

**MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 10, 2003**

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, March 10, 2003, at 6:45 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, Debbie Ossiander, Mary Marks, Tim Steele, John Steiner, Rita Holthouse, and Harriet Drummond.

Others Present: Carol Comeau, George Vakalis, Jan Christensen, Janet Stokesbary, Mike Henry, Jerry Sjolander, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Jerry Sjolander, Jeff Wood, Dale Cope, Pam Chenier, Ray Amsden, Stan Syta, Steve Kalmes, Todd Arndt, Mike Price, Corey Rennell, LTC. Mulcahy, Robin Siegfried, the press, and other interested people.

B. PRESENTATION

Musical Performance Alaska Junior Chamber Singers From Gruening And Mirror Lake Middle Schools.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Harriet Drummond commented that one of her most enjoyable experiences as a Board member has been attending the musical performances by our very talented students and staff as well as the emceeding of musical presentations. Ms. Drummond added that she highly recommends it to the new Board members.

Ms. Drummond announced the various candidate forums that will be held throughout Anchorage.

Debbie Ossiander announced that the Policy Sub-committee would be continuing discussions of the 400 section during the meeting on March 20, 2003. Ms. Drummond added that the Policy Sub-committee decided to postpone discussion about the alternative certificate of attendance until the principals' group came up with specific recommendations.

Carol Comeau announced the scheduled up-coming meetings.

Ms. Comeau also announced the memorial service for Linda Connelly, Principal at Fire Lake Elementary School, would be held Friday at the Steve Primis Auditorium at Chugiak High School.

On behalf of the School Board, Jake Metcalfe expressed sympathy for the families affected by the tragedies that occurred last week.

Rita Holthouse commented on the article in the Ear of the Daily News newspaper that mentioned Ms. Holthouse and the school bond propositions. Ms. Holthouse explained that most school bonds include numerous projects and Board members, like voters, may vary in their level of enthusiasm for the individual projects within those bonds. However, in the final analysis, when we look at any kind of bonds, we as individuals, voters and Board members including Ms. Holthouse, need to look at the total package that is being included in the bond before we decide whether to vote yes or no. Ms. Holthouse stated that she wanted it made very clear that she voted for all three of the school bond propositions. Ms. Holthouse added that, while in a work session with the Assembly, spoke in favor of all three of the school bond propositions, and added that she enthusiastically supports the three bond propositions and urges voters to do the same.

Mary Marks commented that last month the Cook Inlet Tribal Counsel and South Central Native Education participated together in a gathering that had a huge turnout for discussions on education. Ms. Marks felt that it was a very valuable time and looks forward to continuing her work with the executive directors as well as her community, in going forward in the educational process of our students.

Debbie Ossiander announced that the Association of Alaska School Boards is holding a phone conference update on legislative issues on March 20, 2003 at 12:00 p.m.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION:

Moved by John Steiner
seconded by Mary Marks

to approve the Agenda of the
Regular Meeting of March 10,
2003 as written.

The Agenda was unanimously approved.

E. AWARDS/RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

None

F. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory Board

Corey Rennell stated that on March 18th there will be a public hearing during the Assembly meeting, for adding a student position to the Anchorage Assembly. The Student Advisory Board is advocating for that position. Mr. Rennell thanked Assembly Members Whittle, Shamberg and Tesche for sponsoring that piece of legislation. The resolution is for a pilot program for having a student assembly member sit in the 12th seat on the Assembly.

2. Military Delegate

COL. Mulcahy stated that there was no report this evening.

3. MECC

There was no report this evening from the MECC.

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

Linda Sharp and students from Village Charter School demonstrated how children at Village Charter School learn to multiply.

Kathy Sue Justice and students from Village Charter School sang a geography song they have learned in Spanish.

Margo Tivall stated that she is in support of the Village Charter School. Ms. Sharp has been there for her since day one, and she stated that she would appreciate it if Village Charter School can get back on the docket.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. ASD Memorandum #200 - Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis And Recommendations: July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2009

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached Anchorage School District Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan for July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2009.

2. ASD Memorandum #198 - Award Of Contract: Benny Benson Secondary School Mechanical Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Benny Benson Secondary School Mechanical Upgrades to the low responsive bidder Mechanical Construction & Consulting, Inc. for the Base Bid and Control Upgrades Assignment for a total award amount of \$207,106.

