

**MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 12, 2002**

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, August 12, 2002 at 6:40 p.m. in the Board Room at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President Jake Metcalfe presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE

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

Board Members Excused: Harriet Drummond

Others Present: Carol Comeau, George Vakalis, Janet Stokesbary, Mike Henry, Jerry Sjolander, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Jeff Wood, Dale Cope, Eric Tollefsen, Debbie Bogart, Bob Henry, Stan Syta, Larry Wiget, Ray Amsden, Mary Kay Sambo, the press, and other interested people.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tim Steele announced the School Business Partnership kick-off celebration scheduled at Central Middle School on Friday, August 23 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. He encouraged principals who don't have a School Business Partnership or any businesses that are interested to attend this breakfast and find out about the program.

Debbie Ossiander reminded the School Board about the public input meeting on August 14, 12:00 p.m., Williwaw Elementary School for the East Side Transportation Plan. She encouraged at least one Board member to be in attendance.

Carol Comeau reminded everyone that elementary and middle school registration begins this week; high school begins next week. There will be back-to-school information in the newspaper the weekend of August 17-18. Ms. Comeau encouraged Board members to drop by Wonder Park between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to visit with the students and artist that are working on the educational mural about asthma.

Ms. Comeau announced that Jan Christensen was in Juneau today attending a Superintendent's meeting. An update by the Department of Education on "No Child Left Behind Act" was also scheduled. Jan Christensen and Dale Cope also traveled to Houston to look at a program

on student driven data. Houston School District has had much success in the area of student achievement. Ms. Comeau commented that Secretary of Education Ron Paige is originally from Texas.

Mary Marks announced that the Minority Education Concerns Committee meets for the first time this year on Thursday, August 15 at 7:00 p.m.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Debbie Ossiander noted the addition of the addendum to the Personnel Report. The School Board unanimously approved the agenda.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

Stephanie Abrego, a junior at East High School, is a very active youth volunteer who believes in giving back to her community. She participates in Anchorage Youth Court, the Prudential Youth Leadership Institute, the Anchorage Youthserve Action Council, the Mothers Against Drunk Driving Youth-In-Action program, and numerous school, church and community service activities. Stephanie has also been involved in Anchorage's Promise program, which promotes collaboration and partnership to ensure that all Anchorage children have essential resources to live a successful life.

Earlier this summer, Stephanie was chosen by America's Promise to be one of two American youth to travel to Great Britain. In July she participated in an international youth development exchange program between Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and British Foreign Minister Jack Straw. This once-in-a-lifetime "job shadowing" opportunity allowed her to travel abroad to learn about another country's government and culture.

Stephanie was selected, in part, because she has become a role model for other young people. Her volunteerism helps build a better future for her peers, her community and herself.

It is requested that the School Board recognize Stephanie Abrego for her excellence in youth service and leadership in support of her school, community and nation.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory

The student advisory representative was absent.

2. Military Delegate

LTC Mulcahy stated that he had no report this evening. He did remind everyone that there would be vehicle registration along with student registration for Denali parents and students at Fairview.

3. MECC

The MECC representative was absent.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (30 MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

Marshall Reid relayed the results of the Service High School Rifle Team that just returned from the Junior Olympics. The team scored 4,561 points out of a possible 4,800 winning first place in the scholastic division. They placed 11<sup>th</sup> overall. The Assembly issued a resolution in honor of their accomplishment. Mr. Reid commented that Service continues not to have a coach for the team and has been working solely with volunteers. He mentioned that the talent that the students possess and display is worth the attention of the Anchorage School District. Mr. Reid urged the School Board to allow P.E. credit for the sport of air rifles.

Debbie Ossiander asked for a point of clarification on the issue of P. E. credit. Dale Cope stated that the air rifle sport qualifies for a P. E. waiver, but actual credit, due to the sport not being available at every school, is not granted. She further explained that a waiver does not earn credit for P. E., but waives the requirement allowing the student to take another course.

Carol Comeau commented that she received a nice card from the team thanking the Anchorage School District for their support. The team will be invited to come before the School Board to receive recognition for their accomplishment.

Peggy Robinson addressed the School Board on the Crossroads Program, operated by the School District for over 20 years, for pregnant students who choose not to attend their home high school. Currently, they are located in a double wide relocatable on the Booth Memorial Campus next

to Whaley. There are no restroom facilities or running water in the facility. The students are walked over to Whaley with a teacher assistant to use the restroom. Students can also bring their infants to school for the first six weeks, but diaper changing must take place on a table, which is a concern with no running water. There is an average of 50 students attending this program each semester.

Ms. Robinson further explained that she has been working on a grant through Success By Six, which would allow the program to move to the Success By Six facility. The District would be responsible for paying one-half of the lease. She commented that she should know by the end of the month the results of the grant application

John Steiner asked if the grant application mentioned that the District would pay one-half of the lease, or is the money currently in the District budget. Carol Comeau stated that we signed a letter of support and there is money in our budget to pay one-half of the lease. Mr. Steiner commented that this is not a good situation for the girls. Mr. Sjolander commented that he did review the special education budget and could reallocate funds within his budget to cover part of the cost, but this was not a budgeted item.

Mr. Steiner asked if the District has considered the possibility of other funds from other grant giving organizations to support this program, and further stated that the facilities are not adequate for these students. He encouraged the Board to consider finding the funds to support this program.

Rita Holthouse commented that she agrees with Ms. Robinson and is amazed that the public has not brought these concerns forward earlier. She encouraged the Board to look at solutions. Carol Comeau stated that she will bring something forward once the grant notification is made. She stated that she did not commit to the full cost of the lease because it is not in our budget. She also stated that she would like to know tonight if the Board supports this expenditure.

Peggy Robinson explained that the facilities at the Success By Six building were developed for a 24-hour day care situation and can accommodate such a program.

Rita Holthouse and Tim Steele both offered their support to the Administration for this program.

Debbie Ossiander requested the Superintendent provide an update on the situation and then the Board will need to discuss. She is willing to support this if the Superintendent agrees. Carol Comeau commented that she is very supportive and this is a wonderful opportunity to provide support to this program. Ms. Comeau will review the proposal in depth and return to the Board with a recommendation.

Jake Metcalfe commented that he attended the Crossroads Program graduation in May with Peggy Robinson and urged other Board members to look at the space, which is inadequate.

Thomas Obermeyer commented that he was here tonight to discuss the recent news articles over the high school exit exam. He feels that the state is trying to manipulate the results to an acceptable level. Mr. Obermeyer is concerned that the state is not testing appropriate skills and the test benefits very few people. He is also upset over the time it takes to give students the test results. The District should not be grooming kids to take tests; they should be grooming students to learn. Mr. Obermeyer has grave doubts in what the District has engaged in and believes it is too expensive.

Theresa Obermeyer commented that there is no logic in holding off giving the test results to students. Students should be notified early so they have the opportunity to attend summer school if the need is there. Ms. Obermeyer also commented that she is upset that the agenda published in the newspaper does not always include all the memorandums that are discussed at each School Board meeting. She feels it is not a public process when agenda items are added after the agenda is published. Ms. Obermeyer also reminded Jake Metcalfe that she wants the list of people from PDK that worked on the curriculum audit. She asked Mr. Metcalfe to fax the list to her on Tuesday, August 13.

