

**MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 24, 2002**

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, June 24, 2002, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. Jake Metcalfe, President, presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE

Board Members Present: Jake Metcalfe, Tim Steele, Rita Holthouse, Harriet Drummond, Debbie Ossiander, Mary Marks, and John Steiner.

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Janet Stokesbary, Pat McDowell, Mike Henry, Gail Opalinski, Patricia McRae, Duane Moran, Jeff Wood, Dale Cope, Marie Laule, Debbie Bogart, Lee Wilson, Stan Syta, Ray Amsden, Bob Henry, Eric Tollefsen, Terry McCarty, James Allen, Lt. Col. Mulcahy, Robin Siegfried, the press, and other interested people.

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

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carol Comeau reminded everyone of the joint meeting with the Assembly scheduled for tomorrow morning. Ms. Comeau also mentioned that the Administrative offices would be closed, with the exception of the Accounting department, next week and notices would be posted.

Debbie Ossiander noted that the State is re-examining the cut scores for the HSQGE. The scores are due out in October.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Debbie Ossiander requested that the Board take the opportunity to talk about information they received on the Benchmark scores. Carol Comeau stated that as soon as the new supervisor for Assessment and Evaluation is onboard and people return from summer vacation, the CAT6 scores and Benchmarks would be reviewed. The Agenda was unanimously approved.

D. AWARDS/ RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Patricia McRae read a memorandum for Pencils Full of Stars which was presented at the last School Board meeting. Julie Adelman was recognized for being one of the seven Gold Nugget winners.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. M.E.C.C.

James Allen reported that MECC met many of its goals, including wanting to ensure that students are able to develop a standards based curriculum that will enable all students to develop their full potential; monitor the progress of minority students; and reach out to the community through newsletters and e-mails. The committee's accomplishments include drafting a letter supporting the ASD in the new course in Alaska studies and also met with the curriculum auditors. The committee met on a regular basis with Margo Bellamy, EEO Director, who kept them informed so they could explore some of the District's due process procedures. In outreach, all members joined local PTAs. The committee also developed a brochure as well as business cards and photo I.D. tags. The committee members received e-mails from parents seeking guidance and they were able to give the parents assistance. The committee is proud that Mary Marks, MECC member, was elected to the School Board. In the future, the MECC members would like to make themselves available in mediation and members would like to attend some of the principal meetings in the fall. The committee will meet and look at the Profile of Performance and would also like to meet with the other advisory groups. The MECC will have an orientation for new members.

Jake Metcalfe asked how many slots on the MECC are open. Mr. Metcalfe also asked about the application process if people are interested in being on the committee. Mr. Allen stated that there are three openings and it is being advertised in the newspaper and on the ASD website. Jake Metcalfe informed the Board that Mary Marks would be the Board liaison next year. Mr. Metcalfe stated that, as the last liaison, he thinks the MECC is an outstanding committee and that there is a real good core group of people that are dedicated to making the committee do a good job. Mr. Metcalfe appreciated everything the committee did this year. Carol Comeau stated that the MECC openings would be included in any ads that are done. Interested people can call the Superintendent's office to get an application.

2. Student Advisory
No report
3. Military Delegate

Lt. Col. Pete Mulcahy stated his support of ASD Memorandum #355. The Military Child Education Coalition commissioned a secondary education transition study of military children focusing on mobility concerns and the outcome was the Memorandum of Agreement mentioned in the memorandum. Supportive school districts around the country are entering into this Memorandum of Agreement. Lt. Col. Mulcahy feels this is in agreement with the School Board and District's view on these issues and is a solid state of commitment and act of good faith.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Matt Moon addressed the Board on the issue of high school students teaching Civics to younger students. Mr. Moon is impressed in the increase of improvement of reading, writing and math and feels civic knowledge is important as well. Mr. Moon explained how the students could be taught Civics more effectively. We need an early basic immersion of civic knowledge before detailed study in high school. Mr. Moon suggests that high school upper classmen or college freshman or sophomores go into the classroom and teach the younger students Civics. Rita Holthouse asked Mr. Moon if he felt he was well prepared by ASD. Matt Moon said he has all the faith in the public school system because of what he and other students have achieved. The teacher quality is strong but there is a need to diversify the programs. Mr. Moon feels that there needs to be more done for the gifted honors students than the AP classes.

John Steiner asked Mr. Moon if there is a model for his suggestion of high school students teaching younger students. Mr. Moon suggested that college students would have freedom to teach when they wanted to teach. High school students could teach after school or make it a community service class.

Holly Odegard and John Rodda, members of the Arctic Winter Games acknowledged the support of ASD for the games. Superintendent Carol Comeau was presented with a plaque.

Rhonda Butterfield spoke to the Board regarding the policy for registration of summer school. Ms. Butterfield described her situation regarding the procedures and proposed a working group to find out what will work best for the students who need to attend the summer school program.

Carol Comeau explained the limited budget for the summer school program and stated that the Administration believes that students who would benefit most are those who chose summer school over other

activities. It is difficult for a teacher who has been teaching one week to go back and start over again with the new students that come in late.

Patricia McRae stated that this is the third year of the elementary summer school program and at the end of year one, the parents and teachers were surveyed. The parents were overwhelmingly pleased except for the fact that they wanted more sites. Sites are limited due to construction, and funding. A limited number of students can be served and because of the fact that the curriculum is an intervention curriculum, it is critical that the students are there every day. Because of the nature of the program it needs to be a priority. We can only replace students in the first week with a child on the waiting list. The class sizes are small in order to make great gains with the students.