3. ASD Memorandum #199 - Award Of Contract: Spring Hill Elementary School Roof Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a construction contract for Spring Hill Elementary School Roof Upgrades to the low responsive bidder, S R Bales Construction, Inc., for the Base Bid in the amount of \$167,600.

4. ASD Memorandum #187 - Transitional Technology Plan

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Instructional Technology Transitional Technology Plan.

5. ASD Memorandum #214 - Authorization To Increase 2002-2003 Food Service Budget

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve an increase of \$200,000 to the Food Service Fund and a decrease of \$200,000 to the Contingency. Since the overall budget revision will not exceed the approved upper limit of the budget, no approval from the Anchorage Assembly is required. The total revised budget for FY 2002-2003 will remain at the \$464,218,167 that includes the following individual funds:

General Fund	\$360,368,861
Food Service Fund	12,400,000
Debt Service Fund	51,038,651
Local/State-Federal Projects Fund	40,000,000
Contingency	<u>410,655</u>
Total All Funds	<u>\$464,218,167</u>

6. ASD Memorandum #207 - Personnel Report

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

The following Memorandums were unanimously removed from the Agenda: ASD Memoranda #200, and #187.

ACTION:

Moved by John Steiner to approve Memorandum #198;
seconded by Tim Steele Memorandum #199;
Memorandum #214; and
Memorandum #207

The motion was unanimously approved.

ASD Memorandum #200 - Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan Analysis
And Recommendations: July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2009

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached Anchorage School District Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan for July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2009.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #200
seconded by Tim Steele

Carol Comeau stated that the CIP has been reviewed extensively with the Capital Request Advisory Committee. The recommendations are the considered opinions of the staff of the Facilities, Demographics, Instruction, Instructional Technology and Maintenance departments who reviewed these items. Ms. Comeau introduced Ray Amsden and Ophelia Dargan-Steed in order to give a brief presentation to the Board.

Ray Amsden stated that he is pleased to present the CIP for 2003-2009. The Planning and Zoning Commission approved the CIP without changes. Individually, some members commented that they would like to meet with the School Board members regarding the topics of land use and site use. Mr. Amsden and Ms. Dargan-Steed highlighted some steps that were taken in order to bring it forward. The CIP was developed from input from the CRAC; it is founded on a 6-year detailed enrollment projection; it is based on input from maintenance staff and internal audits as it relates to our physical conditions. It reflects input from the educational staff and is based on prior 6-year CIP plans.

Ophelia Dargan-Steed informed the Board that we are seeing a fairly stable population. We are seeing a decreasing elementary enrollment,

although it seems to be leveling. We are projecting higher high school and middle school enrollments.

Ms. Dargan-Steed presented the graph that showed the growth experience in the past 25 years. Growth started to slow in the mid 1990's. There was the same type of trend in the Municipality's population growth also.

Ray Amsden mentioned that Municipal Charter states that the CIP must be presented to the Assembly of the Municipality 90 days prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Debbie Ossiander commented that she was expecting to see mention of the construction of the Southwest Anchorage Elementary School construction.

Mr. Amsden displayed the slides for the Table II that show the continued planning for or the design work and delivery of our school projects by high school attendance areas and priorities.

Regarding Ms. Ossiander's comment regarding the Southwest Anchorage Elementary School, Ray Amsden stated that the Sand Lake gravel pit area has not been developed yet so it is difficult to determine the need for the school at this time. Once a developer builds on that area it will present great growth. Step one is to acquire the site, and that is one of our high priorities. Speculation will be more likely sooner than later. However, Mr. Amsden added that we don't want to build a school if we are not ready for it.

Jake Metcalfe referred to Table 14 on Page 64. - Projected enrollment for the area of the Southwest Anchorage Elementary School. Mr. Metcalfe noticed that the projection is only 12 students higher and asked if we are considering the growth going on in that area. Ophelia Dargan-Steed stated that the growth is being considered and added that some of the older neighborhoods are starting to mature and are not producing the types of numbers done previously.

Carol Comeau added that a meeting was held with the South Anchorage principals. We need to look at those maturing areas. The principals agreed this is not the year to change the elementary boundaries. As an example, Rabbit Creek's attendance is quite low with Ocean View being quite high. Ms. Comeau stated that we are going to see if some balancing will help for a while and delay the need for construction.