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 23, 2002  | 6:30 p.m. |
| b. | Special Meeting | June 10, 2002 | 4:30 p.m. |
| c. | Regular Meeting | June 10, 2002 | 6:30 p.m. |
| d. | Special Meeting | June 24, 2002 | 4:30 p.m. |

e. Regular Meeting June 24, 2002 6:30 p.m.

2. ASD Memorandum #5 - Alaska Department of Education and Early Development FY 2004 Grant Application

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the following projects to the State of Alaska, Department of Education and Early Development (EED) by September 3, 2002, for the FY 2004 Capital Improvement Project grants program.

3. ASD Memorandum #20 - Revision to School Board Policy Section 173.3: Student Advisory Board (First Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on First Reading, the proposed revisions to School Board Policy 173.2: Student Advisory Board.

4. ASD Memorandum #21 - Authorized Representative - Title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Formerly Title I of Public Law 81-874)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board appoint Jan Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction, as authorized representative for the filing of applications under Title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (formerly Title I of Public Law 81-874).

5. ASD Memorandum #22 - Appointment of Minority Education Concerns Committee Members

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board extend the appointments of the following individuals to the Minority Education Concerns Committee (MECC) for terms expiring on June 30, 2003.

- James Allen
- Richard Benavides
- Talakai Finau
- Paul Swetzof
- Alfredia Tyler

It is further recommended that the School Board appoint the following individuals (Attachments A, B, and C) to the Minority Education Concerns Committee (MECC) for terms expiring on June 30, 2004:

- Kameron Holloway
- Angela Jimenez
- Atisa Logo

6. ASD Memorandum #4 – Acceptance of Continuation of Grant Award: GEAR UP

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept the continuation of grant funds from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$50,000 for the fourth year of a five-year project. This state and federal initiative support partnerships that enable educationally disadvantaged youth to achieve academically and to prepare for successful enrollment in a four-year college.

7. ASD Memorandum #17 – Prior Approval of Formula Grant: Carl Perkins

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit an application to the State Department of Education and Early Development for SY 2002-03 Carl Perkins funds in the amount of \$930,509. Funds are used to provide support of vocational and technical education.

8. ASD Memorandum #18 – Alternative Academic Science Credit for KCC Courses

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve partial high school science credit for Aviation Technology and Horticulture and Landscape Design, both taught at King Career Center.

9. ASD Memorandum #6 – 2002 Charitable Giving Campaign

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the inclusion of United Way of Anchorage and Alaska Community Share and their member agencies as shown in

Attachments A and B in the District's 2002 Charitable Giving Campaign.

10. ASD Memorandum #7 – Award of Contract: ASD Warehouse Sprinkler System Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for ASD Warehouse Sprinkler System Upgrades to the low responsive bidder, Accel Fire Systems, Inc., for the Base Bid amount of \$124,675.

11. ASD Memorandum #8 – Approval of Conceptual Design for Chugach Optional Elementary School Addition and Renovation

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Conceptual Design for Chugach Optional Elementary School Addition and Renovation and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the Schematic Design, subject to Municipal Assembly approval of the Conceptual Design.

12. ASD Memorandum #9 – Conflict of Interest: Fourth Quarter Report FY 2002-2002

The attached listing of employee Conflict of Interest Waiver and Disclosure actions is forwarded in accordance with School Board Policy Section 725.44. This information is provided as the fourth quarter report for the FY 2001-2002 school year.

13. ASD Memorandum #10 – Personnel Report

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

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: ASD Memorandums #5, #20, #22, #4, #6, #8, Minutes from the Special Meeting of May 23, 2002, and Minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 10, 2002.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander  
seconded by Mary Marks

to approve minutes from the Special Meeting of June 10, 2002 – 4:30 p.m.; Special Meeting of June 24, 2002 – 4:30 p.m.; Regular Meeting of June 24, 2002 – 6:30 p.m.; Memorandum #21; Memorandum #17; Memorandum #18; Memorandum #7; Memorandum #9; and Memorandum #10 with Addendum.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalf, Steiner, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Drummond

MOTION PASSED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1.a. -Special Meeting - May 23, 2002 (6:30 p.m.)

Debbie Ossiander stated that the minutes of the Special Meeting of May 23, 2002 have gone into too much detail; she would like them condensed. She commented that she wants all Board members to be treated equally. Ms. Ossiander feels that this is a departure from past practice.

Carol Comeau responded that she thought this was what the Board had requested. Previously, the minutes of April 15, 2002 reflected a summary of Dave Werdal's comments at his last Board meeting.

1.c. - Regular Meeting - June 10, 2002 (6:30 p.m.)

MOTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander  
seconded by Mary Marks

to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 10, 2002.

Debbie Ossiander stated that the minutes, page 15, did not accurately reflect her statements regarding a discussion about basic school needs versus alternative school needs. Carol Comeau stated that the Board

Secretary would listen to the tapes and note verbatim what was discussed in this portion of the minutes.

Debbie Ossiander stated that the last paragraph on page 18 does not accurately reflect what she said regarding her support of the ventilation system at the Charter School Center. Carol Comeau stated that the Board secretary would listen to the tapes and make the changes according to what was said on the tape. Both sets of minutes will be returned for approval at the August 26, 2002 School Board meeting.

MOTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander	to table discussion on the minutes
seconded by Rita Holthouse	from the Regular Meeting of June 10,
	2002 until they can be reviewed and
	revised.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalfe, Steiner, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Drummond

MOTION TO TABLE DISCUSSION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #5 - Alaska Department of Education and Early Development FY 2004 Grant Application

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the following projects to the State of Alaska, Department of Education and Early Development (EED) by September 3, 2002, for the FY 2004 Capital Improvement Project grants program.

Bartlett High School Phases 2 & 3	\$55,500,000
Chester Valley Elementary School	\$10,000,000
Chugach Optional Addition/Renovation	\$6,300,000
Chugiak High School Phase 4	\$10,200,000
Clark Middle School Design	\$1,850,000
Districtwide Major Maintenance	
Code Issues /Hazardous	\$2,530,000
Materials/Americas with Disabilities Act (ADA)	
Electrical Projects	\$3,387,000
Mechanical Upgrades	\$3,830,000

Minor Building Renewal Projects	\$4,815,000	
Restroom Upgrades	\$1,968,000	
Traffic Safety Upgrades	\$2,985,000	
Districtwide Major Maintenance Total		\$19,515,000
East High School Phases 3, 4, 5		\$30,240,000
Inlet View Elementary Addition/Renovation		\$6,900,000
Polaris K-12 Addition/Renovation		\$18,500,000
Sand Lake Elementary School Design		\$750,000
Rabbit Creek Elementary Design		\$1,350,000
Service High School Phase 2b & 3		\$29,000,000
Turnagain Elementary School Design		\$750,000
Wendler MS Building Renovations Phase 2		\$19,500,000
	TOTAL	<u>\$210,355,000</u>

MOTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander                      to approve ASD Memorandum #5.  
seconded by Mary Marks

Carol Comeau stated that the District is again applying for the FY 2004 Capital Improvement Projects grants program. This list is to let the state know of our immediate needs.

