau stated that there has been a lack of understanding by the public before regarding the different capacity figures. Ms. Comeau feels overall the DEED's square footage works better for us and we need to explain the differences to the public. We can make a very compelling case with the DEED figures. It has been a problem for us for several years and it frequently comes up.

Tim Steele asked why Stellar isn't on the CIP if it is 300 percent over capacity. Ms. Comeau stated that Stellar has the ability to control its enrollment, but the Administration will need to look at the numbers.

ASD Memorandum #189 - Status Report: Submission Of Discretionary Grants, Second 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.

ASD Memorandum # 185 - Out-Of-District Travel - Second Quarter Report FY 2001-2002

The attached Travel Report summarizes the travel taken by District employees and School Board members during the second quarter of FY 2001-2002 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.

ASD Memorandum #186 - Operating Budget Transfers - December Monthly Report FY 2001-2002

The attached report of budget transfers for the time period of December 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: In order to conserve paper, the schedule of monthly budget transfers processed for the month of December 2001 normally attached to this Board Memorandum is available for interested parties in the Budget Department.

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

ASD Memorandum #187 - Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap:
December 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 Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap are presented on a monthly basis. The Graphic Overview is for the quarter ending December 31, 2001 and the Treasurer's Report and Financial Recap are year-to-date as of December 31, 2001.

J. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no other speakers.

K. COMMUNICATION & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Debbie Ossiander stated that she would like to ask the Board to calendar a meeting regarding housing of charter schools. Ms. Ossiander also referred to the first memo presented on the agenda regarding the AP grant where high school students can get funds to take the AP test.

Peggy Robinson stated that the policy sub committee would be reviewing the housing issue of the charter schools. Ms. Ossiander mentioned that she would prefer it be a Board agenda item at a meeting or a work session. Rita Holthouse stated she does not have a problem if it is the Board's desire. Ms. Holthouse also mentioned that the policy sub committee would be calendaring the policy topics for the next semester. One topic was to completely review all of the charter schools' policies. Peggy Robinson also mentioned having it as part of the CIP.

Corey Rennell stated that there is a large waiting list to get into Stellar and he would like to see the demands as part of the capacity information. Peggy Robinson mentioned that Attachment E includes the numbers on the waitlist. Carol Comeau stated that a few years ago, the District had a long waiting list at Stellar and attempted to start a third school at Romig. There were a few students who went there and then they moved when

they had a chance to go to Stellar. The Administration recognizes the concern but the turnover was too high.

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

M. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of January 28, 2002, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:35p.m. January 28, 2002.

Peggy Robinson, President

Harriet Drummond, Clerk

Date Minutes Approved