Ms. Ossiander appreciated the explanation and added that, with the preamble of using figures as placeholders, there might be some value in arbitrarily stating possible construction in Southwest Anchorage.

John Steiner asked if the expectation is that the maturation would balance with the growth from new development. Ms. Dargan-Steed stated that she has no expectations for the Sand Lake Development since it has been delayed. Although, the developer said he would start as soon as he gets the go-ahead to build. However, we are looking at what is existing right now in that area. We did not look at the Sand Lake gravel pit specifically because there is no growth going on there currently. Ms. Comeau added that we know there will be development there but we do not know when and at what level at this time. As more information is available, we will bring forth an amendment changing the projections.

Debbie Ossiander commented that there had been talk of the Administration looking at potentially moving Whaley School. The CIP seems to show that we are looking at redesigning. Ms. Ossiander asked if that study had been done. Carol Comeau stated that in the study, we are looking at the current facility and making sure we know exactly what we think the program should be and then what the facility is. It could be an entirely new facility that is not in the same location. We haven't gotten that far in the study. Ray Amsden answered that one of the challenges at Whaley is that it is a unique program to the District. Most of our planning activities start with a benchmark of a standard Ed Spec. In this case, we really have nothing and we are now defining what it is we deliver and how we deliver it. The design is not definitive until we know what the program is and whether or not that facility can meet the needs.

Tim Steele commented on Table 13 - Special Services highlighted around 1200 students. Last year the number was 700. Mr. Steele asked what accounts for the 500 increase in projection for each year. Ophelia Dargan-Steed stated that we included the Level 3 students and the pre-elementary students in the Special Services number. In prior years the other number probably included the Level 3 students in with the grade levels rather than in Special Services.

Carol Comeau stated that we are seeing a change in the special education population. We are watching to see if the preschool population continues to grow. Jerry Sjolander stated that Whaley's enrollment has increased since the beginning of the year. Mr. Sjolander feels certain it is edging up to 185 - 190. Preschool is increasing significantly over the course of the year. We start off with about 51 percent of the preschool population over the beginning of the year. It doubles during the year.

Debbie Ossiander commented on Table 1. Ms. Ossiander mentioned that the plan was that we would have larger bonds for the next two years and then taper off. Year three is larger than year two. Ms. Ossiander asked for an explanation of the rationale. Ray Amsden explained that we have not made a deliberate adjustment with that thought in mind. We have shown the projects as we best think they should be delivered in the terms of sequencing and timing. However, it doesn't mean we couldn't move something forward to benefit from the Proposition C next year. Ms. Ossiander stated that she urges that we take advantage of that window of availability because it ends by the end of next year.

Ms. Comeau agreed and stated that we want to see if the bonds pass before we move the projects forward. Part of the reluctance is to see if the bonds are passed this spring.

Debbie Ossiander stated that her general understanding is that our general goal is to bring the CIP as close in line with bond propositions as possible. Ms. Ossiander also suggested that we try to spread the projects throughout the town and not focus in one area. Carol Comeau commented that we are open to looking at that and looking at what we believe are projects that can continue in a reasoned phased approach and be considerate of being able to finish the projects and keep them going.

Debbie Ossiander suggested reworking the CIP to reflect what the Administration believes would be doable draft to the CRAC for their thought in putting together a bond proposition. Ms. Ossiander stated that in the past the District has been attacked for not following the CIP when bringing forth bonds. Ms. Ossiander stated that she though the goal in the past has been to bring the CIP and bond proposals more in line. Mr. Metcalfe stated that if the bond proposals fail we will have to change the CIP. Ms. Ossiander stated her concern with the year three is \$122,000,000 and year two is \$112,000,000. Ms. Comeau stated that part of the problem has been the number of site selection studies we have to go through. If one goes better than another one, we might be ready to move one up. Ms. Comeau stated that there would not be a problem in taking the CIP to the CRAC and having them give tentative recommendations and discussing it earlier than in the past. Ms. Comeau stated that in the past couple of years the Assembly has been very supportive of our bonds. There has not been the same type of criticism of the bonds as in the past. They realize we have tried to adjust our CIP based on our enrollment changes and needs in different parts of town.