Rita Holthouse asked if the Sand Lake design would add additional classroom space to a very overcrowded school. Carol Comeau stated that she believes that two classrooms along with some additional renovations inside are planned. The Demographics Department is watching the west side of town very carefully. Carol Comeau feels there may be a need for an additional elementary school in this area, which would reduce the population in the other elementary schools in the area.

Debbie Ossiander remarked that she was a little confused when she read a statement under pertinent facts on page 2 because the vast bulk of the money received from the state for capital projects has been through our capital debt reimbursement program. Mr. Amsden suggested adding the word "existing" so it would read "there is no existing funding mechanism..." Carol Comeau commented that we will have used up the vast majority of our debt reimbursement so if the GO bonds do not pass in November, unless the legislature puts a funding mechanism in, we will not have any other source of funding other than 100 percent voter approval.

Debbie Ossiander asked Mr. Amsden if he has put together a cost for submitting all of these projects. Ray Amsden responded that it is approximately between \$4,000 to \$6,000 for staff time.

Debbie Ossiander asked why we did not submit all of the projects that are on the CIP for the next three years. Chester Valley, Eagle River High School and the new ABC school were not on this list. Carol Comeau commented that Chester Valley did appear on the list. Mr. Amsden responded that their goal was to put projects forward that they knew enough about and had a good cost estimate. He did not feel it was appropriate to go forward with projects that are ill-defined at this time. Muldoon Middle School was also not included on this list. Ms. Ossiander further questioned why Chugach Optional was included when we have not completed the concept design. Mr. Amsden responded that the Administration has a very good handle on Chugach and what the costs will be.

John Steiner commented that the discussion on estimated costs of projects that aren't schematically designed is very frustrating to him. Mr. Steiner mentioned that it has been stated in the past that you could not develop an estimate on the Eagle River High School until it has not gone to schematic design. Both Polaris and Chugach Optional, as well as dozens of other projects that only state "there is a need." There has been no cost estimates done on these projects, yet they are on the list. Mr. Steiner stated that the suggestion that Eagle River High School could not be on the list because no one was able to obtain a good cost estimate is not acceptable. Mr. Steiner feels that the reason that the Administration did not have a good cost estimate is because they chose not to make one.

Ms. Comeau stated that she trusts the Facilities staff to have brought forward, in this recommendation, the best information they had and felt they could stand behind. She commented that they have been burned in the past when they did some estimating and did not have enough information. Ms. Comeau absolutely believes the Facilities Department has brought forward reasonable and accurate costs for the projects that have been defined. She noted that the Board certainly has the right to modify the Administration's recommendation based on whatever information they want to bring forward.

Ms. Ossiander asked about the Whaley School. Ray Amsden responded that there was planning money for Whaley that would be available in the fall.

Ms. Ossiander asked the Administration if the reason that Whaley, Muldoon Middle School, and the Eagle River High School were not included is due to the Administration not having accurate cost estimates. Ray Amsden responded that this was an accurate statement.

Carol Comeau commented that once we have completed the purchase of the Muldoon site, we will know what it is going to cost. We also need to know what the Municipality's contribution will be for this site.

Debbie Ossiander stated that it is easier to understand why the Muldoon Middle School and the new ABC school were not brought forward, but thinks that the Administration should put forward all projects. Carol Comeau explained that the Department of Education and Early Development takes our totals, builds their list, and then goes through a prioritization process.

Rita Holthouse commented that there is a lot of discussion on this memorandum that she views as fairly performative. The District has not received any money for construction or capital through this process for decades. She understands why we are doing it, but we don't need to delve into this as much as we should on a bond proposal or the CIP document. Most likely, we will not get any of these projects funded. Wendler is the only one that is on the GO bonds.

Debbie Ossiander commented that she also knows that we have very little hope of getting anything, but understands that it is important to give the state the best picture of our needs. She feels that the memorandum that goes to the state should reflect the entire needs of the District.

Tim Steele asked if this is anticipated to be an annual submission. Carol Comeau responded yes, it is done every year.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander	to add both Whaley and Eagle River
seconded by John Steiner	High School to the submittal list to the
	Department of Education.

Carol Comeau asked Mr. Amsden if he has a reasonably accurate dollar amount for these two projects. Ray Amsden responded that the Eagle River High School is currently being designed. Their schedule is to get a cost estimate finalized in time for a bond next spring. They could put a number on the Eagle River High School; Whaley is one that they could

not put an accurate figure on. Review needs to be completed on whether the District wants to renovate the existing facility or build a new building.

Carol Comeau suggested that if the Board wants to add Eagle River High School to the list, the Administration could probably come up with a fairly accurate figure. Whaley is one that needs to be reviewed in great depth before a decision is made. Ms. Comeau encouraged the Board to go only with the new Eagle River High School and not include Whaley at this time.

MOTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander                    to divide the question.  
seconded by John Steiner

John Steiner called for a point of order as it was not clear to him based on the Superintendent's comments that the Board has a concern about Whaley going forward. He wonders if we need to divide the question or just withdraw that part of the amendment.

Debbie Ossiander responded that according to Roberts Rules of Order, it is easier to deal with it if you divide the question. Once it has been on the floor, it is harder to move it back.

The Board unanimously agreed to divide the question.

John Steiner asked if it is possible to asterisk the number and state that the number is a preliminary figure based on concept design only so as not to appear that we are stating something inaccurate to the state or the public. Ray Amsden stated that this has never been done, and is uncertain if it is possible.

John Steiner stated that it is important to put the Eagle River High School on the list. To get state money, you must have stated the package correctly. Many times, the state takes a percentage of the total package and funds accordingly.

Rita Holthouse asked for a reaction, advice, or recommendation from the Superintendent. Carol Comeau stated that she supports the Eagle River High School and intends to bring a recommendation forward in December. Her only concern is the number and its inaccuracy, but has no objection to adding it to the list.

MOTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander  
seconded by John Steiner

to add the Eagle River High School to  
the transmittal list to the Department of  
Education.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalfe, Steiner, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Drummond

MOTION PASSED

MOTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander  
seconded by John Steiner

to add the Whaley School to the  
transmittal list to the Department of  
Education.

VOTE:

Ayes: None

Nays: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalfe, Steiner, Holthouse

Absent: Drummond

MOTION FAILED

Carol Comeau announced that by adding the new Eagle River High School to the memorandum, the dollar figure will change on the memorandum that will be sent to the Department of Education and Early Development. This document is due in Juneau by September 1, 2002.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION

Ayes: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalfe, Steiner, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Drummond

MAIN MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED

ASD Memorandum #20 – Revision to School Board Policy Section 173.3:  
Student Advisory Board (First Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on First Reading, the proposed revisions to School Board Policy 173.2: Student Advisory Board.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander                      to approve ASD Memorandum #20.  
seconded by Mary Marks

John Steiner noted that he reviewed the School Board Policy sections affecting both the MECC and Military representative and noted that these sections are different from the Student Advisory Board representative information. He suggested that the Board make these three designations parallel and identify the primary function of the Student Advisory Board representative.

