

**MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 12, 2004**

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, April 12, 2004 at 6:35 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: Mary Marks, Crystal Kennedy, Tim Steele, Jake Metcalfe, Jeff Friedman, John Steiner, and Macon Roberts

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Jan Christensen, Mike Henry, Jerry Sjolander, Enid Hunter, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Jeff Wood, Pam Chenier, Debbie Bogart, Steve Kalmes, Ray Amsden, George Vakalis, Janet Stokesbary, Eric Tollefsen, Stan Syta, Mark Mew, Mary Kay Sambo, the press, and other interested people.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Carol Comeau noted that she would be pulling Item #13 - ASD Memorandum #251 - Approval of Schematic Design for Service High School Renewal, Phase 2B due to the fact that many questions remain unanswered and adding an addendum to Item #14 - ASD Memorandum #227 - Personnel Report. Ms. Comeau also noted that the District was the recipient of an award from the Miracle Network from Providence Hospital.

The agenda was approved unanimously as amended.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

1. ASD Memorandum #219 - Denali Award Recipients

To Alaskans, Denali means "great one," and the Anchorage School District is proud to have employees that display greatness in the areas of achievement, service and dedication. Twice each year, a committee of Anchorage School District employees selects six co-workers and a team of colleagues that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to its mission of educating students for success in life.

The certificated Denali Award winners for Spring 2004 are David Hall of Chinook Elementary, Amy Goodman, Middle School Literacy Support Teacher, and Jan Thompson of Dimond High School.

In the last two years, David Hall has successfully integrated the Native Culture of Alaska into the P.E. program at Chinook Elementary through the implementation of games and dance. In addition to regular classes, Mr. Hall organizes and supervises after school sports and tutors math to seven students. He also accompanies students to track training and competitive events, and introduced a team to the Alaska Native Youth Olympics.

In a letter of recommendation, Mr. Hall's colleague Cheryl Hilmes notes, "The sheer joy with which he carries out his day is an example to all of us. David took a group of about 12 students to the Mountain View Recreation Center for the Native Youth Olympic games. They came because David has a way of inspiring students to reach for opportunities and take advantage of them. He is a hero to many children at our school." Through his experience of traveling to rural villages and love of Native Culture, David Hall encourages an appreciation for ethnic diversity and strives to keep the Native Culture of Alaska alive within the learning community of ASD each and every day.

Amy Goodman has been employed with the District for 23 years, inspires a wide array of individuals as the middle school literacy support teacher. Ms. Goodman strives beyond the bounds of the Language Arts curriculum and includes all subjects into her literacy efforts which include: sharing e-mail tips, demonstrations, training regarding new materials and technologies, presenting at local and national conferences, and writing professional journal articles in her spare time. Middle School Education Executive Director Gail Opalinski considers her "a highly professional, extremely knowledgeable, and self motivated individual in the field of literacy [who] determines the needs of schools and individuals and customizes the training methods that she uses to meet those needs." She is truly dedicated to supporting and expanding literacy efforts at the individual, building, district, state, and national levels.

Jeanne Fischer, principal of Mirror Lake Middle School also notes, "She was an excellent resource for our November 11 Middle School Fair. She made 10+ contacts and worked with vendors to plan the exhibition. Several of them told me it was the best experience they have had in a long time because of Amy's preparation."

Jan Thompson's efforts as the technology coordinator at Dimond High School are unparalleled. Over the past six years, she has propelled Dimond High to the "cutting edge of technology," says Dimond High School principal Guy Okada. Ms. Thompson is responsible for placing a laptop computer in the hands of every teacher and providing the training and resources necessary for incorporating the new technology into everyday curriculum. The P.E. Department is now equipped with personal digital assistants, and trained to use them, streamlining the program. Students are also able to retrieve documents and files from virtual lockers; "no other school offers that service and it was Jan's leadership that made it happen," says Okada. In addition, Ms. Thompson keeps all of the technology in working order, and maintains the Dimond Web site. She recently received a standing ovation from her peers at a faculty meeting for her uncompromised work ethic. Often seen working after others have gone home, and on Saturdays, "Jan does the work of 3 to 4 people in the private sector but never seeks the limelight. Her focus is always on helping teachers do their jobs more efficiently and on giving students the skills and experience they need to be successful in life and lifelong learners." Altogether, Jan Thompson has dedicated her time and talent to the District for more than 20 years, and truly deserves the recognition she receives.

The two classified/support staff members receiving Denali Awards are Tammy Miller of Huffman Elementary and Joann Starzec of West High School.