Tim Steele stated the he doesn't think we need to change the CIP, but he asked if the District would receive 70 percent reimbursement from the state for the ABC or Whaley School. Ms. Comeau stated that she would

suspect the District would receive 60 percent because they are not population based, they are alternative type schools. Whaley is a specific special schools program. Mr. Steele stated that if we bring anything forward it would probably be one of those two schools because that outlying year would not qualify for bonds and it would be 100 percent local. Ms. Comeau reiterated that we would not be ready for Whaley. We have a lot of work to do to assess what the facility needs to be for the program that is needed there.

John Steiner asked the implications of passing a bond proposition a year before we are ready for the school. Ray Amsden explained that we have an arbitrage issue if we sell the bonds too early before we can commit those funds. As a past history, we do not sell the bonds until we are ready in the foreseeable future to spend them. Janet Stokesbary explained that we don't have to sell the bonds because the voters authorized the bonds. It's based on cash flow needs. Ms. Stokesbary added that she believes the regulations read that we are supposed to start the project within a year after DEED approves it.

Debbie Ossiander commented that during the South Anchorage boundary discussion a suggestion of adding a wing to the new Dimond High School was mentioned. Ms. Ossiander asked if there is an administrative concern for moving away from 1600 student high schools. Carol Comeau explained that the Administration would like to make that issue a recommendation to the Board on an individual basis. Ms. Comeau added that, looking at the growth and the demographics in the Dimond area, she believes we should have recommended a 2000 student high school. Ms. Comeau stated that with the information that was available at the time the 1600-student school suggestion was the right thing to do. It is not the right thing to do based on where neighborhoods are placed in proximity to Dimond High School. Eventually, at some time, it will end up being a 2000-student high school. Ms. Comeau is not sure yet on the new South Anchorage Area High School. The SAAHS has the same potential even though the houses are more expensive. A 2000-student high school can be a good school. We will come forth with a recommendation at a later time. Ms. Comeau stated that she believes we need to take a look at what the smaller learning communities have been able to do. The goal has been to break down the impersonal feelings of larger high schools. If we can do that with smaller learning communities, a 2000-student high school can be a good personalized environment if it is built right with the houses and clusters, and teams approach that is happening in the new phasing. Ms. Comeau assured the Board that over the next few months, and certainly by the next CIP, the Administration would be coming forward with a recommendation and a more definitive answer on the recommendation, to the Board.

John Steiner commented that he was part of the community group that recommended 1600-student high schools. It was felt that the teachers didn't know the students, and the students didn't know the teachers. At the time, we didn't have the smaller learning communities. The houses of 400 students and the ability to become familiar with the teachers and the students is a new thing that may work well. It occurred to Mr. Steiner that going forward, we may have to look at whether or not "one size fits all" is realistic. It is difficult to do that when you have different densities of neighborhoods. It was a good idea in concept, but may not have been entirely practical. Mr. Steiner added that he is not ready to give up on the 1600-student concept, because he still believes that smaller schools give students more opportunities which otherwise may not exist with more students competing for slots in all the various activities. Mr. Steiner appreciates what the Superintendent said and agrees it is something we will need to look at.

Tim Steele added that before judgment, the Board should give the smaller learning communities adequate time to see how successful they will become. This question of adding to the new Dimond High School is not something we need to do right away and Mr. Steele hopes the Board would put off the discussion for a little while.

Debbie Ossiander applauds the Administration for the ongoing commitment to site selection and feels it is badly needed. Ms. Ossiander stated her concern for the ongoing cost of emergency preparedness on Page 21. George Vakalis explained that when the Administration initially briefed the Board they indicated that there was a short-term fix, which the Board supported. If in the future, we wanted to spend more money, since there is a lot more that can be done, we put this in as a placeholder. Once we get the current plan in place and we see that it doesn't make sense to go any further, then we can stop. At least this way it will not be a big surprise if we feel the need to go further.