Carol Comeau asked if this was discussed at the Policy Subcommittee meeting. John Steiner responded no, all three sections were not reviewed by the subcommittee, but it seems appropriate to make these three sections all consistent. Jake Metcalfe commented that he believes the intent is basically what had been discussed at the Policy Subcommittee meeting.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by John Steiner                      to amend the main motion and add to  
seconded by Debbie Ossiander                      Section 173.2 - b (after the first  
sentence). The student representative shall serve at the pleasure of the School Board. The student representative shall advise and assist the School Board in matters relating to students of the District and shall act as a liaison between the School Board and the Student Advisory Board.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

Ayes: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalfe, Steiner, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Drummond

ADMENDMENT TO THE MAIN MOTION PASSED

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

Ayes: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalfe, Steiner, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Drummond

MAIN MOTION PASSED



include more groups. Carol Comeau responded that we have asked many different advisory groups for input, advertised in local newspapers and on the ASD web site, and MECC members talked with many different constituencies. MECC also developed a brochure this past year and has used it to reach out into the community.

Jake Metcalfe believes that MECC represents a wide variety of cultural groups. Outreach was their major goal last year and they did an outstanding job of getting out to their schools and communities. They are a very active committee.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalfe, Steiner, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Drummond

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #4 – Acceptance of Continuation of Grant Award:  
GEAR UP

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept the continuation of grant funds from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$50,000 for the fourth year of a five-year project. This state and federal initiative supports partnerships that enable educationally disadvantaged youth to achieve academically and to prepare for successful enrollment in a four-year college.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander           to approve Memorandum #4.  
seconded by Mary Marks

Knowing that this is one of the School Board goals, Debbie Ossiander called the Board's attention to the second paragraph under pertinent facts, which states the primary goal is to increase the number of students enrolling and succeeding in pre-algebra and algebra. She asked the Administration how have we done so far and what is our success rate since this is our fourth year with this grant.

Gail Opalinski responded that one of the main focuses in the GEAR-UP grant is to allow students, who were not necessarily recommended for pre-algebra or algebra classes at Clark Middle School, to get the

additional help during the summer and the school year with tutors in these math classes. Last year 48 students (24 in pre-algebra and 24 in algebra) were successful and moved on to the next level. More classes will be offered next year. Before this grant, very few students were recommended for pre-algebra and algebra classes. Over 300 students have received services through this grant.

Debbie Ossiander asked Ms. Opalinski to explain what she meant when she said that the students were successful—does she know how many students went on to take more additional math classes. Gail Opalinski responded that she did not have this information. Ms. Ossiander asked if there has been any discussion on expanding this program to Wendler or Romig. Carol Comeau asked Ms. Opalinski if this program is restricted. Gail Opalinski responded that the grant is restricted to Clark due to it being the only Title I middle school. Ms. Opalinski commented that getting enough reliable tutors has been a concern. Carol Comeau stated that Learning Opportunity Grant money could be used for this purpose, but it continues to remain a critical issue to find part-time tutors with appropriate skill levels to help in the classroom.

Debbie Ossiander commented that peer tutoring is available at Chugiak High School to help students who are struggling in their math homework. It has been very successful.

Debbie Ossiander commented that if we could identify funds for Algebra II and Calculus classes at Bartlett or West, upper level students could go out to the feeder schools after school and help students who are struggling. She would like to see more students being helped to move on with this pivotal skill. Carol Comeau stated that this was a good suggestion and the West/Romig idea might be a good match. The Administration will look into this suggestion.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalfe, Steiner, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Drummond

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #6 – 2002 Charitable Giving Campaign

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the inclusion of United Way of Anchorage and Alaska Community Share



ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to approve Memorandum #8.  
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Barry Stein-Kruger stated that he is representing the Community Assembly from Chugach Optional as well as the Design Committee. This committee feels they are the only school in the District who wants to remain without walls. They thought they had a pretty good design and then met with their neighbors to review their concerns. Additional meetings were held to address those concerns and to come up with solutions. They are an optional school with a small building on a small site. Mr. Stein-Kruger encouraged the Board to approve the concept design. He has been at the school for 11 years and has seen work rooms removed and turned into instructional rooms. The school has gone to a full-day kindergarten program this past year so the school is only taking half the number of students than in past years. The rest of the students are being picked up for the next year in first grade.

Carol Comeau thanked Mr. Stein-Kruger publicly for chairing the School Bond Yes Campaign. She noted that the community at Chugach has spent months working through the issues with their neighbors. Ms. Comeau commended all the people involved in this process. It is also her understanding that the South Addition Community Council supported the conceptual design at their June 27, 2002 meeting.

Tim Steele noted that one the major concerns was the traffic on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in terms of drop-off and pick-up, parking, etc. To date, he has not seen any changes that were made to satisfy the community. Mr. Stein-Kruger mentioned that this is still an issue that has been discussed three times, but a solution has yet to be developed. This will be addressed in the schematic design phase.

Rita Holthouse asked if the open concept plan has come through unscathed. Mr. Stein-Kruger responded yes that this was an important issue for staff and parents. Ms. Holthouse asked what it means that the open concept plan will be reorganized to accommodate these improvements. Ray Amsden stated that the library has been moved from the central part of the building to the end and the administrative area has also been moved.

John Steiner asked what the level of demand is on the wait list for kindergarten compared to available space. Sharon Meacham commented

that she has 22 kindergarten students coming in this year, which is half of what they would ideally like. They currently have 102 applicants for kindergarten and more may apply during the August lottery. One hundred and two students is the highest number of students she has seen since she came to the building. Mr. Steiner wants to document that there is a high demand for this type of program at Chugach. Carol Comeau commented that this was the reason that Polaris K-12 was developed. Prior to Polaris being developed, there were over 1,300 students on wait lists to get into open optional programs.

Debbie Ossiander commends the Administration for working with the community. She is grateful and appreciative of their hard work. When she reviewed the floor plan, she noticed curved walls and asked how curved walls could be built in a cost effective manner when they are generally more expensive. Michael Carlson, Architect, replied that in this particular situation, curved walls were a response to outside forces, primarily due to the small size of the site and addressing some of the community issues. This is a very flat curve, which is less costly than a tight curve. The architect took pictures from different areas and because of the views, they created the curves. Neighbors' concerns were taken into consideration as well as program need.

John Steiner would like to get some idea of the cost differences between going from square to some wide angles and if it doesn't make much difference in cost, it would be helpful to know that. Mr. Steiner would like this information included when the Administration returns to the Board with the schematic design.

Rita Holthouse asked how major was the issue of the shape of the library to the community. Mr. Carlson commented that it was a very major issue and they spent one quarter of their time in the meetings discussing the shape of the library.