Debbie Ossiander asked to be given information regarding the size of the wait list. Regarding high school summer school, the notice sent out stated that if students were absent three days they would not get credit. The students could actually miss three sessions in one day and would not receive credit because they are all separate sessions of summer school. Ms. Ossiander feels there is a lack of clarity on the flyer. Carol Comeau stated that all of the handouts would be reviewed to make sure they are clear and consistent. Mike Henry stated that the high school summer school session is 24 days and students are only allowed to miss three of those sessions. Rita Holthouse thanked the speaker for coming forward and agrees with the philosophy of strong attendance. Carol Comeau stated that changes would be made to the flyer and the Administration would make sure the flyers are consistent at all levels. Ms. Comeau stated that the Administration would be happy to take recommendations from parents and students. Tim Steele asked for clarification of the number of students attending at each level. John Steiner asked Ms. Comeau if she felt a committee of parents, with ASD staff would be beneficial. Ms. Comeau stated that calling Patricia McRae with concerns could be more productive than bringing together a working group for this issue. The District had a good response on the surveys previously done. Ms. Comeau added that the number of summer schools is limited by budget and available facilities. Carol Comeau encouraged Ms. Butterfield to make an appointment with Patricia McRae and share any concerns she has with her. Mary Marks asked about the length of the waiting list and how it is determined. Ms. McRae explained that the parents have a number of choices ie. site, time of day, availability for a time of day, etc. There are some summer school classes not filled because some spaces were still available in some schools. Tim Steele asked Patricia McRae if the unfilled demand was significant in number. Ms. McRae stated that it varies. John Steiner asked if college students who are working towards their teaching certificates could be used since it's a summer program. Carol Comeau

commented that the District is looking into that and there is currently a college student working in a summer school.

Russel Mjolsnes spoke to the Board regarding voting status for the student representative. Mr. Mjolsnes referred to the memorandum at the last meeting of June 10, which was referred back to the committee. Voting members of the School Board are to be elected by the people of Anchorage. Over recent years the student representatives have been excellent. However, the person voting should be elected by the people of Anchorage and not chosen by the School Board. Rita Holthouse commented that this issue went back to the Policy Sub Committee and it was tabled indefinitely. Ms. Holthouse encouraged participation from the three advisory committees.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approval Of Minutes:

- a. Special Meeting - May 13, 2002 4:30 p.m.
- b. Regular Meeting - May 13, 2002 6:30 p.m.
- c. Special Meeting - May 23, 2002 6:30 p.m.

2. ASD Memorandum #355 -Memorandum Of Agreement: US Army Secondary Education Transition Study (SETS)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement supporting the U. S. Army's Secondary Education Transition Study (SETS) initiative as shown on Attachment A.

3. ASD Memorandum #354 - Prior Approval: Indian Education Program 2002-2007

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Indian Education Formula Grant application for a five year period, with the first year funding in the amount of \$1,563,806 for the 2002-2003 school year.

4. ASD Memorandum #357 - Acceptance Of Discretionary Grant Award: High Intensity Summer Reading Program

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), High Intensity Summer Reading Program, for a total amount of \$219,372. This grant will fund continuation of a summer reading program that was implemented in summer 2000 and was funded by this grant program in summer 2001.

5. ASD Memorandum #349 - Approval Of Conceptual Design For Eagle River High School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the conceptual design for the Eagle River High School project and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the Schematic Design, pending Municipal Assembly approval of the Conceptual Design.

6. ASD Memorandum #351 - Award Of Contract: Clark Middle School Roof Repairs

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for Clark Middle School Roof Repairs to the low responsive bidder, Anchorage Roofing and Contracting, Inc., for the Base Bid in the amount of \$118,995.

7. ASD Memorandum #352 - Award Of Contract: Lake Otis Elementary School Fan System Upgrade

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award the contract for the Lake Otis Elementary School Fan System Upgrade to the low responsive bidder Consolidated Contracting and Engineering for the Base Bid in the amount of \$131,333 and Assignment 1 in the amount of \$18,586 for a total award of \$149,919.

8. ASD Memorandum #331 - Approval Of Schematic Design And Supplemental Educational Specifications For Bartlett High School Renewal Project Phase 2

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the schematic design for the Bartlett High School Renewal Project, Phase 2 and amend the Supplemental Educational Specifications to increase the area by 2,843 square feet and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the design, pending Municipal Assembly approval of the schematic Design.

9. ASD Memorandum #348 - Acceptance Of Grant Funds: Alaska Railroad Summer Youth Employment Program (2002)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant funds from Alaska Railroad for an ongoing program, which is specified in a current Memorandum of Agreement. This award for \$18,000 supports supervised summer employment for youth through a partnership between the Alaska Railroad and Martin Luther King, Jr., Career Center.

10. ASD Memorandum #330 - Revision To School Board Policy 442.4 Policy On Parent Involvement (Second Reading)

The Policy Subcommittee is engaged in reviewing the 400 section of School Board Policy, which covers Students and Student Personnel Services. Because of the importance of parent involvement and to assure a more logical and consistent placement of this information, it was recommended that 442.4, Policy on Parent Involvement, be relocated to the 800 section, School-Community Relations.

11. ASD Memorandum #275 - Award Of Contract: Zero Balance Banking Services

It is the recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contract with First National Bank of Anchorage, for a three-year period, July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2005 with the option to renew on a year-to-year basis, and that a Non-Interest Bearing Certificate of Deposit be authorized at \$5,475,000 for Zero Balance Banking Services.

12. ASD Memorandum #358 - Approval Of Behavioral Strategist Position

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to approve the addition of two new positions to the Special Education department for the 2002-03 school year. These positions are not additional expenditures. The Special Education department will be eliminating 2.0 positions from the school psychologist line item to fund the positions entitled Behavioral Strategist.

13. ASD Memorandum #359 - Approval Of Specialist, Related Services Position

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to approve the creation of ten new positions within the special education department, titled Specialist Related Services, for the 2002-03 school year. These positions are not additional expenditures. The Special Education Division will be transferring funds from the Speech Language Pathologist line item to create a new position entitled Specialist.