Tammy Miller is the administrative assistant at Huffman Elementary School. She's also volunteered her time as carnival chairperson, served two terms as the PTA Treasurer, and two more terms as PTA President. Huffman Elementary principal, Jim Kurka, remarks that Ms. Miller has "always maintained professionalism between her job working with the school district and her active volunteerism at school," and has "earned the confidence, respect and love of students, staff and the Huffman community." Ms. Miller goes above and beyond expectations in every pursuit she endeavors. Last Christmas she raised \$500 for a

family at her school that wouldn't have enjoyed a holiday had they escaped Tammy's notice. Co-workers have observed her giving money out of pocket to students for lunch and field trips. Colleague Susan Koonce remarks, "It's obvious this is more than a job to her. Her love for children is demonstrated repeatedly each day...she is one of the calmest, nicest, and 'get the work done' people we have had the pleasure of working with." Tammy Miller creates an atmosphere of giving selflessly in the service of children with every task she accomplishes.

West High's Joann Starzec works as the activities clerk, and is planning to retire this June after 24 years with the District. While she has been "meticulously proficient in her duties as activities clerk," her most notable attribute has been her ability to create "positive, successful relationships and interactions with colleagues, students and parents. This characteristic supercedes all others by allowing herself and others to view life and our professions from an alternative viewpoint and to turn everyday issues into growing experiences" says Brian Hosken, assistant principal at West High. Mrs. Starzec has earned the honor of receiving the Denali Award by promoting "professional rapport" and "constructive relationships with both students and staff members that endure beyond the confines of the working environment."

The Denali Award for administration goes to Michael Graham, principal at East High School.

"Mr. Graham is a visionary educational leader who has led East High School through an amazing transition to smaller leaning communities" writes Mary McKean, principal of Bartlett High. She adds that "he encourages a creative, problem-solving approach to the current challenges in education." Though the implementation of NCLB and the eight-phase remodeling project of East High have increased challenges to all working at the school, staff morale is exceptionally high because of the superior leadership of Michael Graham, and students thrive. In the wake of these accomplishments Mr. Graham shys away from personal recognition, and instead recognizes the staff and students of East High School for creating the top-quality learning environment. Assistant Principal Lou Pondolino remarks that Michael Graham's "work ethic, demeanor, and clear vision have been a personal and professional inspiration."

The Secondary Special Education Team and Community School Coordinators are the joint recipients of the Denali Team Award.

When it comes to Special Education, supervisor Sue Doherty acknowledges the “Dream Team” knows how to get the job done in a positive and professional manner. No matter the challenge, “from disgruntled parents to frustrated teachers and needy kids,” the Secondary Special Education Team can head off difficult situations before they reach the administrative level or Due Process Hearings. The team is responsible for a multitude of tasks—designing and implementing curriculum, providing staff development and training, interpreting the law, and mediating solutions--these five women are truly devoted to helping students with special needs. “Never in my 31 years of Special Education have I worked with a more talented, dedicated, and cohesive group of professionals,” commends Ms. Doherty. This team displays purpose, compassion, and resolve in every situation.

The Community Schools Coordinators are responsible for bridging our neighborhood schools with the greater Anchorage population. At more than 20 locations 20,000 children and 44,000 adults have participated in learning opportunities offered by Community Schools in the last year. The program has been enhanced by more than 6,000 volunteers, many of whom do not have children enrolled in the District, and raised a significant amount of money through fundraising events. Spanning 13 locations, each of the programs has contributed between \$2,000 and \$10,000 for field trips, equipment, and special purchases for their local schools. This “outstanding team of staff who have worked tirelessly to support student learning, parent involvement, volunteer opportunities and strong ties within the communities they work within...[are] providing a strong foundation on which to build an even stronger future,” says Debbie Bogart. Community Schools have been an integral part of the Anchorage community, and the coordinators have made it all happen.

It is recommended that the School Board recognize these Denali Award recipients, and all of the nominees, for the example of excellence that they set for the entire Anchorage School District community.

Theresa Obermeyer passed out information to the Board regarding a lawsuit she filed against Howard Trickey, Jermain Dunnagain &

Owens. Jeff Friedman stated this was a confidential document which prohibits the distribution of the information. Jake Metcalfe called Ms. Obermeyer out of order and stated that this topic was not pertinent to the Denali Awards.

Ms. Obermeyer commended the wonderful employees of the Anchorage School District and noted that Anchorage is a nice place to raise children. She stated that she filed suite against the School District on March 12, 2004 because one of the recipients in the suit is the principal at East High School where she has been a trespasser for four years. Ms. Obermeyer believes that this was an effort mainly targeted at her by Mr. Trickey and she forgives Mike Graham.

2. ASD Memorandum #212 - Good Samaritans

In January, nine Polaris K-12 students, a teacher and a parent came to the aid of Girdwood resident Tina Carlisle and her 5-year old daughter after they were involved in a vehicle accident on the Seward Highway.

Polaris students and staff were returning from a trip to Alyeska when they came upon the rolled over van which had encountered ice and hit a snow berm. The students, staff and parent acted quickly and responsibly and came to the aid of Mrs. Carlisle and her daughter. They immediately tapped on the van window, helped both mother and daughter out of the van, set up flares and contacted the state troopers.

While waiting for the authorities to arrive the Polaris students tried to calm the 5-year old by telling her skiing and snowboarding stories in their warm vehicle.

The actions of these students and adults show their sincere concern for the well-being of others and ability to act responsibly during a crisis.