Mr. Steiner inquired what problems they may foresee with the uneven floors. Mr. Carlson responded that by leveling the floor, all the classroom space will be on level, which will be more convenient and produce less safety issues as well as bring the school in compliance with ADA requirements. In terms of construction, it is a simple fix and will not be complicated. The contractor may have to add ramps or grade-up and slope some outside areas.

Tim Steele asked if the school would be gaining one kindergarten classroom or two classrooms. Mr. Carlson stated that they would be gaining one kindergarten classroom and one art room.

Debbie Ossiander asked if there would be a problem to include the cost information Mr. Steiner requested in the schematic design discussion. Carol Comeau stated that this information would be available for discussion when the schematic design is brought back to the Board.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Marks, Steele,  
Metcalf, Steiner, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Drumond

MOTION PASSED

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. ASD Memorandum #11 – Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of June 12, through July 31, 2002.

Carol Comeau stated that she holds a staff meeting each week to discuss construction issues. She feels we are in great shape for the beginning of school on September 3.

Debbie Ossiander asked if a tour could be arranged for the Board to tour the new Dimond High School. Tim Steele asked if the Board could look at all of the high school construction. Carol Comeau stated that she would work on getting a tour scheduled for the School Board.

Debbie Ossiander commented that she has received three calls from individuals who are concerned over the parking situation at Chugiak High School.

2. ASD Memorandum #12 – Russian Jack Elementary Replacement School One Percent For Art

Chapter 7.40 of the Anchorage Municipal Code defines the process for selection and acquisition of art to be displayed in public places, including public school buildings. This code authorizes the

Municipality to select the artist and the artwork, with a review of the proposed artwork by the School District only as to its safety and maintenance factors. The artwork has been reviewed and approved by the District's Risk Management Department. The artists have agreed to their safety recommendations.

The jury established for the Russian Jack Elementary Replacement School has chosen artists to create artwork for the school. The artwork consists of the following:

Artist: Maggie Bates, Anchorage, AK  
 Location: Interior main office wall  
 Artwork: Autumn Respite  
 Description: Large 48" high x 115" wide hand-dyed, quilt. Located in an area that is very public and receives no natural light.  
 Budget: \$3,850.00  
 Account Code 34521-5430

Artist: Maggie Bates and Rebecca Lyons, Anchorage, AK  
 Location: Interior Office Wall  
 Artwork: Loon Dance  
 Description: Carved wood and copper wall mounted sculpture  
 Budget: \$3,550.00  
 Account Code 34521-5430

Artist: Mark Wedekind, Anchorage, AK  
 Location: Interior office wall  
 Artwork: Wood wall table  
 Description: Hand built wood wall table 36" high x 4' wide x 18" deep directly under sculpture to help create a space in the office that is calm and comfortable. To put parents and students at ease.  
 Budget: \$1,775.00  
 Account Code 34521-5430

Due to changes in the teaching staff, the community and commission members, the jury for Russian Jack Elementary

Replacement School has evolved and now includes the architect Bill Tatom for Porath Tatom Architects; the Principal Karen Shaw; teacher Lisa Pullen; Public Art committee member and artist, Carol Bryner; John Reeder from the Historical and Fine Arts Commission and Sherri Weiler representing the Arts Advisory Commission.

In accordance with the 1% for Art ordinance, the School Board may file an objection to this selection with the Public Art Committee by August 13, 2002 based upon technical reasons of safety or maintenance.

Rita Holthouse expressed a concern with the wooden table and how far it will stick out from the wall. Carol Comeau will speak to Jocelyn Young about this concern.

3. ASD Memorandum #13 – Fourth Quarter and End of 2001-2002 School Year Suspension/Weapons/Expulsion Report

Information regarding suspensions and expulsions for various offenses, including weapons, is collected from the elementary, middle, and high schools each quarter. This information, as well as year-end summaries by school and category for each Instructional Division level for the 2001-2002 school year, is shown in the narrative information below and in Attachments A - L.

In accordance with the School Board's adopted goal to "Establish a supportive learning environment by providing safe and caring schools which are barrier free, by promoting health and wellness, and by collaborating with other community agencies where appropriate," all efforts were focused to provide safe and healthy schools. This goal has been supported by the employees at each school as well as by the students and their parents and the business and general community. Again this year, the Anchorage Police Department was extremely supportive in its assistance to the schools. The attached discipline/suspension reports from the elementary, middle, and high schools show the statistics for the fourth quarter and the recently completed school year and the schools' efforts to address this important goal.

Carol Comeau commented that the suspensions are up from last year in the drug/alcohol and serious fighting categories. She is concerned with this and will be working with the schools. The

reason the suspensions are up could be a result of additional staff being assigned to the schools.

Patricia McRae stated that suspensions were down in the elementary division. The elementary staff is committed to making schools safer by working on proactive interactions to prevent things from happening.

Gail Opalinski stated that middle schools experienced an increase in suspensions. She attributes this to additional staff being in the schools and the fact that two middle school principals were out ill during the year. When new people take over, suspensions increase. She also is concerned with the reaction of students to the September 11 terrorism acts. Ms. Opalinski further explained that a large number of the suspensions were short-term. Expulsion rates did not increase except in the drug/alcohol category. Ms. Opalinski thanked the Superintendent and the Police Department for their help during the third quarter when the schools reported seeing an increase in the use of ecstasy by middle school students. Middle school staff will continue to work in the drug/alcohol area.

Mike Henry reported that there was a big push to reach out to the surrounding areas to help stop problems that may escalate at school. He feels more students have been caught and this is the reason the suspension numbers have increased. Mr. Henry stated that it is not their goal to catch students; their goal is to get the students to look at changing their behavior. They will continue to work on the drug/alcohol issues.

Debbie Ossiander commented that what stood out to her on the report was the increase of fighting and threats. She understands that the problem at the mid level was possibly due to the "emotional climate," but asked Mr. Henry if he knew the reason for the increase at the high school level. Mr. Henry responded that he did not think the numbers were significant. For instance, there was one fight that took place at one of the high schools last year where 15 students were suspended for one incident. Mr. Henry feels the discipline at the high school level is very tight.

John Steiner mentioned that on the statistics, it would be helpful to have a fourth year comparison because it is hard for him to tell what year seems to be an aberration and whether we are seeing a trend or whether one of those prior years is an aberration. He is

also wondering, because of the tenor of what we are discussing, what is the attitude and sense in the community and whether we have a problem, or what is causing some of these changes. Mr. Steiner is also wondering if in the process of preparing this information, could the Board have a discussion with the counseling department or the school psychologists as to whether there is a sense, not just from a disciplinary statistical basis, but any conclusions we should be drawing from this information. Mr. Steiner would like to know what it is or if it could be added to this report.

Carol Comeau commented that several work session topics that will be discussed at the School Board retreat on August 13, 2002 include some proactive issues in dealing with discipline in general. She further commented that this report takes hours to prepare. Ms. Comeau encouraged Board members to visit schools and find out what proactive measures each school is taking.