14. ASD Memorandum #350 - Request For New Position: Permanent Part-Time Claims Technician

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to approve the addition of a permanent part-time Claims Technician. Funding for the position will come from delayed hiring during FY 2002-2003 and will be permanently budgeted for in FY 2003-2004.

15. ASD Memorandum #356 - Application And Acceptance Of Recruitment And Retention Grant

It is the administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to apply for and accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$416,000.

16. 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 Memoranda #355, #356, #354, #357, #349, #331, and #351 and the minutes of the Special Meeting of May 23, 2002.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Harriet Drummond

to approve: the minutes of the Special Meeting of May 13, 2002; Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 13, 2002; ASD Memorandum #352; Memorandum #348; Memorandum #330; Memorandum #275; Memorandum #358; Memorandum #350; and Memorandum #343.

VOTE:

Ayes: Metcafe, Ossiander, Steele,
Holthouse, Drummond,
Marks, Steiner

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #355 - Memorandum Of Agreement: US Army
Secondary Education Transition Study (SETS)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement supporting the U. S. Army's Secondary Education Transition Study (SETS) initiative as shown on Attachment A.

ACTION:

Moved by Tim Steele to approve ASD Memorandum # 355
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Carol Comeau stated that the reason the Administration is enthusiastically recommending that the Board authorize this memorandum of understanding is for all the reasons that Lt. Col. Mulcahy described earlier. This Board has had a longstanding interest in how we can do more to assist students who have mobility issues. There are no more mobile students in our District overall than the military students. They are in every school in our District, particularly concentrated at Bartlett High School, schools of this general area, as well as a number of elementary schools and middle schools around the area. Ms. Comeau feels that this initiative is one of the most comprehensive studies she has ever seen. Not only do they point out some exceptionally good best practices, but it will assist the Administration in working with the mobility task force. Ms. Comeau stated that the Administration is very supportive of the fact that it points out ideals along with guiding principals with best practices. The Superintendent stated that we will do everything we can to strive to meet them, but there is no mandate which states that we have to go through each one and there is no penalty if there is something we cannot do. These are our goals and guidelines in assisting these young people to be the most successful they can be as quickly as possible as they come in and go out of our schools. As we all know, particularly at the high school level, this is a very traumatic and important time for them and we need to help them get on track as soon as possible so they are successful.

Mike Henry stated that the program is well defined and will help us better serve new students that come into Bartlett High School. We want to make this program available to all of the students at Bartlett. Chuck Fannin, principal at Bartlett, stated the they would have a two-week period of time where they would identify the students and they would have a series

of things they would go through that would help them be successful at Bartlett. They would get a grade for that and then go to their other class after that two-week period. Carol Comeau added that we will use Bartlett as a starting point and then provide the principal and assistant principals time to share what they are learning so that we can expand the program to the other high schools. Rita Holthouse stated that this looks like it is going to be a wonderful program and she hopes the other schools would have an opportunity to benefit from it also. Tim Steele commented that mobility is such a big issue at all levels. Mr. Steele feels this is a great guide of best practices that will be beneficial for all levels. The one thing that the military has that other mobile students such as native Alaskans coming from the bush communities, or other students moving from school to school is that they do have the other side of the coin - the institution to help them along as well. It is helpful in making record transfers a speedy process, so that the new school knows what they are getting, whether it be hand carried or computer accessed. There are so many great things in the program that will be beneficial. Mr. Steele hopes that we learn from the experience with Bartlett and are then able to move on to the middle schools and elementary schools in terms of the best practices. It's a great way to get ahead of a really serious problem. Carol Comeau assured the Board that she sees nothing to prevent us from taking the program K-12. Mary Marks commented that this will be a great program and it has been something she has envisioned for a long time, especially for our village families that are moving into the metropolitan area. It is a culture shock when the students come from a village and they are overwhelmed and want to go back to their comfort zone and end up going back disappointed because they didn't fulfill their obligation of being educated. We can all benefit from this and need to have this communication open so we can have every child educated. Debbie Ossiander also agreed that this is an excellent study and a good way to identify best practices. Ms. Ossiander asked if we are going to make an effort to send more records with the students when they exit the system. Carol Comeau stated that they would definitely make an effort to make sure the necessary information follows the student to the next school. Debbie Ossiander spoke about the Academic Passport which tells a parent what to look for in classes, etc. Ms. Ossiander commented on the information provided from the Executive Summary of the Alaska Military Education Forum that met in 2001 that included some very specific recommendations on this same topic. Ms. Ossiander asked if this summary could also be given to the task force. Harriet Drummond stated that she has been following a municipal effort in the community development division that includes mobility issues and she asked everyone to pick up a survey regarding community development and neighborhood plans. The Municipality is asking the community for help prioritizing what needs to be done. Ms. Drummond stated that we have mobility issues all over the District and feels what the Army has in mind is

perfect. The Army also has a hospital on base and at the mobility task force that she attended last week, Mary Nibbelink, Executive Secretary for Elementary Education gave a report on the Kindy Kid Program which brought the medical community together for registration for kindergarten in East Anchorage at Creekside Elementary School and served 90 families and talked about the impact it had on that community. The project ran for two or three years and the grant money ran out. Ms. Drummond thinks it is vital for programs like this to continue.

John Steiner asked for a confirmation from Lt. Col. Mulcahy that the Memorandum of Agreement is an agreement to work together in good faith, and there wouldn't be any specific responsibilities to meet specific criteria. Lt. Co. Mulcahy stated that that is correct. Mr. Steiner stated that he would be interested in a report at the end of the year as to the progress of the program as well as what worked and what didn't. Carol Comeau stated that Mike Henry would be working with Chuck Fannin and the other principals to get their feedback, as well as the feedback of the military. Rita Holthouse asked if this agreement has been promoted in other cities. Ms. Comeau stated that Fairbanks has also signed this Memorandum of Agreement. Lt. Col. Mulcahy added that he thinks the working relationship between the District and the Military has gotten better and he believes the District and Board have these goals in mind. Lt. Col. Mulcahy stated that this is a tremendous step forward in getting the best practices identified and shared. Tim Steele stated that a lot of this is just having empathy for the mobile student and providing better communication of all kinds of things and he feels this is an issue we can probably make some progress on as well.