Debbie Ossiander commented on the issue of capacity figures. Ms. Ossiander suggested dividing the number of classrooms by the number of students enrolled for the capacity figures. Tim Steele stated his concern with the "moving capacities." Mr. Steele stated that he wished we could add a column that was reflective of the realistic programmatic capacity of the schools. Carol Comeau commented that we can do that but would not be able to add it when sending proposals to DEED. Ms. Comeau stated that we could add a column that shows what we think is the ASD program capacity. However, it changes every year, and can change two to three times a year, depending on enrollment, or if a new program comes in we could end up changing the configuration of the

building. Ray Amsden added that the Facilities department met with the educational departments and asked what kind of information they would like to see in the CIP that would be helpful. For that reason, you see the total classroom counts, relocatable counts, and special program counts. If we were to compose another number, Mr. Amsden suggested the design capacity. As an example, Dimond High School, with the changes and recent revisions in the DEED's count, based on the numbers it is no longer a 1600-student school, but a little less than 1600. When renovating facilities we have a capacity in mind and maybe that should be the number that you use until you renovate again and you design it for a different capacity.

Carol Comeau commented that Table 24 gives the best information on what the school is using its space for. Tim Steele commented that we need a figure that more accurately reflects the program capacity. It needs to take into consideration some of the special programs that are showing up on the charts as 200 and 300 percent capacity.

Mary Marks commented on Table 24 - Page 109. Ms. Marks stated that it is astounding how staff is finding space. Ms. Marks stated the example of speech in the art room, and the psychologist in the nurse's office, and the lack of confidentiality. Carol Comeau explained that the program has changed so much over the years. The older schools were not built with those programs in mind. Ray Amsden commented that that is why we have asked for a program study next year. Mary Marks stressed the importance of the community being involved to express the need for our schools to accommodate all of our students' needs. Jake Metcalfe added that not only are we facing those program changes but huge budget cuts also. We need to urge people to support fully funded education.

Rita Holthouse asked the Superintendent if she agrees that the program capacity was the better one to use. Carol Comeau stated that she was gratified by the legislative action last spring when they added the 60 percent into the debt reimbursement. Ms. Comeau believes it is because we made a good argument that we needed flexibility. If we can keep that piece of legislation going, the programmatic capacity will be critical for us to use as part of our information out to the community and others.

Tim Steele noticed discrepancies of the figures on Pg. 104 regarding Denali Elementary. Ophelia Dargan-Steed stated that it looked like some of the numbers were from the old Denali Elementary building and some were from JFK. That will need to be changed in order to be consistent.

Rita Holthouse asked if all 2003-2004 items on the CIP are on the April Bond Propositions. Ray Amsden assured Ms. Holthouse that all 2003-2004 items are on the bonds.

Rita Holthouse stated that she plans to make an amendment to add planning money for a southwest elementary school to the next set of bonds and asked what the appropriate amount should be. Ray Amsden suggested \$50,000.

Rita Holthouse stated that during discussion on lotteries and alternative schools, one of the things the Administration suggested they might do is to expand the current ones or to add new ones. Ms. Holthouse asked if that would be possible to do a year from now. Carol Comeau stated that she would like to have a discussion with Patricia McRae, Mike Henry, Gail Opalinski, Jan Christensen and Jerry Sjolander and look at the current schools, either Title I or some other areas, and see if some of them might like to have a School Within a School as part of their program or converting to another program. If it was felt that we needed to build another facility, then we would need to bring it forward to the CIP through the Capital Request Advisory Committee. We need to talk to the principals and see what the interests are. There have been discussions with LCOL. Mulcahy regarding having an ABC school on Fort Richardson.

Rita Holthouse stated that as considerations go forward for a new ABC school she hopes discussions on lotteries can be worked in to the discussions of site selection of that new school. The Superintendent agreed.

Ms. Holthouse read the statements regarding the fact that the birthrates are going down and there is maturation. Ms. Holthouse asked if that is true across the District. Ophelia Dargan-Steed stated that we don't have numbers by neighborhoods, but yes, it is for the most part, across the District. Carol Comeau added that we often get information on maturing neighborhoods from the principals. Ms. Holthouse noticed the projected drop in east, west, and northeast. Yet, she heard it is a very dense population. People move in with young families and then on. Ms. Holthouse asked what were the factors that lead to those decreases. Ophelia Dargan-Steed stated that the reduced birthrates and reduced number of kindergarten students were the factors used to determine what those projected numbers would be. Ms. Dargan-Steed added that she looked at what has transpired historically and projected what the kindergarten numbers would be. She also looked at what proportion of kindergarten students have historically been at a particular school in order to build a base to make the projections on. We try to look at individual