It is requested the School Board recognize Polaris students Marisa Jaso, Kaeli Casita, Kari Miranda, Zachary Zoet, Robert Semans, William Marsh, Sarah Sterley, Sarah McKeever, and Sean Brewer, teacher Bill Jaso and parent Alison Sterley, for their prompt and effective response to this situation.

3. ASD Memorandum #253 - 2003 Student Library Bookmark Winners

In the spring of 2002, Anchorage School librarians organized a publicity campaign for the District using the American Library Association's @your library™ national campaign. The campaign was created in conjunction with the adoption of the Library/Informational Literacy Standards by the Anchorage School Board in May 2002. The purpose of the campaign was to promote events held at local schools and to remind the public about the vital and unique role of the school library.

District librarians planned and implemented a public relations campaign during the 2002-2003 school year and decided upon "A place for You @your library™" theme. In the fall of 2003, a second bookmark design contest was held for all students in grades K-12. The contest invited students to use their imagination and any ideas that relate to reading, literacy, the love of the library and the selected theme.

The winning designs for the bookmarks have been reproduced and will be distributed to District schools during National Library Week, April 18-24. Congratulations to the following students for being named this year's library bookmark winners:

- Jamie Kari - Scenic Park Elementary School
- Cassidy Rhodes - Bear Valley Elementary School
- Christian Young - Romig Middle School
- Joseph Arns - West High School

It is requested that the School Board recognize Jamie, Cassidy, Christian and Joseph for their creative, award-winning talent.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory

Lorett Nabong stated that the last Student Advisory Board meeting was held at Bartlett; the next meeting is scheduled for April 20. He noted that proms are occurring at all of the high schools and parents are most welcome to attend. The AASA Conference was held recently in Yakutat with many students from high schools across Alaska attending. Mr. Nabong reminded everyone that on April 16, Bartlett High School will be hosting a math competition

and encouraged all high schools to send a representative. He also noted that he recently attended a student meeting at South Anchorage High School and all is going very well.

2. Military Delegate

LTC Michelle Holtery congratulated Tim Steele and Jake Metcalfe on their recent re-election to the School Board. She noted that Brian Griggs is getting information out to parents on the new boundaries for Eagle River Area High School and the parents seem very interested and positive about the new school.

3. MECC

William Johnson noted that the last MECC meeting was held on March 18 in the Administration Building. Mr. Benevides provided a legislative update and Tim Steele briefed the committee on the school bonds. Mr. Johnson commented that it was a very informative and important discussion. The next meeting is scheduled for April 15, 12 noon, Room 320 in the Administration Building and is open to the public.

F. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

1. Public Testimony Regarding Upcoming Negotiations: Local 71

Theresa Obermeyer stated that she thought more members of Local 71 would have been in attendance at the Board meeting tonight. She commended all bargaining groups and their members. Ms. Obermeyer reminded the public that we live in the wealthiest state in the union and no one is getting raises. She stated that it was time to go after the people who handle the \$27 million dollar permanent fund.

G. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (30 minutes time limit)

Theresa Obermeyer was ruled out of order by President Metcalfe

The School Board meeting was recessed at 7:10 p.m. due to the non-compliance of Ms. Obermeyer.

President Metcalfe called the meeting back to order at 7:15 p.m.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approval of Minutes

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|----|-----------------|------------------|-----------|
| a. | Regular Meeting | January 12, 2004 | 6:30 p.m. |
| b. | Special Meeting | February 9, 2004 | 4:30 p.m. |
| c. | Regular Meeting | February 9, 2004 | 6:30 p.m. |
| d. | Special Meeting | March 1, 2004 | 4:15 p.m. |

2. ASD Memorandum #224 - Resolution in Support of Administrative Professionals Day, April 23, 2004

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board adopt the attached resolution designating April 23, 2004 as Administrative Professionals Day in the Anchorage School District.

3. ASD Memorandum #252 - Eagle River Area High School Boundaries (First Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on First Reading the following attendance boundaries for the 2005-2006 school year for Chugiak High School, Bartlett High School and the New Eagle River Area High School (NERAHS). This is shown as Scenario #6 on Attachment A.

SCENARIO #6To Chugiak High School

North - North boundary of the Anchorage School District (Knik River Bridge and Glenn Highway.) East - Chugach State Park. South - Eagle River Road between Fort Richardson Military Reservation and Melody Lane, (including all residents on Preuss Lane); Melody Lane and its northern extension to Chugach State Park. West - Fort Richardson Military Reservation and Knik Arm.

To New Eagle River Area High School (Includes Ft. Richardson students)

North - Eagle River Road between Fort Richardson Military Reservation and Melody Lane, (excluding all residents on Preuss

Lane); northern extension of Melody Lane, including all residents on Stewart Drive, Upper Lowland Ave, and Silvertip Circle; to Chugach State Park. East - Chugach State Park. South - Chugach State Park, including the entire Hiland Road area. West - Eastern boundary of Fort Richardson Military Reservation to the New Glenn Highway.