VOTE:

Ayes: Metcafe, Ossiander, Steele,
Holthouse, Drummond,
Marks, Steiner

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #354 - Prior Approval: Indian Education Program
2002-2007

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Indian Education Formula Grant application for a five year period, with the first year funding in the amount of \$1,563,806 for the 2002-2003 school year.

ACTION:

Moved by Mary Marks to approve ASD Memorandum #354
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Carol Comeau explained that the staff worked hard to solicit input from parents and students engaged in this program to make sure the Alaska Native and American Indian students work to meet the high standards to pass the graduation exam and benchmarks and to also be able to walk in both worlds successfully, and to continue to strive for high academic achievement without losing their heritage.

Edna Lamabull, Supervisor for Indian Education Department spoke to the Board regarding this memorandum. Ms. Lamabull stated that the goal is to help the students to achieve the high standards the State has set forth. Funding was increased substantially last year by DEED. Participation of native students in Anchorage has increased almost 40 percent in the last ten years. An "other" code was added on the registration form so people who in the past had to make a choice of their ethnic background, could now check "other." There are currently 1200 students in the "other" category and Ms. Lamabull believes that many are Alaska Native and another group. With increased funding they are able to go into 38 elementary schools and that has a potential impact to reach 75 percent of the elementary students. At the middle school level they are in five of the schools, which is 63 percent of the population; and they are in three high schools, with a potential of reaching 70 percent. They are hoping to go into more schools with the new grant application. Ms. Lamabull stated that assessment includes looking at the benchmarks and the high school qualifying exams to see where the students are and at the end of the year they determine the students that have received Indian Education services and then look at the scores to see what the increase is. They noticed over the years that the longer the students have been with the District and the program, the better the success rates are. This brings up the issue of the mobility rate. Ms. Lamabull is a part of that task force.

Mary Marks explained the involvement of Cook Inlet Tribal Counsel and the Heritage Center. Ms. Comeau stated that our partnerships with these organizations are stronger now than ever and she encourages any of the Board members to go out and visit the programs at East High School or West High School and to visit the native advisory committees. Ms. Comeau stated that they want to hear the Board's concerns and input. John Steiner stated to Ms. Lamabull that he was interest in her statement that there were more non identified people checking the "other" category and asked if funding availability tied to the number of students and does she see a need for us to provide explanatory materials that tells them that if they identify their native heritage that it makes these services available. Ms. Lamabull stated that the funding is based on the numbers of students that are identified as Alaskan Native or Native American. In terms of the

"other" boxes, she feels that we should let the people check more than one box. Carol Comeau stated that the federal reporting standards are about to be changed again to thirteen groups. Ms. Lamabull added that if the students are recognized as being Alaskan Native or Native American and it does not show on their registration form, they are given a student certification form and when they fill it out, we can count them and they don't have to change the box but they are still eligible for the program. Rita Holthouse stated that she was pleased to hear from Ms. Lamabull earlier that the students have regular program counselors as well as the counselors through this program. Rita Holthouse asked if they have any students taking Tlingit Language and Culture courses. Ms. Lamabull stated that at East High School the pilot program started with 12 students and as the students left, for whatever reason, it dwindled out a bit. At Clark there were about that same number in the class, however, with more advanced notice they are anticipating more students in the classes next year. Clark Middle School has about 40 students interested for next year in the language. Ms. Lamabull described the five to six week elementary language enrichment program at Fairview this summer that includes three different languages. Ms. Holthouse asked Ms. Lamabull which school would have the Yupik classes. Ms. Lamabull stated that Dimond High School has expressed an interest but we are running into the challenge of finding an instructor. There are not enough funds or interest to offer more than one section in the school, so we have to find someone who is either willing to work part time or someone that already works in the building who has the skills and background to teach the language. Ms. Lamabull added that the plan is to go to three to five more elementary schools. Russian Jack is interested, as well as Baxter and Scenic Park, all of which have a large number of native students enrolled. Ms. Holthouse asked Carol Comeau if someone would come and address the Board in the future about the impact the federal change will have on the ethnic groups. Ms. Comeau assured Ms. Holthouse that a presentation would be put together to describe the many reporting changes. Mr. Steiner commented that he was pleased to see that students involved in this program do not run the risk of diluting their other programs when he read the statement in the memorandum that mentions there is a committee investigating possible activities to increase the Benchmarks and High School Graduation Qualifying Exam. Mr. Steiner added that he feels this is extremely important and as long as they are integrating that it will really be a great benefit to the students. Debbie Ossiander stated that one of the Board goals is to improve the drop out rate, and this particular group of students has over twice the drop out rate that the other groups of students has based on our last Profile of Performances report. Ms. Ossiander would like to see reports of measures of effectiveness from the previous year when the Board is asked to approve the program for the following year. The Superintendent assured Ms. Ossiander that the Administration would do so. Tim Steele added that student number

identification would help in collecting the data. The information on progress will be a very important factor for this program. Ms. Comeau stated that she feels we will have much more access to the data needed as the technology plan moves forward. Mary Marks asked if the instructor of the student referred to the Indian Ed program is a certified teacher. Edna Lamabull stated that at the elementary and middle school levels we have tutor/counselors and the position does not require teacher certification. Of the 30 or so staff, about one fourth of them are certified teachers and another half dozen who are taking classes to earn certification or bachelors degrees. Mary asked what type of curriculum is being used for a student who is struggling with the Benchmarks or HSQGE. Ms. Lamabull stated that the tutor/ counselor meets with the student's teacher to determine what area the student needs help in. If they need help in several areas they will do an assessment to decide the areas and curriculum. Many times the materials are designed and shared with the classroom teacher.