schools and what has been taking place historically and try to adjust for even small amounts of growth. But, when we were looking at an overall picture it was a little less than the 50,222 that we ended up with. The reason we were somewhat higher is because of the increased new level three evaluations that Jerry Sjolander had indicated. In trying to arrive at that number, we tried to look at each school in the various areas that they were in and try to boost those numbers as much as possible and then try to stay within the allotted 50,222 students. We did try to account for growth in particular areas but the overall numbers for elementary students are going down. Unfortunately those declines are going to be seen in these particular schools and those are some of the schools right now where those decreases are showing up. Ms. Holthouse stated her concern that there is one area in which the enrollments have been going down that are now projected to increase by a couple hundred - the Chugiak/Eagle River area. Carol Comeau commented on Table 14, Page 63. The kindergarten and first grade classes are larger than the fifth and sixth grade classes. They are smaller mainly because some of the students were moved to Mirror Lake. The large classes are exiting and coming in smaller, but there are also new houses being built in that area. This seems to be happening all over the bowl. Jake Metcalfe mentioned the projected decrease in Mirror Lake and Gruening. Ophelia Dargan-Steed stated that for Gruening they tend to show some growth but around 2004-2005 they start to taper off, as is happening in the other areas. Debbie Ossiander commented that she has learned over the years that past a year out it is difficult to determine the correct projections.

The Board recessed at 8:30 p.m. and reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

John Steiner asked if census data has been used in determining the projections since census data gives indication of family size and some indication of how those things have changed. Ophelia Dargan-Steed stated that the census data was not used, but would like to look at that to get a more complete picture as far as the census tracts and blocks are concerned. Mr. Steiner suggested for the future that each table have a paragraph that describes the things that were considered or not considered in determining the projections.

John Steiner asked what drives the number of relocatables. Ms. Comeau stated that it is a site limitation. Ray Amsden added that there are site constraints on the different locations. Carol Comeau mentioned that the Maintenance department went to every school and looked at asbuilts, utilities, etc. and talked to the Fire Department and Public Works and determined where each relocatable could be located. George Vakalis clarified that it is driven by legal and construction standards.

John Steiner asked if relocatables are more tolerable in elementary, middle school, or high schools. Carol Comeau explained that the use of relocatables is probably more difficult at the elementary level because they tend to go in and out more frequently. However, relocatables cannot be used for lab courses or anything that needs water - art classes, science classes, etc. Technology is a limitation because they are not wired for the most part. It varies, depending on the need and what they are used for.

Rita Holthouse moved to make an amendment to change the CIP by adding planning funds for a Southwest Elementary School for 2004-2005. The specific changes are: Page 13, Priority #42 - add Southwest to the existing schools and increase the amount to \$260,000. And, make the same change in the last line on Page 20.

Harriet Drummond made friendly amendment requesting to change the name to New Southwest Anchorage School.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Rita Holthouse
seconded by Harriet Drummond

to change the CIP by adding planning funds for a Southwest Elementary School for 2004-2005. The specific changes are: Page 13, Priority #42 - add Southwest to the existing schools and increase the amount to \$260,000. And, make the same change in the last line on Page 20.

Rita explained her amendment. On Page 13, Priority 42 has elementary school planning for Abbott Loop, Airport Heights and Bayshore for \$200,000. Mr. Amsden's suggestion was, rather than making a separate item, to include the Southwest elementary school and change the amount to \$260,000. Harriet Drummond offered a friendly amendment to change the name of the school since it is not an existing school, to say New Southwest Anchorage Elementary School. Ms. Holthouse explained the same change should be made on Page 20. Ms. Holthouse explained that the site selection is already in the document for this next year and feels it is good to put the planning money in for the following year. According to this document Sand Lake is already at 128 percent of capacity. Ms. Holthouse has asked several times how to relieve this and has been told it would be difficult because you cannot do boundary changes. Kincaid, Chinook and Gladys Wood are already over capacity. Ms. Holthouse would like this amendment to be approved to be a placeholder, if nothing else, to show the money for the planning of a new southwest Anchorage elementary school.

Carol Comeau stated that the Administration is fine with the amendment.