4. ASD Memorandum #223 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Capacity Building Improvement for Special Education

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept grant funds from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) in the amount \$126,907. Funds will enable Anchorage School District Special Education to continue supporting an electronic infrastructure for Individual Education Plans (IEP) and for IEP reporting.

5. ASD Memorandum #258 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Kincaid Greenhouse Project

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a cash grant in the amount of \$38,000 from an anonymous donor for replacement and construction of the Kincaid Elementary School greenhouse.

6. ASD Memorandum #221 - Award of Contract: Birchwood Elementary School Miscellaneous Systems Upgrade

It is the Administration's recommendation the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Birchwood Elementary School Miscellaneous Systems Upgrade Project to Wolverine Supply, Inc. for the Base Bid amount of \$1,320,000, plus Allowance/Assignment A of \$132,761, Allowance/Assignment B of \$9,377, Allowance/Assignment C of \$12,692, and acceptance of Alternate 1 in the amount of \$37,000 and Alternate 2 in the amount of \$120,000, for a total award of \$1,631,830.

7. ASD Memorandum #225 - Award of Contract: Gladys Wood Elementary School Roof Repair

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for

Gladys Wood Elementary School Roof Upgrades to Industrial Roofing, Inc. for the Base Bid in the amount of \$612,300.

8. ASD Memorandum #226 - Award of Contract: College Gate Elementary School and SAVE High School Fire Alarm Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the College Gate Elementary School and SAVE High School Fire Alarm Upgrades to Yukon Fire Protection Services, Inc. for the Base Bid in the amount of \$174,308.

9. ASD Memorandum #249 - Award of Contract: Office Trailers

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Office Trailers to Alaska Modular Space, Inc., for the Base Bid amount of \$112,434.

10. ASD Memorandum #255 - Award of Contract: Miscellaneous School Supplies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract to Corporate Express to furnish Miscellaneous School Supplies in the amount of \$133,520.

11. ASD Memorandum #250 - Consultant Selection for Southwest Anchorage Area Elementary School and Middle School Site Analysis

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the selection of F. Robert Bell and Associates to perform the engineering analysis of two candidate sites for an elementary and/or middle school in Southwest Anchorage and authorize the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into a contract with F. Robert Bell and Associates for engineering services.

12. ASD Memorandum #254 - Approval of Schematic Design and Supplemental Educational Specifications for Chester Valley Elementary School Addition and Renovation

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board

approve the Schematic Design and Supplemental Educational Specifications for Chester Valley Elementary School Addition and Renovation and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with design, pending Municipal Assembly approval of the schematic design.

13. ASD Memorandum #251 - Approval of Schematic Design for Service High School Renewal - Phase 2B

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the schematic design for the Service High School Renewal Phase 2B and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the Design Development and Construction Documents, pending Municipal Assembly approval of the schematic design.

14. ASD Memorandum #227 - 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: Minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2004 6:30 p.m.; ASD Memorandums #224; #252; #249; #254; and #227.

ACTION:

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| <p>Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Mary Marks</p> | <p>to approve Minutes from the Special Meeting of February 9, 2004; Regular Meeting of February 9, 2004; Special Meeting of March 1, 2004; Memorandum #223; Memorandum #258; Memorandum #221; Memorandum #225; Memorandum #226; Memorandum #255; and Memorandum #250.</p> |
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VOTE:

Ayes: Marks, Kennedy, Steele, Metcalfe, Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

Approval of Minutes

- a. Regular Meeting January 12, 2004 6:30 p.m.

ACTION:

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| Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Jeff Friedman | to revise the motion on ASD Memorandum #163 to read as follows: to approve the Administration's recommendation that the School Board the application for the Eagle Academy Charter School. |
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It was unanimously approved.

ASD Memorandum #224 - Resolution in Support of Administrative Professionals Day, April 23, 2004

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board adopt the attached resolution designating April 23, 2004 as Administrative Professionals Day in the Anchorage School District.

ACTION:

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| Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Mary Marks | to approve Memorandum #224. |
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School Board member John Steiner read the resolution.

Theresa Obermeyer noted that she has great respect for Totem employees, who are the heart and soul of the District. She did not understand why the Totem employees were not in attendance tonight at the Board meeting to accept this award.

VOTE:

Ayes: Marks, Kennedy, Steele, Metcalfe,
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #252 - Eagle River Area High School Boundaries (First Reading)

It is the Administration’s recommendation that the School Board approve on First Reading the following attendance boundaries for the 2005-2006 school year for Chugiak High School, Bartlett High School and the New Eagle River Area High School (NERAHS). This is shown as Scenario #6 on Attachment A.

SCENARIO #6

To Chugiak High School

North - North boundary of the Anchorage School District (Knik River Bridge and Glenn Highway.) East - Chugach State Park. South - Eagle River Road between Fort Richardson Military Reservation and Melody Lane, (including all residents on Preuss Lane); Melody Lane and its northern extension to Chugach State Park. West - Fort Richardson Military Reservation and Knik Arm.