VOTE:

Ayes: Metcafe, Ossiander, Steele,
Holthouse, Drummond,
Marks, Steiner

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #357 - Acceptance Of Discretionary Grant Award:
High Intensity Summer Reading Program

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), High Intensity Summer Reading Program, for a total amount of \$219,372. This grant will fund continuation of a summer reading program that was implemented in summer 2000 and was funded by this grant program in summer 2001.

ACTION:

Moved by John Steiner to approve ASD Memorandum #357
seconded by Rita Holthouse

Carol Comeau stated that this is an expansion of a very successful program in the last few years used during summer school. Mike Henry added that this is the third year this program has been conducted. It is a high intensity program for selected students. Teacher/ student ratio is 10 students per teacher. We have six Reading teachers at West High School, four at Dimond High School, three at the Gruening site and two at McLaughlin/Avail site. John Steiner asked for information on

how students are selected. Mike Henry added that the funds are for this summer. Language Arts classes are filled with 25 students per section in the summer school program. They are given a pretest. We then attempt to take 10 of those students who need the instruction in Reading the most. All of the students were there for remediation to start with. All of the students have not been successful with language arts.

VOTE:

Ayes: Metcafe, Ossiander, Steele,
Holthouse, Drummond,
Marks, Steiner

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

The Board recessed at 8:25 and reconvened at 9:48

ASD Memorandum #349 - Approval Of Conceptual Design For Eagle River High School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the conceptual design for the Eagle River High School project and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the Schematic Design, pending Municipal Assembly approval of the Conceptual Design.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve ASD Memorandum #349
seconded by Tim Steele

Carol Comeau stated that this is one of the discussion items at the upcoming Joint Assembly/School Board meeting. Ms. Comeau stated that she is very excited to bring this forward. We are trying to recognize the need to build a school that could also accommodate a program that could be considered an alternative program for some students as well.

Ray Amsden commented that some of the questions that came to the Administration today deal with more specifics than the concept design. Some of the focus of questions have been relative to the education spec that was developed in 2000. There were decisions made at that time prior to the Board's decision to go with the Dimond design as a solution to the project.

Debbie Ossiander shared that she had the opportunity to attend all of the community input meetings on this project and there seems to be wide spread acceptance to using the Dimond design that will save about one million dollars. There was some discussion about how we fit particular concerns from the community into that design. Ms. Ossiander heard some

bit. Mr. Amsden was also concerned about accessibility from the school. It was advised that we would have to traverse the slope to get an acceptable slope to go down there, but thinks it is doable. If we can utilize land that does not lend itself to anything but fields there certainly could be some benefits to that and Mr. Amsden stated that he does not have any objections to investigating it.

Rita Holthouse questioned the wording of the amendment. Ms. Holthouse asked if it is the intent for MOA do it and not ASD. Debbie Ossiander stated that it is her intent that this amendment bring discussion. It would be her preference that MOA or community people would put in the ball fields. Ms. Holthouse suggested a friendly amendment that would put the word "their" in the amendment. Ms. Comeau stated that if the P.E. classes could use the ball fields, it would be a joint use. Ms. Comeau stated that she has no objection to discussing the feasibility. We would have to make sure that all of the questions are answered.

Ms. Holthouse voiced her concern that she did not wish for ASD to build the fields and have the MOA manage them. Tim Steele suggested that since this topic is on the agenda for the Joint School Board/Assembly meeting tomorrow, it might be appropriate to broach that question whether the Amendment passes or fails tonight. It certainly would be an appropriate forum to discuss that option and Mr. Steele added that he would support ASD and MOA sharing in the cost and creating a savings for ASD by not building on ASD property. Ms. Comeau added that the memorandum states that the land adjacent is bounded by the Alaska Mental Health Trust on the south. If that is true, this would be difficult to accomplish. John Steiner stated that he has no objections to exploring the options but he is concerned about who would build the fields, design the specs, maintain the fields, and have ownership. There are also liability issues. Mr. Steiner asked if this would delay things to do this exploration and questioned if we would be able to adopt a concept plan and proceed with the schematic without knowing this. Ray Amsden stated that it could have impact. Mr. Amsden added that he is aware that there has been a lot of discussion about developing fields there. Mr. Amsden suggested that we move ahead with the schematic design that lends itself to fields on ASD property rather than delay that process, and if it turns out to be feasible, we can make corrections in that regard.

Harriet Drummond stated that taxpayers would be paying for the land either way. Ms. Drummond suggested that the Board pass the memorandum as is and trust the architect is listening and will go slowly on the ball field part. Ms. Drummond stated that she would not support the amendment. John Steiner noted that Chugiak and Eagle River area has a separate Parks and Recreation area and the taxpayers that would be paying for it would be separate, assuming that they decided to

do that, which means it would be initiated by the local community. Mr. Steiner stated the he would support the amendment. Rita Holthouse stated that she would not support it as an amendment but as a concept. There have been other times when the Board would pass a memo as is and have the Administration check with the city. Tim Steele added that the amendment is not needed but the Board could direct the Superintendent to talk to the MOA. Carol Comeau stated that the Administration would have no objection with pursuing the discussion. John Steiner stated that he assumed if MOA is approached and it is determined that there is an option, the issue would come back to the Board for review. Ms. Comeau replied that it would come back to the Board.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