John Steiner offered a friendly amendment to change Page 21, bottom of second column - the total funds requested will need to be increased by \$60,000 and also on Page 17 where it mentions total funds requested. Debbie Ossiander seconded the friendly amendment and asked for unanimous consent. Rita Holthouse did not object. The friendly amendment passed.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

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

Nays: None

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION PASSED

John Steiner commented that it would be helpful if there was more discussion in the future on information regarding how the projects were developed through the process of the CRAC and the Facility audits as to where the projects came from and how they evolved. It would be helpful to explain what the needs are of the schools regarding the different projects. Mr. Steiner is also concerned with graphics that do not start with a zero scale, such as the graph Page 190.

Tim Steele thanked everyone who worked on the CIP and noted it does say it is built on assumptions, and it is something to take as a planning tool, not gospel.

John Steiner commented on Page 21 - Charter School Housing Study concept. Mr. Steiner asked what the Administration has in mind. Superintendent Comeau stated that it will cost a lot of staff time, but not money. The Administration recognizes the strong interest. We need to look at the charter school policy and hear what the Board's interest is in changing the policy as far as housing. A work session would be helpful after the new members are on the Board.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Instructional Technology Transitional Technology Plan.

ACTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to approve Memorandum #187
seconded by Mary Marks

Carol Comeau stated that this plan is the result of a mandate of No Child Left Behind Act. In order for us to access technology funding we need to have a transitional technology plan. The specifics are due by March 15, 2003, in order to be able to apply for grants for technology.

Jeff Wood explained that as Superintendent Comeau stated that State is asking for additional criteria specific to NCLB to be covered in a transitional technology plan. There are six sections covered - Standards, Access, Professional Development, Resources, Accountability, Districtwide Integration. Our job is to show evidence that the criteria are in place or plans for implementation are being prepared. We are able to show evidence in our existing technology plan for five of the six areas. Districtwide Integration is the only area that is not in place. There is a narrative that discusses our plan for implementation.

Rita Holthouse stated that on Page 24. #2. Element - Funding she had questions regarding the statement: "All action plans are funded." On Page 135 there is mention of the plans for Year One through Year Five. That budget has not been set yet. Jeff Wood explained that on Page 33 - 34, there is a guide for the Educational Technology Plan Review Rubric. This is how the State scored the original plan sent to the State. If you turn to Page 33(Pg 6 of 11) it states Elemental Funding. A checkmark is next to the word "Exceeds." That is the State's scoring that the District received on the Technology Plan. We copied the narrative for "Exceeds" and plugged it into the Transitional Technology Plan. If you look at the last sentence it states "All action plans are funded." It is a rating from the State and we copied it in the Plan with the understanding that the Board would still need to approve any funding for the plans. Carol Comeau stated that she would like to know why the State made that statement. Rita Holthouse suggested saying "Possible sources of funding for all action plans have been identified." Ms. Holthouse stated she did not want to make a motion. Tim Steele stated that the Board has acknowledged the plan to have that money available. The language is what the State used. It is not our language. By the Board's approval we are stating that we've planned to make that money available.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Carol Comeau stated that she had asked Janet Stokesbary to do an assessment as to what the estimated shortfalls would be to ASD if the Governor's budget passes. The shortfall to ASD is roughly \$10,700,000. Ms. Comeau added that there will be more discussion on this topic at the March 17, 2003 meeting.

Ms. Comeau also mentioned passed out to the Board a Legislative Update from Dr. Wiget. Ms. Comeau urged the Board to read it carefully in order to get more information on the budget. Dr. Wiget added that the Senate Finance Committee will be meeting tomorrow. We have been asked if we could participate in the audio conference and listen to the discussion. Tomorrow evening, the Department of Education will release statewide figures on the anticipated impact of the Governor's budget proposal to all districts in the State. It is Dr. Wiget's hope to have that to the Administration Thursday morning. Ms. Comeau assured the Board and audience that everyone would be lobbying as hard as they can, because the cuts are totally unacceptable.

Debbie Ossiander commented that we should be careful not to say everything will be okay as long as this doesn't happen. There is still a need for more funds for education. Ms. Ossiander suggested sending a representative to the LIO periodically to testify. If the Legislative Committee checked with the other Board members, perhaps they would be available to assist.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION-
(PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS/LITIGATION)

L. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:35 p.m.

Jake Metcalfe, President

Mary Marks, Clerk

Robin Siegfried, Recording Secretary

Date Minutes Approved