John Steiner commented that he doesn't want a real detailed discussion, but someone from a departmental chair level that could review this and indicate if we should be paying particular attention to any one thing.

Rita Holthouse informed the Board that she wanted to discuss causality on the expulsions. She noted that according to the report, there were five serious behavior issues to be considered for expulsion at the middle level and ten at the high school level that did not reach the Board due to findings of causality. Ms. Holthouse asked the Superintendent if someone could speak to this issue.

Jerry Sjolander stated that within ten days when a student is removed for a serious offense, if the suspension or recommendation for expulsion is going to exceed ten days removal from school or if there have been accumulative suspensions of more than 10 days, then a manifestation determination review must be conducted by the IEP Team. The IEP team is made up of at least four participants and in most cases when a manifestation determination meeting is convened, it is probably six, eight, or ten people in the school who are familiar with the student. There must be a regular education teacher, special education teacher, parent, and a District representative. There is usually more than one

special education and regular education teacher included in the meeting.

The IEP team must consider the child's current IEP and supplementary services, any evaluations and diagnostic results that are available, any observations across educational and activity settings, and any events immediately preceding the occurrence of the behavior. Also, they need to consider the extent to which the student's disability impaired his/her awareness and understanding of the impact and consequences of the behavior.

At the end of that meeting, the team must consider if the child's IEP and placement were appropriate; if the educational services, supplementary aids and services, and behavior intervention strategies were provided consistent with the child's IEP and placement; if the child's disability impaired the ability of the child to understand the consequences of the behavior subject to disciplinary action; and if the child's disability impaired the ability of the child to control the behavior subject to disciplinary action.

After the team deliberates, the result is frequently referred to as whether they found causality. They make a decision as to whether the behavior was related to the student's disability or not. If causality is found, the team typically agrees to review the IEP and considers an interim alternative setting for the student. Mr. Sjolander reviewed the findings on the students in this current report and all of the students were removed to an interim alternative setting. For some students, that was McLaughlin and for others, it was Outreach or Whaley.

Mr. Sjolander noted that Ms. Holthouse asked earlier if anyone could overrule the committee's decision. Mr. Sjolander commented that the decision could be overruled by a hearing officer. To date, there has not been a situation where this has been done. The District has the ability to request, through an expedited hearing or the court system, to have a hearing officer order the removal of a child for up to 45 calendar days if keeping the child in his or her current placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or others.

Rita Holthouse reminded the Board that this process is not available to all students in our schools. It is available only to the students who are in the special education program. It creates an

extreme example of a dual discipline system. Ms. Holthouse is not criticizing the District; this is a federal law. She is very concerned about this and is not sure the public is aware of this federal law. The make-up of the committee concerns Ms. Holthouse because it allows a parent to participate in the decision of whether or not their child should be expelled. Parents have no input for the rest of the students who are recommended for expulsion. Ms. Holthouse asked if the executive directors at elementary, middle, and high school know they can appeal a finding of causality. Mr. Sjolander responded that if an executive director disagrees, they could come to him for review and request a due process hearing.

Mr. Sjolander also noted that there is nothing in IDEA to prohibit the District from reporting a crime committed by a child with a disability to appropriate authorities. IDEA 97 does not prevent state law enforcement or judicial authorities from exercising their responsibilities with regard to the application of federal and state law, to crimes committed by a child with a disability.

Rita Holthouse commented that she is extremely concerned over students that are not expelled who assault staff members. She understands emotional disturbance, but when it is a learning disability, she has a hard time accepting the committee's decision that because a student has difficulty in written composition, that student cannot be expelled for assaulting a staff member.

Debbie Ossiander shares Ms. Holthouse's concerns and wants to stress that her understanding is that even if the students have been removed from their setting, they are removed for only a temporary period of time and then they are returned. The dual discipline system is a priority issue for the National School Board Association and is being brought forward to Congress with the reauthorization of IDEA. Carol Comeau commented that this is something the School Board legislative subcommittee needs to address and possibly write a statement that can be transmitted to our congressional delegation.

John Steiner asked if there is a set criteria for determining causality when talking about the four items that are the manifestation determination. Jerry Sjolander stated that a finding of any one of the four items could determine causality. Mr. Steiner asked if the standard was the same with regard to expelling a student with a

learning disability or an emotional disturbance. Mr. Sjolander responded yes.

Mr. Steiner asked if a student is found to have causality, can he be expelled. Both Mr. Sjolander and Ms. Comeau responded that the student couldn't be expelled unless the District files for a due process hearing. Mr. Steiner asked if one of these students were found criminally responsible, would they then be removed from our standard schools. Mr. Sjolander responded that it could happen. The District must provide services for the student whether or not the District has moved to expel. If the student is not expelled, the District needs to review their program and determine what services are required. If the student is expelled, we do have less of an obligation to the level of services we have to provide to the student. Regardless of the action taken, the student has the protection of continued services.

Mr. Steiner is concerned over students who may be hazardous to other students but are required by federal law to stay among the student population.

Tim Steele agrees with all the speakers on this particular issue; the fairness issue is major and will be talked about nationally. The drug/alcohol issue worries him substantially. The District continues to expel and withdraw services from students without providing an alternative program. If the grant does not come through this year, the Board needs to seriously look at what we can do in Anchorage to provide services for these students. If the student has parents that are active and find other programs for their kids to continue their education during their expulsion, the kids do well. Kids drop out when parents don't help.

Rita Holthouse commented that it is very hard to understand when you have two students who bring a gun to school; one is expelled and one is not. This is hard for teachers, parents, and students to understand, and ultimately becomes a fairness and safety issue. She understands that this is a federal law. Ms. Holthouse stated that the less able a student is to control his/her aggressive behavior, the sooner that student will be back in the mainstream with our staff and other students. She suggested that the District try to increase public awareness about this issue. Ms. Holthouse asked to be assured that the directors and executive directors and possibly the assistant superintendent or the superintendent will

review these findings of causality. She would like at least two levels of supervision to review the findings. Ms. Holthouse stated that it seems impossible to her that a group of people can create a potential unsafe situation in our schools and absolutely no one on the Board or Superintendent can overrule the decision.

Carol Comeau responded that if a determination of causality were found at the middle level, Gail Opalinski would review the findings with Mr. Sjolander and the principal at the respective school to discuss alternative placement. Ms. Comeau stated that she would have no objection to reviewing the findings of causality. The Assistant Superintendent and Ms. Comeau will discuss procedures.

Rita Holthouse commented that although she understands that this is a federal law, she feels it is also a liability issue. If a student is placed back into our regular program after he/she has demonstrated a dangerous behavior and the District has not taken advantage of all of the reviews, the District may be found liable.

Rita Holthouse noted that she appreciated the patience of the Board while discussing this issue. She complimented Jerry Sjolander and his staff for adhering to the law. She would like to add one more level to the review process.

Jake Metcalfe commented that this was a big issue in Washington, D.C. at the Council of Great City Schools Conference. Both he and Larry Wiget talked about it to the congressional delegation and it was brought up at the meeting. As a Legislative Committee, the Board needs to sit down and determine where our problems are and prioritize our recommended changes before setting it out for our delegation. Parents and advocates of disabled students also need to be brought in to discuss their concerns. We need to keep pressure on the delegation to change the laws.