Ayes: Metcafe, Ossiander, Steiner

Nays: Holthouse, Drummond,
Marks, Steele

MOTION FAILED

Rita Holthouse asked if the conceptual design would work for alternative programs as well. Ms. Comeau replied that it is a very flexible design that could be used for a standard comprehensive high school as well as vocational schools. We could also have the University of Anchorage use part of it. If people were looking for that kind of alternative they could look at going there also. Ms. Comeau added that the architect has been directed to design the school as a comprehensive design with some ability to modify it. Rita Holthouse hopes some decision regarding the use of the facility would be made before the Board votes on placing it on the bond next year. Ms. Holthouse stated that she feels there is a need for a facility that would support an alternative program. Carol Comeau stated that there is a need to have discussions with the community as well as the university. Debbie Ossiander stated that she would enthusiastically share Ms. Holthouse's desire that the Board would have that discussion as soon as possible. Ms. Ossiander stated that there is interest in having some type of alternative program, however it is very diverse as to type. There were requests at the meetings that addressed the overcrowding that the Administration should take the lead in defining what the program would be. Ms. Ossiander thinks that a tech prep program would be wonderful there and feels that there is a shortage of alternative programs in this area. John Steiner shared his concern of going ahead with it before some of those decisions were made.

Mr. Steiner stated his concern that if we build a model that doesn't anticipate or contemplate a program it may make a facility that is not as suitable as it ought to be. Mr. Steiner added that we do not want to build a highly specialized school if in the future that program is no longer needed and the comprehensive school is needed more. Mr. Steiner asked if

changes could be made once the schematic is approved if the need is there. Mr. Steiner wondered if the community members who toured the Dimond model and liked it would still be happy with the design with the changes in the ed specs that were added to the original Dimond model for this school site. Ray Amsden stated that clearly we need to take the time to do it right. The decisions that were related to the ed specs developed were not made with the knowledge that we would be looking at the Dimond High School model. The modifications that occurred to the model because of the ed specs have come with some cost. Our objective is to develop this through a schematic design phase by the fall so that we can have an accurate cost estimate to move this project forward for consideration for bonding. The more time we take the less developed the design will be. Carol Comeau stated that we have time in the fall to have some discussion. It is essential that we build a building that is basic enough that a comprehensive program could be in it, however, there is nothing so unique in the programs mentioned in the memo that this facility can't accommodate. We have got to keep moving forward or it will delay a year. We can take suggestions to the community and let them know what would work in this building and have them make the decision. John Steiner asked if it was possible to consider going back to the original Dimond model instead of the model with the ed specs changes and asked if the cost would be less if the original Dimond model was used. Carol Comeau stated that the modifications that were made are critical elements in order to design this 800 student school versus the 1600 student Dimond model. The second phase will bring in the other parts that are in the Dimond model. Ray Amsden explained some of the additional modifications of the Dimond model, such as an auditoria and the ed specs of the Eagle River school selected and auditorium.

Tim Steele stated that the timeline is a political timeline and if it needs to be adjusted to do it right we need to do it right. We need to know what we are doing here before putting it on the ballot and need to move along. Before this goes on the bond we need to know what we are doing. Rita Holthouse urged discussions with the community about alternative programs that could be part of the combination. There is a need for more than one program there. Carol Comeau stated that that is what is being considered.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

Ayes: Metcafe, Ossiander, Steele,
Holthouse, Drummond,
Marks, Steiner

Nays: None

MAIN MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #351 - Award Of Contract: Clark Middle School Roof Repairs

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for Clark Middle School Roof Repairs to the low responsive bidder, Anchorage Roofing and Contracting, Inc., for the Base Bid in the amount of \$118,995.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve ASD Memorandum # 351
seconded by Tim Steele

John Steiner had a question regarding the roof repair and asked if reroofing will be a part of the renovation mentioned in the CIP.

Ray Amsden stated that the roof is failing and needs to be repaired now. Carol Comeau mentioned that the renovation of Clark in order to meet the middle school ed specs, is all dependent upon the Wendler renovation being completed as well as the new Muldoon middle school. Therefore, Clark's long term plan is to be renovated but that is several years down the road. The roof, however, does need to be repaired soon.

VOTE:

Ayes: Metcafe, Ossiander, Steele,
 Holthouse, Drummond,
 Marks, Steiner

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #331 - Approval Of Schematic Design And Supplemental Educational Specifications For Bartlett High School Renewal Project Phase 2

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the schematic design for the Bartlett High School Renewal Project, Phase 2 and amend the Supplemental Educational Specifications to increase the area by 2,843 square feet and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the design, pending Municipal Assembly approval of the schematic Design.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve ASD Memorandum #331
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Carol Comeau stated that the forward planning money has made all the difference in this project. The staff and community have been able to participate in the discussions rather than waiting for the bonds to pass in April.

Ray Amsden commented that the design group has worked very hard in making this project as small as possible to accomplish the mission we have. A little over 1600 sq. ft. is the increased square footage which is related to the need for mechanical space. The DEED has worked with us to increase the sq. footage because of these things.

Chuck Fannin thanked Carol Comeau and the Board for approving the forward funding for this project and stated that it has been a smooth process.

Debbie Ossiander stated that the square footage of the building is critical because the State has regulations that say we are only allowed a specific amount of square footage per student that is reimbursable in construction. It looks at the number of students in the attendance area to determine how much square footage should be allocated. Ms. Ossiander feels that increasing the size of a school that is already the largest in the District is going to be detrimental in the future in getting authorization for the Muldoon Middle School reimbursement. Ms. Ossiander stated that the design looks reasonable, but feels the design is too big. Carol Comeau commented that one of the benefits, if the GO bonds pass, is the flexibility that we could ask the voters for the 60 percent reimbursement rather than the 70 percent. There seems to be much more flexibility to allow us to build schools for growth.

John Steiner asked for an explanation regarding the fact that the ed specs call for building support of 85,700 sq. ft. and the existing has 105,400. Mr. Steiner questioned if we would be penalized when it comes up for reimbursement. Mike Price stated that the building is very generous with a lot of corridors, etc. When building a new building, things would be a lot more compact. John Steiner asked if we will be penalized for the existing or will it be considered on what we had to start with. Ray Amsden stated that we are stuck with some design issues of the past and we will try to work with the State to get some of that space disqualified.

