

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 3, 2004

The Anchorage School Board met in Special Session on Monday, May 3, 2004, at 6:35 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President, Jake Metcalfe, presided.

Board Members Present: Jake Metcalfe, Tim Steele, Mary Marks, Crystal Kennedy, John Steiner, Jeff Friedman, and Macon Roberts.

Others Present: Jan Christensen, Enid Hunter, Mike Henry, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Debbie Bogart, Jeff Wood, Eric Tollefsen, Janet Stokesbary, Stacy Dunn, George Vakalis, Loretta Nabong, Ray Amsden, Mike Price, Pam Chenier, Stan Syta, Mark Mew, Marie Laule, Ophelia Dargan-Steed, LTC Michelle Holtery, Brian Griggs, William Johnson, Robin Siegfried, the press, and other interested people.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE, Jake Metcalfe Presiding

B. MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

1. Musical Presentation by the Goldenview Middle School Choir.

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tim Steele announced that Board members spent four days in Juneau April 23 - 27, and spoke with several legislators. The House passed \$84.5 million for education and the Senate passed an \$82 million dollar increase. Mr. Steele urged the public to contact the legislators and encourage them to pass the \$84.5 million increase. The District will be in the same situation next year as this year, due to the increase of retirement fund payments.

Macon Roberts announced that he represented the Board at the annual recognition hosted by the Cook Inlet Council at the Alaska Native Heritage Center on the 16th of April. Students from Bartlett High School and Clark Middle School were recognized. East High School and Wendler Middle School students were recognized the month before. Carol Comeau addressed the students and families at both meetings.

Mary Marks gave a brief report on her recent travels. This included a trip to Washington D.C. to attend the National School Board Association for the Extended Day Learning Opportunities Advisory Committee. The committee discussed the selection criteria for six districts. Due to Ms.

Marks' diligence at that meeting, Alaska will be on the criteria list for review. This pertains to all of the districts across the state, not just Anchorage. More information will be forwarded in a couple weeks. While in Orlando for the NSBA General Conference, Ms. Marks was on the agenda to talk about the after school program, and she thanked Debbie Bogart and Nancy Meisler for assisting her with her presentation. Ms. Marks had the opportunity to educate people about our State as to why we need adequate funding and why we have the need for waivers.

John Steiner commented that it was his honor to emcee the North Anchorage Area Music Festival which included bands and orchestras from middle schools, high schools and sixth graders.

Mr. Steiner noted his appreciation and congratulations for the hard work that the District Administration and staff did to ensure that 95 percent of the 12th graders passed the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam. Mr. Steiner also appreciates that the District is committed to making services available for those who did not pass the exam yet and he encourages those students to take advantage of those services and take the exam again. Carol Comeau added her thanks and appreciation to Mike Henry, Jan Christianson, the principals, students and staff for all of their hard work.

D. SUMMARY OF 2003-2004 YEAR, Jake Metcalfe, President

Jake Metcalfe stated that while in New York City recently, he learned about the education issues there. Mr. Metcalfe stated that it made him think how lucky we are to be here and to have the administration and employees in the District that we have. Mr. Metcalfe thinks we have an excellent school system. We have some issues and some problems, but nothing compared to a community that size. Mr. Metcalfe stated that based on his experience as President of the Board and his three years as a Board member, we have a district with a variety of programs and opportunities that students in other communities do not have. Mr. Metcalfe thought that hitting the 95 percent mark is a mark to be proud of and he thanked everyone in the District who worked hard to reach that goal.

When thinking of the summary for the year, Mr. Metcalfe looked at the agendas and minutes and it struck him how much time was spent on the budget and bonds. The Board should take pride on how they handled the budget, and the way they encouraged people to comment on how to deal with the potential budget cuts. It is a reflection on the hard work Ms.

Comeau and her staff did. The Board took a lot of interest on the recommendations from the public and came up with a plan the whole community accepted. Mr. Metcalfe feels this needs to be done more often and now, looking back, the disappointment he has is that the Legislature hasn't reviewed what the District did and hasn't gone to the length the Board did as far as involving the community and listening to what they feel should be done. If they did, they would have come up with a long-term plan for financing education. Mr. Metcalfe hopes they will have the courage to do that during the next session. Mr. Metcalfe feels it had a major impact on the bonds that failed. The fact that we had to cut budgets and positions scared the community to a point where they didn't feel it was possible to support the projects that we need. We need to better engage the community on what we need.