To New Eagle River Area High School (Includes Ft. Richardson students)

North - Eagle River Road between Fort Richardson Military Reservation and Melody Lane, (excluding all residents on Preuss Lane); northern extension of Melody Lane, including all residents on Stewart Drive, Upper Lowland Ave, and Silvertip Circle; to Chugach State Park. East - Chugach State Park. South - Chugach State Park, including the entire Hiland Road area. West - Eastern boundary of Fort Richardson Military Reservation to the New Glenn Highway.

ACTION:

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| Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Crystal Kennedy | to approve Memorandum #252. |
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Karen McCoy commented that she has a child at Gruening Middle School and Homestead Elementary School. She stated that coming from a military family who while growing up attended many schools, she has never seen a boundary line split a school. Ms. McCoy encouraged the District to reconsider the recommendation.

Carol Comeau stated that it is exciting to get to the point of establishing boundaries for the new Eagle River Area High School. She commented that the reason the school was built small was due to trying to convince the community for the last three years that the school needed to be built. Ms. Comeau commended the task force and Mr. Henry for their work on the Boundary Task Force. Everyone wants a new school, but doesn’t want their children to experience a change. Ms. Comeau supports Scenario 6 to preserve neighborhoods and sees an opportunity to bring Fort Richardson

Post students into this school. She sees this tie with the military population as a very healthy one.

Mike Henry recognized the hardworking task force that has been working on the development of a boundary recommendation for the past two and one-half months. Mr. Henry reviewed a slide presentation for the audience which outlined the process that was used for developing the recommendation.

Jeff Friedman noted that after reading the task force minutes, it appeared that the group rejected Scenario 6 the first time around and then it reappeared. Mike Henry responded yes, Scenario 6 was initially rejected, but after public testimony, the task force thought it was acceptable to put the new high school at 92 percent capacity.

Jeff Friedman asked why Eagle River Elementary School attendance area was split. Mike Henry responded that they were trying to preserve the residential neighborhoods. Eagle River Loop Road was used as a major dividing line.

Mr. Friedman commented that he hopes that program capacity at the new school is higher than building capacity.

John Steiner recalled that the original design specifications revealed that the new school would not be able to house a JROTC program. Mike Henry responded no, that statement was incorrect. Mr. Henry noted that in the original documents, there was not a specific JROTC program area designated. He also stated that once the principal is named, the decision will be made as to whether an application for a JROTC program will be submitted.

Crystal Kennedy commented that in going through the task force minutes, there was reference to new housing on Fort Richardson and asked if there would be a new road that will give better access to Bartlett High School. LTC Michelle Holtery responded that the new road will connect the base and post on the military reservation giving better access to the hospital and commissary. If the gate is open, you can gain access to Bartlett High School. There was further discussion on where the 180 students projected in that area will attend high school; at the present time, they are scheduled to attend Bartlett. Ms. Kennedy requested a map of the new housing area on Fort Richardson for the next School Board meeting.

Tim Steele referenced past discussions that led him to assume that since the new high school would be less than full, it would be filled with needed alternative programs. His question is if the new high school is at 92 percent capacity and Chugiak High School is at 85 percent capacity, which school is the Administration looking at to provide the needed alternative programs. Mike Henry responded that the need for special programs still exists, and there is a plan to have programs for at-risk students at both schools as well as on-line instruction. He also wants to provide some vocational education for students.

Tim Steele inquired if there are any plans to attempt to draw students into Chugiak High School to better utilize the capacity. Carol Comeau responded that some Chugiak students who are bused into the new high school may choose to stay at Chugiak if transportation is provided by their parents. Also, some home school students may return to public school after leaving Chugiak due to overcrowded conditions. Ms. Comeau also emphasized there is much growth in the Chugiak/Eagle River area. Tim Steele agreed that it is good to have some capacity available at Chugiak, but is concerned that we have shifted the capacity to the new high school. Carol Comeau believes that the Administration can tie our programs into the UAA program and possibly the King Career Center program could be expanded to both Chugiak and the new high school. She also mentioned that educational programs are evolving; the PLATO program which we are now using was not available back when original discussions were held. Ms. Comeau noted that the principal will be working with the community to develop appropriate programs for the new high school.

John Steiner is concerned and wants a discussion regarding the splitting of neighborhoods. He is hearing from the public that they want to keep the elementary school boundaries in tact because it helps to define neighborhoods. Mike Henry responded that the task force believed it was more important to maintain residential neighborhoods than school boundaries; proximity is the major issue. By using Eagle River Road as a major boundary line, they were able to provide geographic proximity. Carol Comeau stated that the elementary boundaries in Eagle River are shifting due to more and more housing; some parts are becoming very dense. Ms. Comeau commented that even if a student goes to a different school, students maintain friends in their respective neighborhood—it's not just about school relationships. She further commented that people need to recognize that this is a growing community. John Steiner asked if we could make accommodations to make high school boundaries match the ones established for elementary schools. Carol Comeau responded

that the less boundary shifts required would be better. She encouraged the Board to trust the recommendation made by the task force.