Rita Holthouse stated there is a lot of interest in the community on what is happening with the students who committed the vandalism at the maintenance facility. She asked if there was anything that could be legally reported to explain the discipline of the students. Carol Comeau responded that she cannot give specifics out publicly, but the Administration is aggressively going after restitution to the limit they can, which is \$10,000 per incident from

both students. The District has been working very closely with the juvenile authorities, police department, and the court system.

4. ASD Memorandum #14 – Status Report: Submission of Discretionary Grants, Third and Fourth Quarters 2001-2002 School Year

The purpose of this report is to inform the School Board on a quarterly basis of new grants that have been submitted for funding.

Anchorage School District and Anchorage Police Department Partnership Grant; to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development's Governor's Grants for Drug and Violence Prevention, for \$39,752 for a twelve-month project. Superintendent's Office; Mountain View, Tyson, Williwaw, and Wonder Park elementary schools; and Clark Middle School. This project is a partnership between the Anchorage School District and the Anchorage Police Department (APD) to implement research-based prevention strategies for drug/alcohol/tobacco abuse and violent behavior. APD Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) officers and APD Canine Unit officers and police dogs will partner with the schools to deliver classroom-based prevention curricula. This project has been funded.

NEA Innovation Grant; to the Foundation for the Improvement of Education, for \$1,750 for a nine-month project. Wonder Park Elementary: Sixth grade students at Wonder Park Elementary will participate in a "exchange" service learning project with seniors from a local senior citizen center.

Baxter Business Buddies or the "BX" Team; to Xerox Alaska, for \$1,500 for a three-month project. Baxter Elementary: A school business partnership between Baxter Elementary School and Xerox Alaska establishes a lunchtime "Baxter Business Buddy" club for Baxter students to learn from Xerox employees about hobbies, sports, or other enrichments. This project has been funded.

New Faces; to the Cyrus M. Quigley Foundation, for \$2,000 for a three-month project. Susitna Elementary: To support a native mask-making project with ten at-risk students.

Anchorage Smaller Learning Communities Implementation Grant; to the U.S. Department of Education, for \$2,473,876 for a three-year project. Bartlett, Chugiak, Dimond, East, Service, and West high schools: To restructure for smaller learning communities that can ensure, for all students, academic success and a strong foundation for post-secondary life. The objectives address reading, writing, and math proficiency, failure and drop-out rates, enrollments in Advanced Placement, suspensions and expulsions, school climate, and curriculum and instruction. This project has been funded.

Alaska Science and Technology Foundation Direct Grants To Teachers; to the Alaska Science and Technology Foundation, for up to \$5,000 each for one-year projects. Nine projects were submitted and five have been funded. They are: *The Valley of the Moon Plant Research*, Central Middle School of Science; *Romig After-School Robotics Club*, Romig Middle School; *Westchester Lagoon Environmental Monitoring*, West High School; *Mission to Mars*, Kasuun Elementary; and *After School Technology Club*, West High School.

RARE-T Project; an HIV/AIDS Prevention Project, to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, for \$18,000 for a one-year project. ASD Health/Physical Education Program in Curriculum and Evaluation: Continues the RARE-T peer education program. This project has been funded.

Reading Excellence Act Local Reading Improvement Sub-Grants, to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. Three ASD elementary schools were eligible and applied to this competition: Mountain View, Fairview, and Tyson.

Fairview, for \$279,916 for two years: To research and select a core and supplemental reading program that meets the requirements of the Reading Excellence Act. The Family Literacy component of this project will be provided by Nine Star Enterprises Incorporated. This project has been funded.

Mountain View, for \$265,485 for two years: To supplement the SRA Reading Mastery Program through the Wright Group Supplemental materials and promote family literacy through the Impact Family Literacy Program (Even Start)/Anchorage Literacy Project and Child Care Connection. Nine Star Enterprises will provide instruction in adult basic education and English proficiency. This project has been funded at \$241,043.

Tyson, for \$331,519 for two years: To expand the Success For All reading program into the neighborhood Head Start and daycares, and to promote family literacy and parent involvement through ESL classes onsite. This project has been funded at \$273,916.

Statewide WIA School Youth Program; to the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, for \$60,600 for a three-month summer project. Alternative Career Education (ACE) Program: To provide vocational assessment, pre-employment skills, and occupational skills training for youth in the ACE/Adult Community Transition/Community Based Vocational Services Programs. This project has been funded.

Alaska Early Intervention Hearing Resource; to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, for \$174,104 for a one-year project. Alaska Early Intervention Hearing Resource Program, Alaska State School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: To renew a grant for services for Alaskan families and their children ages birth through two years.

2002-3003 Artists in Schools Grant; to the Alaska State Council on the Arts, Artists in the School Program, for \$2,100 for a four-week residency in February or early April of 2003. College Gate Elementary: To hire a local artist, Eddie Woods, to provide music instruction from cultures around the world. The project also involves school staff and local community members.

Youth-Directed Peer Education Media Initiative; to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Highway Safety Office, for \$96,115 for a one-year project. Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program: To expand the Youth-Directed Peer Education Media Initiative campaign to encompass print, television, and radio. The campaign theme will continue to address underage drinking and drunk driving during seasons that have high risk potential for youth. This is the third year of the project.

Wendler Middle School YouthServe Program; to the Alaska State Community Service Commission, for \$19,998 for a one-year project. Wendler Middle School: To continue for a third year to provide service learning projects.

Guiding Educators and Reaching Students (GEARS); to the National Science Foundation, for \$3,766,700 for a five-year project. ASD Science Department in Curriculum and Evaluation, in partnership with Fairbanks North Star Borough School District and the University of Alaska Fairbanks: To improve the performance of teachers and students through broad-scale professional development for science and math teachers in grades K-8 in Anchorage and Fairbanks; and to specifically reduce the science and math achievement gap for low-performing students in grades K-8.

Elementary School Foreign Language Incentive Program; to the U.S. Department of Education. ASD World Languages Department in Curriculum and Evaluation: To provide incentive awards to support the foreign language programs at Chugiak, Government Hill, and Sand Lake elementary schools. Amounts are based on the number of eligible students in a school.

Teaching American History Project; to the U.S. Department of Education, for \$722,053 for a three-year project. ASD Social Studies Program in Curriculum and Evaluation: To improve teachers' knowledge and understanding of American History through a three-year professional development initiative for elementary and high school grade levels where U.S. history is in the adopted curriculum. Major partners in this project are the ASD, University of Alaska Anchorage, and the Alaska Humanities Forum. A three-year series of institutes and colloquia will bring together a cohort of teacher leaders and scholars to examine content and pedagogy in light of the national history standards. This project is coincidental with and will contribute to the ASD elementary social studies curriculum adoption.