Harriet Drummond asked if we could add to the note that the existing new auditorium would hold 600. Ray Amsden confirmed that they would do so.

VOTE:

Ayes: Metcafe, Steele,
Holthouse, Drummond,

Marks, Steiner

Nays: Ossiander

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #356 - Application And Acceptance Of Recruitment And Retention Grant

It is the administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to apply for and accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$416,000.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve ASD Memorandum
seconded by Harriet Drummond #356

Theresa Johnson addressed the Board on recruitment. Physical Education is now a hard to fill area because UAA has phased out their Physical Education program, so the number of candidates has diminished greatly. There was also a shortage of math teachers at the beginning of this year. One of our recruiting goals was to find more math candidates and we are in better shape this year. Some Science areas are also difficult positions to fill. Ms. Johnson explained some of the activities that the university has available to help with recruitment and retention.

Carol Comeau stated that it is important to focus on the retention part of this grant. Staff did an incredible job of outreach and recruitment. If we don't support our new teachers they get discouraged and leave. As much as the recruitment is important, the retention part is really critical. If we can support and mentor them they will stay. Ms. Comeau is really glad that these funds are available. Rita Holthouse stated that the biggest difficulty teachers had was classroom control. They are not taught it and she's hoping that some of this retention work deals with that problem. Ms. Comeau agreed with Ms. Holthouse's comment and stated that it is one of the issues they are focusing on.

John Steiner asked about the selection of mentors. Teresa Johnson explained that there is an application process and that applicants must have a minimum of 5 years experience, along with their principal's recommendation, peer recommendation and a skill process. Retired teachers can also become mentors. They go through a similar process. Mr. Steiner mentioned the evaluation forms and trusted that we are taking that kind of data into consideration as well. Teresa Johnson assured Mr. Steiner that we rely on the principal to take that into consideration. Rita Holthouse commented on the 250 sub days and hopes we are keeping

track of the amount of sub days being used. Ms. Comeau stated that we have put a cap on sub days used. Mary Marks asked if they are, during training, introduced to the different lifestyles and the different diversity of our culture. Ms. Johnson stated that Indian Ed staff speak to the students and sessions are offered on cultural diversity.

VOTE:

Ayes: Metcafe, Ossiander, Steele,
Holthouse, Drummond,
Marks, Steiner

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #345 – Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of May 30, through June 12, 2002.

In regards to the Service High School renovation, Rita Holthouse asked if there would be windows in lower G & D. Ray Amsden commented that the benefits for a high cost weren't there but they have committed to look at solutions that provide the natural lighting at a lower cost.

Jake Metcalfe asked for an update on Denali Elementary. Ms. Comeau stated that it is being demolished currently. There are signs posted and you can get around in the neighborhood - traffic is not being blocked.

Regarding the approval of the conceptual design for Bartlett earlier in the meeting, and the discussion of the inefficiencies in the building of the use of some of the core areas, Mr. Steiner asked if we can ask the State to not have the core areas be considered as a part of the square footage. Mr. Steiner also asked if a Board resolution to make a request to the State to consider areas that are already built that you have to work with when renovating, not be considered against the District for reimbursement purposes when what is being constructed is fully within the design criteria that are specified and that whatever was previously built would not be held against that project. Debbie Ossiander stated that the Board has discussed it for multiple years with very little success. Ray Amsden has been working with some national standards and assures that it has been beneficial. Rita Holthouse suggested that the Board should do it again and she would support it. Carol Comeau added that DEED is looking at more flexibility than before and we could use this to restate our need for flexibility. John Steiner requested that a memo come forward to

the Board regarding this issue. Mr. Steiner explained he is requesting the resolution to state that if the District is seeking reimbursement for one set of construction that complies with the regulation, it would not be disqualified simply because the original building had ratios that were not correct. Especially when changing the ratios would have been counter-productive.

ASD Memorandum #346 – End-Of-Year Membership Summary for 2001-2002

The end-of-year membership report for June 6, 2002 is attached (Attachment A). The total active enrollment at the end of the 2001-2002 school year was 48,605. This enrollment represents an increase of 208 students compared to end of year 2000-2001. Table 1 compares the membership totals.

Carol Comeau assured the Board that the format and report would be changed. Harriet Drummond complimented the Administration on getting the documents on First Class and the internet. Ray Amsden stated that the report will be an agenda topic item for the CRAC.

ASD Memorandum #353 – Denali Relocation Update

Denali Elementary is being relocated to Kennedy Elementary for the 2002-2003 school year. This memo is an update of the pertinent aspects of the relocation of Denali to Kennedy.

Carol Comeau stated that this is a very comprehensive report. Patricia McRae stated that she would like to commend Karen Rigg who has done an outstanding job communicating with parents and getting accurate records on who will be attending. Ms. McRae thanked the principals at the other schools providing space and assistance. LT. COL. Mulcahy agreed that it is going well. Tim Steele stated that the principal has done a good job. It is massive but Mr. Steele is convinced that after the first week it will be fine. Mr. Steele suggested that registration, which will take place at Fairview, needs to be advertised so the parents don't have a problem knowing where to register their students. Jake Metcalfe commented that he will have two students there next year and feels a lot of parents have accepted it and don't see it as a problem. Mr. Metcalfe appreciates everything people have done to get the word out. John Steiner questioned the school day time which is 9:30 - 4:00. Mr. Steiner asked if there is any possibility that it will change. Carol Comeau stated that it would not change. In order for us to use existing bus routes we will have to have this schedule. Lt. Col. Mulcahy is helping families with day care issues if they need to drop their students off earlier. John Steiner questioned the additional drop off/pickup area. Ms. McRae assured Mr. Steiner that no