John Steiner requested more information on whether the task force considered keeping Ravenwood at the new high school and sending Eagle River elementary students to Chugiak. Mike Henry responded yes, the task force did look at this element in Scenario 7.

Jeff Friedman asked if we moved the small area of Eagle River Elementary School that is currently zoned for the new high school to Chugiak High, would it balance both schools. Mr. Friedman would like this to be considered at the next School Board meeting. Mike Henry responded that the task force reviewed this and made a determination to use Eagle River road as a simple dividing line. He also noted if the entire population of Eagle River Elementary were to be zoned to Chugiak High School, it would not disrupt the neighborhoods. Carol Comeau requested a response from Steve Kalmes regarding transportation issues. Steve Kalmes stated that Scenario 6 was the favorite of the Transportation Department. He likes the boundaries that go along major thoroughfares and keeps neighborhoods together.

Crystal Kennedy commented that she has been working on this school since 1996. The goal during this time was to alleviate the overcrowding at Chugiak High School. She thanked the task force for all of their hard work. Ms. Kennedy stated that sometimes you have to do something for the good of the community, which may not be your own personal goal. She will support the Superintendent's recommendation of Scenario 6.

John Steiner stated that he would like to make it known that his home is in the Ravenwood School boundary area and those students living in this area will continue to attend Chugiak High School. Mr. Steiner had two daughters graduate from Chugiak High and his last daughter will be a senior there next year. He did note that his daughter's best friend went to a different elementary school than his daughter. She did retain some friendships in her neighborhood, but also made good friends outside of the neighborhood. He urged parents to remember this. Mr. Steiner stated that he advocated for the new school to provide relief for Chugiak due to the overcrowding. He also stated that traffic and parking conditions will also improve, and students will have a better chance to participate in sports activities. Mr. Steiner encouraged parents to be positive about the school boundaries and reminded them that good neighborhood friendships can exist as well as new friends will be made.

The School Board took a brief recess at 8:15 p.m. and returned at 8:30 p.m.

VOTE:

Ayes: Marks, Kennedy, Steele, Metcalfe,
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #249 - Award of Contract: Office Trailers

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Office Trailers to Alaska Modular Space, Inc., for the Base Bid amount of \$112,434.

ACTION:

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| Moved by Crystal Kennedy Seconded by Jeff Friedman | to approve Memorandum #249. |
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Carol Comeau stated that it was an excellent idea to have a trailer onsite for construction projects. Crystal Kennedy asked if we still need additional trailers with the slowing down of projects, and can we use our existing ones. Ray Admsden responded that we currently own three trailers; two are on the Wendler site and will be transferred to the Eagle River site and one is currently at East High. He noted that Chugach, Polaris, and Bartlett construction projects will need a trailer.

VOTE:

Ayes: Marks, Kennedy, Steele, Metcalfe,
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #254 - Approval of Schematic Design and Supplemental Educational Specifications for Chester Valley Elementary School Addition and Renovation

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Schematic Design and Supplemental Educational Specifications for Chester Valley Elementary School Addition and Renovation and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with design, pending Municipal Assembly approval of the schematic design.

ACTION:

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| Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Macon Roberts | to approve Memorandum #254. |
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Carol Comeau commented that the question being raised by the community is why are we bringing this recommendation forward since the bond for the renovation of Chester Valley was recently voted down. She stated that this is still an important issue to consider for the future and will relieve the overcrowding in the northeast area. The work that has been done over the past year by the principal, Sharon Mitchell, PTA, architects, and the Facilities Department should not go to waste. Pending future discussions on the bonds, the Administration may recommend that this be taken back to the voters at another time.

Jeff Friedman noted that this is not a huge change from the concept design that was previously approved. He does have a concern if we don't build for a year, if we are going to have to come back and reapprove the schematic design. Ray Amsden stated that the planning design can be problematic if you carry it out too far; codes change and designs need to be revisited, which are usually in the structural areas.

John Steiner asked how long it takes to complete the construction/design phase. Ray Amsden responded that it takes two to three months with consultants and engineers and is about a six month process.

John Steiner asked when we build the new middle school in Muldoon if we are anticipating putting sixth grade students from the north east area in the school. Carol responded that we would be pulling as many sixth grade students as we can to relieve the overcrowding in the schools in that area. She also noted that when the Creekside Park Town Center is developed, the population will be increased with the addition of more affordable housing. Ms. Comeau stated that this was the justification used when determining to renovate Chester Valley to a 26 classroom school.

John Steiner rephrased his question and asked if the need for an elementary school expansion would still be necessary if we take the sixth grade students out of the elementary schools and place them in the new middle school. Carol Comeau responded that the population in the northeast area of Anchorage is increasing; this area has the greatest growth potential and has more dense housing available than any other

area in town. Jake Metcalfe encouraged Board members to attend the Northeast Community Council meetings and talk with the community.