Physical Education for Progress (PEP); to the U.S. Department of Education, for \$389,485 for a one-year project. ASD Health/Physical Education Program in Curriculum and Evaluation: To support the delivery of the ASD adopted Physical Education curriculum. The project will provide a broad-based mentorship approach to teacher training; articulation of fitness, dance, and adventure education curriculum strands across grade levels; and fitness equipment.

Anchorage Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative; to the U.S. Department of Education for \$8,158,689 for a three-year project.

Instructional Division: To address problems of alcohol and drug use and violence that are manifested in our schools. The goals of this project address: a comprehensive community initiative for positive youth development in Anchorage; safe and drug-free schools; positive learning environments; and services for youth in grades 7-12 who are expelled or on long-term suspension.

Foundations for Reading Success; a continuing High Intensity Summer Reading Program project, to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development for \$219,372 for a one-year project. ASD Literacy Program in Curriculum and Evaluation: To provide intervention for struggling readers in 9th and 10th grade with a view to the Alaska High School Qualifying Exam. This program is part of ASD's high school summer school. This project has been funded at \$219,372.

#### Mini-grants

Middle School Girls Math Conference; to British Petroleum, for \$912 for a one-month project. Math Program in Curriculum and Evaluation: To fund refreshments and supplies for the full-day Middle School Girls Math Conference. This project has been funded at \$500.

#### Delta Kappa Mini Grants:

Chugiak High School: *Fun Faculty Book Grab to Promote Student Pleasure Reading*; funded at \$250.

College Gate Elementary: *Real People – Real Books: Books That Will Make A Difference*, submitted for \$250.

#### Alaska State Literacy Association Mini Grants:

College Gate Elementary: *Books Behind the Headlines*. Funded at \$150.

#### Partnership Grants

2002 ALPAR Youth Litter Patrol; to Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling, for \$4,000 for a four-month project. Gruening Community Schools: To support youth patrollers and their adult supervisors in clean up efforts in Eagle River. This project was funded for \$4,000.

COPS in Schools 2002; to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, for \$1, 625,00 for a three-

year project. Anchorage Police Department, in partnership with the Anchorage School District: To involve law enforcement in the effort for safe and drug-free schools. This project will provide a police substation staffed with two full-time police officers at each of the six large high schools; and will support programs to reduce truancy, drug and alcohol use, and bullying. The project includes traffic enforcement in school zones, enforcement of bus stop violations, smoking suppression tactics, and threat assessment. Notification of final award is pending.

Alaska Railroad Youth Summer Employment Program; Memorandum of Agreement between the Anchorage School District and the Alaska Railroad for \$18,000 for the summer of 2002. Supports supervised summer employment for youth through a partnership between the Alaska Railroad and Martin Luther King, Jr. Career Center.

Carol Comeau commented that the third and fourth quarter report show that we have been extraordinarily successful in receiving a number of large grants. The big one is the Smaller Learning Communities grant, which will help with the restructuring of the high schools. Ms. Comeau stated that she is very pleased with the work of our Grants Writer, Bev Thornberg, and all of the others for their work on all of the grants.

Ms. Comeau reported that the COPS and the Schools Grant are somewhat promising due to her recent conversation with Mayor George Wuerch.

5. ASD Memorandum #15 – School Business Partnership Report, 2001-2002

The Anchorage School Business Partnership program continues to grow and prosper. Since 1991, the Anchorage School District has enjoyed over 600 School Business Partnerships. Approximately 200 partnerships are active at any one time and 68 percent of schools in the Anchorage School District have at least one Partnership. In August 2001, Terrence Shanigan, a former Anchorage School District student, was hired to head the SBP program.

School Business Partnerships (SBP) represent all forms of positive collaborations between schools and businesses, including

mentorships, internships, on-the-job training, contextual experiences, experiential learning and in-kind donations. School Business Partners are both small and large. They range from the one-person business involved with a school to the large corporations involved with many schools and sometimes Districtwide.

In a continuing effort to provide information recognition, support and encouragement for both the business and the school involved in these programs, School Business Partnership prepared the Best Practices publication. To be involved in a successful Partnership program takes time, effort, commitment, caring, relationship building, understanding, and planning. The schools and businesses represented in this publication represent all of those characteristics. They have stretched themselves by stepping out of their comfort zone, taking on new challenges and risks that have created exponential growth and more effective pathways to positively contribute to the career and academic success of their students.

In 2001-2002, School Business Partnerships focused on measuring the quality and impact of each partnership. Setting realistic expectations and clear standards by which each partnership is measured is only the first step. They have refined the process for establishing partnerships, drafted long-term relationship agreements, stressed resource sharing between businesses and schools, implemented data collection and measurement tools and expanded the responsibilities of the Board of Directors.

We hope you enjoy this volume of “Best Practices – A measurement of success.” As you read through this booklet, think about next year’s publication and who might be represented.

Thanks for all that you do for the students in the Anchorage School District and know that through your efforts, we are working together to build bridges of understanding between the business community, establish positive working relationships, and create educational enhancement opportunities for our students.

Various items of interest are attached for your information.

Officers and SBP Board of Directors are listed below:

Chairman  
Barbara Stallone, FedEx

President  
Terrence Shanigan, SBP

Secretary  
Becky Walters, Wells Fargo

Treasurer  
Vilma Chavez, Northrim Bank

Terrence Shanigan gave a brief presentation on the School Business Partnerships and thanked the School Board for their support. Mr. Shanigan commented that he is looking at ways to improve data collection throughout the District, grow more partnerships in schools, and build more personal relationships.

Rita Holthouse commented that she served on the Board of Directors for several years and Terrence Shanigan adds a breath of fresh air to the organization. She appreciates him looking more in-depth to see that all schools have an active partnership.

Carol Comeau commended Mr. Shanigan for involving students in this organization. Ms. Comeau assured Mr. Shanigan that the Administration will work closely with the directors and stress the importance of the school business partnerships. Mr. Shanigan will provide Ms. Comeau with a list of schools that currently do not have a school business partnership. Mr. Shanigan also commented that he would like to offer training opportunities for principals.

Mr. Shanigan reminded the Board and the Administration about the School Business Partnership breakfast scheduled for Friday, August 23 at Central Middle School.

Tim Steele thanked Mr. Shanigan for coming before the Board with his report. Mr. Steele looks forward to his assignment on the School Business Partnership Board and feels there is a lot to do. He also mentioned that he hopes the schools that do not have a school business partnership would receive a personal invitation to the breakfast.

6. ASD Memorandum #16 – Operating Budget Transfers – June Monthly Report FY 2001-2002 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.

The schedule of monthly budget transfers processed for the month of June 2002 and 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.

Rita Holthouse asked about the robotic school bus. Carol Comeau responded by explaining that it is a talking school bus that is taken around to the elementary schools to teach bus safety. George Vakalis will bring “Little Yellow” to the next School Board meeting for a demonstration.

- I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
- J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS
- K. EXECUTIVE SESSION – (PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS/LITIGATION)
- L. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of August 12, 2002 was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

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Jake Metcalfe, President

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Mary Marks, Clerk

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Mary Kay Sambo, Recording Secretary

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Date Minutes Approved