additional drop off/pickup areas are available. Tim Steele expressed his concern of children riding one bus in the morning and another in the afternoon. Carol Comeau stated that we will have extra staff and volunteers with buses with symbols on them and the teachers were very conscientious in working this out. Mr. Steele mentioned the fact that parents who live in South Anchorage were requesting another drop off/pickup area, but he realized that it is not a possibility. Carol Comeau stated that that is correct because we would have to provide supervision for that plus additional cost. This is the best we are able to do. John Steiner asked if there are empty seats on the bus can the students be picked up for Camp Fire. Carol Comeau stated that we will ask Steve Kalmes to see what the liability issue is regarding that. The parents need to work with Ms. Rigg and she can get the information back to them. Tim Steele mentioned that supervision of the kids getting on and off the bus will be done by the Camp Fire personnel and if they are going to be responsible, they need to be a part of their program due to liability issues.

ASD Memorandum #344 - Facility Project Report And Change Order Report For The Months Of April And May 2002

The monthly Facility Project Report and Change Order Report for the months of April and May 2002, are attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

Debbie Ossiander asked why there is a high percentage of change orders for the Facilities/Maintenance boiler replacement. Ray Amsden stated that there could have been some issues associated with installing an used boiler (it came from Russian Jack Elementary). There was also an asbestos abatement.

Harriet Drummond asked what the cost would be if they were new boilers. Ray Amsden stated that it would probably have been \$30,000 to \$50,000 a piece. Rita Holthouse asked if the Chugiak HS Phase 1 House 2 is done now. Mr. Amsden stated that it is done.

John Steiner mentioned that the corrective action required items are high. Mr. Steiner asked if there are provisions in our contract stating that whoever is responsible for the error covers the cost instead of the District. Ray Amsden stated that we anticipate a certain level of inaccuracy. We do assess each project on an ongoing basis and look at the areas of cost to ascertain if it is in the realm of reasonableness and look at it from a perspective of learning. Mr. Amsden added if we find that a significant portion of the extra costs are in a particular discipline, we need to know about it. Not only for the purposes of advising our design team that more attention needs to be directed to that discipline in the future, but we also have a very comprehensive review plan in our organization, and it also

helps us focus on the particular areas of the documents that may need some additional review to make sure they are as clean as possible. Sometimes it can also be an area that is driven by building inspectors who identify some other deficiencies that we did not identify in the beginning. John Steiner asked if we put value engineering into our contracts. Mr. Amsden assured Mr. Steiner that we do.

ASD Memorandum #308 – Operating Budget Transfers – May Monthly Report FY 2001-2002

The attached report of budget transfers for the time period of May 2002 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.

In order to conserve paper, the schedule of monthly budget transfers processed for the month of May 2002 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 #309 – Treasurer’s Report/Financial Recap: May 31, 2002

The attached report consists of two parts: the Treasurer’s Report and the Financial Recap. The Treasurer’s Report and the Financial Recap are presented on a monthly basis with year-to-date information as of May 31, 2002.

Debbie Ossiander questioned the liability insurance account and how it is budgeted. Janet Stokesbary stated that the liability insurance account does not include just the premiums for liability insurance but also for reserves for individual cases. We have not done that as of this June 30, but as of last June 30 we had some large cases and the legal counsel recommend we set up as reserves. The \$2 million figure is the combination of premiums as well as reserves we set up as of June 30, 2001. We have not met with the attorney for setting up this year's reserves, so there could be an additional amount added to that.

K. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no other speakers.

L. COMMUNICATION & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

John Steiner stated that he appreciated the meeting that George Vakalis set up with the Support Services department heads. Mr. Steiner also mentioned that he is interested in reviewing contracts as far as what was being bid, an understanding of the contracts, and what is being done. Mr. Steiner feels it is too late to provide meaningful comments and he would like to see them earlier. Mr. Steiner would like memos in numerical order in the Board's packet. Mr. Steiner stated he was frustrated on the new Eagle River High School Design question and would like more time to review something like this project.

Mary Marks stated that she relates to Mr. Steiner's frustration, but the Board members have the opportunity to ask questions beforehand. The Board members already know what is coming on the agenda and should, as Board members, call the Administration and set up appointments to meet with the departments to discuss these issues. John Steiner stated that Ms. Marks made an excellent point but when he saw a preliminary agenda he called and asked for a copy of the design he was told it wasn't ready. Rita Holthouse reminded Board members that they would be having a retreat in August and that is the appropriate time to discuss these concerns. Harriet Drummond mentioned that historically we have been through a lot of procedures as a Board. Getting the packets early put a lot of pressure on the Administration and frequently the memorandums were not done or things changed. There has to be a balance. Jake Metcalfe stated that these are all ideas at the retreat and we need to consider that it will take more help in the Superintendent's office to get the packets together. We have cut a position in the past that really effects the production of the packet, so it is another item that we will need to talk about at the retreat. Mr. Metcalfe stated that he would appreciate any comments for the August 13th Board retreat. The Board members should E-mail the suggestions to Mr. Metcalfe and carbon copy Mary Kay. Tim Steele shares Mr. Steiner's concern about not having the time but also understands that the Administration doesn't have the time either. We have a lot of items with an awful lot of short schedules. Mr. Steele stated that it does need to be discussed but is not sure of the solution to the problem.

Ms. Comeau introduced Larry Petersen as the new Director of Maintenance. Ms. Comeau stated that we will miss Ed Conyers, who is retiring the end of July. This is also Pat McDowell's last meeting and Ms. Comeau thanked them both. Tim Steele welcomed Mr. Petersen.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

(PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS/LITIGATION)N. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of June 24, 2002, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:55p.m. June 24, 2002.

Jake Metcalfe, President

Mary Marks, Clerk

Robin Siegfried, Recording Secretary

Date Minutes Approved