Tim Steele asked for an explanation on the set-up on the contracts. Ray Amsden explained that the design contracts are set-up in phases: concept, schematic, design development; and construction.

Sharon Mitchell noted that the community and staff have worked very hard on the design. Chester Valley is the only school on the east side that does not have a multi-purpose room. She also noted that the school has leaks and the walls are buckling. Ms. Mitchell feels that construction will be too costly if we wait too long.

VOTE:

Ayes: Marks, Kennedy, Steele, Metcalfe,
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #227 – Personnel Report

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

ACTION:

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Jeff Friedman | to approve ASD Memorandum #227. |
|--|---------------------------------|

Jeff Friedman noted that we are losing many experienced principals this year. Carol Comeau acknowledged that she has interviewed several new individuals and there is a good group of internal and external applicants to choose from.

John Steiner read the names of the principals and supervisors that are retiring at the end of the current school year.

Carol Comeau introduced Natalie Burnett who has been selected as the principal for the new Eagle River Area High School.

VOTE:

Ayes: Marks, Kennedy, Steele, Metcalfe,
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None
MOTION PASSED

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. ASD Memorandum #228 - Facility Change Order Report and Completed Projects for the Month of February 2004

The monthly Facility Change Order Report for the month of February 2004 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

2. ASD Memorandum #229 - Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of February 28, 2004, through March 29, 2004.

3. ASD Memorandum #257 - Dimond High School Replacement - 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 artist has agreed to any safety recommendations, which will be addressed in the artist's contract.

Jocelyn Young, One Percent for Art, stated that there was no visual for the public to review this evening and the artist could not be present.

Tim Steele inquired how we cover the safety and maintenance issues if we can not see the design. Carol Comeau responded that our risk manager has reviewed the concept and will review the art as it is being built. She stated that it is similar to a trophy case. Ms. Comeau also noted that the maintenance of the art is the responsibility of the Municipality of Anchorage.

4. ASD Memorandum #230 - Operating Budget Transfers - February Monthly Report FY 2003-2004

The attached report of budget transfers for the time period of February 2004 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 February 2004 and related information are available in the Budget Department office for review by the School Board and members of the public.

5. ASD Memorandum #231 - End-of-Month Membership Summary for February 2004

The end-of-month membership report for February 2004 is attached (Attachment A). The total active enrollment at the end of February was 49,410. This enrollment represents a decrease of 553 students compared to end of February 2003. Table 1 compares the membership totals.

**TABLE 1
Comparison of
2/28/2003 Membership vs. 2/27/2004 Membership**

| Category | 2/28/2003 | 2/27/2004 | Difference |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Elementary Schools | 26,603 | 25,965 | -638 |
| Middle Schools | 7,647 | 7,591 | -56 |
| Senior High Schools | 12,273 | 12,070 | -203 |
| Other Secondary Schools and Programs | 1,617 | 1,914 | 297 |
| Pre-Elementary, Level 3 Spec. Ed., and Special Services | 1,270 | 1,317 | 47 |
| TOTAL | 49,410 | 48,857 | -553 |

The February 27, 2004 total of 48,857 was 806 less than the beginning of the year September 30, 2003 total of 49,663. For the same time period for the 2002-2003 school year, membership declined by 619.

Table 2 shows the change in membership, by grade level, from September 30th to the end of February for 2003-04 and 2002-03. Table 2 also reflects a decrease in the number of high school seniors when compared to last year. The reason for this decrease could be an increased number of seniors who elected to graduate early (January), because they may have failed one or more parts of the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam; seniors graduating early could receive their high school diploma.

6. ASD Memorandum #232 - Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap: February 28, 2004

The attached report consists of two parts: the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap. The Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap are presented on a monthly basis. The Treasurer's report and Financial Recap are year-to-date information as of February 29, 2004.

7. ASD Memorandum #241 - Assessment Calendar for 2004-2005 School Year

The Districtwide group assessments scheduled for the 2004-2005 school year includes the following test and surveys. Completion dates for surveys are when materials are to be returned to Assessment and Evaluation.

Superintendent Comeau stated that the Department of Education and Early Development set the dates for testing and the Anchorage School District has no ability to change them. The Administration is recommending a revision to the dates for spring break to the 2004-2005 school calendar due to the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam dates. She also noted that there will be a significant impact on our schools due to the date established for election day 2005. Ms. Comeau will be speaking with the Municipality of Anchorage to see if a change can be made, but it could be a charter issue.

John Steiner asked if the Department of Education and Early Development gave the District any advance notice of their

scheduling plans. Carol Comeau responded yes; we gave our input, but the testing company has dictated the timelines so test results could be returned to the various districts in a timely manner.

8. ASD Memorandum #234 – Smaller Learning Communities Update

The main goals of the Smaller Learning Communities (SLC) program are to personalize education for all students, to increase educational opportunities and academic achievement for all students, and to create a safe and welcoming environment at school. Our high schools are large, and it is too easy for students to remain anonymous or get lost in the crowd. By dividing the large school into smaller parts (houses), we are able to better serve all students. We want to retain the advantages of being large schools, while gaining some of the benefits that smaller schools have.

The Smaller Learning Community Grant sponsored a Districtwide Inservice Day on November 11, 2003. All ASD high school teachers, counselors, and administrators had the opportunity to attend multiple presentations and workshops at West High School. Teachers from each high school facilitated presentations including topics related to the 40 Assets, literacy, team teaching, technology, high school advisories, and many others. This Districtwide inservice was a tremendous success and received widespread positive review. ASD high school educators were able to share success stories and best practices from each of the large area high schools and gain a better understanding of the SLC initiatives from colleagues across the District.

The Smaller Learning Community Grant successfully co-sponsored a National Education Conference in cooperation with the National School Conference Institute and Learning 24/7 in March of 2004 at the Egan Center in Anchorage. Over 300 high school teachers, counselors, and administrators attended this unprecedented professional development opportunity. The conference theme was "Personalizing Education for High School Students." A particular highlight of the conference was Dr. Willard Daggett's opening session, which focused on "Making good schools great," and personalizing high school curriculum and instruction for education in the 21st Century. Conference sessions reviewed several major themes: maintaining high standards for all students, literacy across the curriculum, culturally responsive teaching, innovative teaching

ideas and strategies, educational leadership, and recognizing the academic value of increasing both social and emotional intelligence in teenagers. In addition to national guest speakers, local experts were utilized during the conference. The Smaller Learning Community Grant has partnered with Safe & Drug Free Schools to provide extensive training opportunities for teachers regarding the 40 Assets model. ASD Safe & Drug Free Schools provided training sessions at the conference, as well as the ASD NCLB Coordinator, Rhonda Gardner.

The SLC grant committee will be meeting with conference organizers to review evaluations and additional training opportunities that the SLC grant may afford for the coming school year.

The current SLC project is to host representatives from the Northwest Regional Education Lab during the week of April 5, 2004. Representatives will be visiting several high school sites in order to review grant goals and implementation of those goals. A report will be compiled and submitted to the District upon completion of the site review.

Each of the six high schools continues to address the main goal of personalizing education and restructuring our large high schools into smaller learning communities. Each school has been successful in promoting programs relevant to their own students' needs. Teaming of history and language arts courses at the ninth and tenth grade level is expanding. Advisory programs are being offered at several of the schools, and others are planning to implement advisories. West High School has been approved for the International Baccalaureate Program and is moving forward with implementation during the 2004-2005 school year.

Staff development continues to be a significant focus of the ASD SLC grant. The Smaller Learning Community Grant committee appreciates the Anchorage School Board support of this grant, as well as the support for necessary training time for the November Inservice and the National Conference in March.

Mike Henry noted that progress has been significant and these are very exciting times in our high schools. Natalie Burnett took over the responsibility of this project after Pad Podvin passed away. Ms.

Burnett gave a brief overview of the program and the strides they have made to date.

Carol Comeau asked Ms. Burnett if there were plans to incorporate South Anchorage High School into the grant. Ms. Burnett responded that the grant is only written for the six comprehensive high schools, and we must apply to the grant awardee for approval if we are requesting a change. She also noted that many of those teachers that will be at South Anchorage in the fall may have already benefited from the training offered through this grant.

9. Post Election Discussion of School Bonds

Carol Comeau asked for a few minutes of the Board's time to debrief on the loss of two of the bond proposition packages and the pros and cons in assessing the projects in Proposition 5. She mentioned that the District has issued a contract for a post election survey. Ms. Comeau also mentioned that the Municipality is conducting a post election survey with Ivan Moore & Associates.

Ms. Comeau stated that she is receiving a number of e-mails from the community asking what about "no" does the District not understand. She feels the frustration from the community about the state not having a long-range fiscal plan and why the property owners feel that they are carrying the tax burden of the community.

Jake Metcalfe noted that all issues recently put forward are important since they are projects that we need. We also need to put the legislators on the spot to discuss debt reimbursement.

Jeff Friedman stated that the time has come where we must look at the need for a sales tax and start the discussion of shifting the burden of taxes from the property owners. We must also look at Proposition 5 and determine if we should put all of the projects back on the bond package or be selective; we must also look at the cost of another election.

John Steiner agreed that we must take a look at the debt reimbursement issue. It is not responsible for us to allow the opportunity of debt reimbursement to retire. Mr. Steiner stated that we need to evaluate this proposition and look at the need for each project.

Mary Marks noted that she feels the bond package was too large. We need to bring this up again to our community to talk about the issues so that we can become stronger and have our legislature hear our voices so they will do something for our fiscal gap.

Carol Comeau stated that she appreciates this discussion. She commented that it troubles her that other areas that have received new items are not voting for an area in need. Ms. Comeau stated that it would have helped if the legislature would have stood up and supported the issue of debt reimbursement to the public.

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

The Regular School Board meeting of April 12, 2004 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:05 p.m.

Tim Steele, President

Mary Marks, Vice President

Mary Kay Sambo, Recording Secretary

Date