Looking back, the Board had about 30 meetings between August and today, not including meetings of the sub committees. The Board dealt with the bonds, the budget, legislative priorities, and the Six-Year Plan. The Board held numerous work sessions. This is a reflection of all the hard work that the Board and Administration does. Mr. Metcalfe stated that one of the things he is most proud of is the Board taking a major leadership role statewide in education and he thinks the Board needs to keep doing that, and consider rural Alaska and all the other communities in Alaska, when talking about what is important for education in this State. We are the huge hub of Alaska and all the communities in Alaska come through Anchorage. What we do here affects the rest of the State and vice versa. We really need to promote that education is a statewide issue and Mr. Metcalfe feels the Board has done a good job of doing that.

Mr. Metcalfe added that it has been a very productive year and the Board members should take pride in their accomplishments and learn from their disappointments. Mr. Metcalfe closed the 2003-2004 Session. Sine Die.

Carol Comeau presented Jake Metcalfe with a gold pan for the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 school years. The plaque reads "Jake Metcalfe, School Board President, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004. With sincere thanks and appreciation for your outstanding leadership and commitment to the students, staff and families in the Anchorage School District."

Jake Metcalfe commented that this is a great job made easy by the Superintendent and her staff. Mr. Metcalfe also thanked the Board members who are extremely hardworking. When looking at the announcements, you can see how involved the Board members are in this community, the State, and on a national level. It is incredible for a

community our size to have the kind of hard work and volunteerism that we have on this Board. Mr. Metcalfe thanked everyone.

E. ADJOURNMENT OF 2003-2004 - SINE DIE

F. ORGANIZATION OF 2004-2005 SCHOOL BOARD

Superintendent Comeau called for nominations for the 2004-2005 School Board President.

MOTION

Moved by: Jeff Friedman	To nominate Tim Steele as School
Seconded by: John Steiner	Board President for 2004-2005.

The Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Tim Steele called for nominations for the 2004-2005 School Board Vice President.

MOTION

Moved by: Jake Metcalfe	To nominate Mary Marks as School
Seconded by: Macon Roberts	Board Vice President for 2004-2005.

The Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Tim Steele called for nominations for the 2004-2005 School Board Clerk.

MOTION

Moved by: Jake Metcalfe	To nominate Jeff Friedman as
Seconded by: Macon Roberts	School Board Clerk for 2004-2005.

The Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Tim Steele called for nominations for the 2004-2005 School Board Treasurer.

MOTION

Moved by: Jake Metcalfe	To nominate Macon Roberts as
Seconded by: Jeff Friedman	School Board Treasurer for 2004-2005.

The Motion passed by unanimous consent.

The Board took a brief at ease at 6:55 p.m. and reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

G. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Unanimously approved with addenda to the Personnel Report and a revision to the Membership Report.

H. AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. ASD Memorandum #285 – Young Women of Achievement

For the past five years, Matanuska Maid and the YWCA have sponsored the *Young Women of Achievement* awards program. This program celebrates the achievements and contributions of young women who are juniors in public and private high schools in the Anchorage area.

On April 21, seven Anchorage School District students were recognized at the 2004 Young Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon. These inspiring young women, in their own way, have demonstrated achievement in their lives and community.

Congratulations to **Emma Coleman** of East High School, **Melissa Smith** of Chugiak High School, **Katherine Cloudy** of Crossroads Secondary, **Jayne Johnson** of West High, **Tricia Huber** from Dimond High, **Katlyn Miller** from Service High and **Jessica Walters** from Bartlett High.

I. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory Board

Lorett Nabong stated that the Student Advisory Board met on April 29th at Service High School. The next meeting will be May 17, 9:30, at the King Career Center and they will induct the new SAB members. This week and next week, many of the Junior and Senior High School students will be participating in A.P. testing. Recently, the representatives from each of the high schools throughout the State came back from the AASA conference that went very well. Proms occurred throughout this month with no major reported incidents. Ms. Comeau thanked Mr. Nabong for his excellent service to the students of the high schools and middle

schools and for doing an outstanding job representing the students to the School Board.

2. Military Delegate

No report this evening.

3. M.E.C.C.

William Johnson stated that the M.E.C.C. met on April 15 and conducted business as usual. Items on the Agenda included the Legislative update; ERHS boundary and the ASD calendar. The committee discussed whether or not they needed to get in touch with their constituents by way of survey, town meeting, or forum. They will bring this up in the near future as a goal. The committee members thanked Ms. Griffith for helping them with their website. The public is better able to get in touch with the M.E.C.C. members. The next meeting will be held on May 20th in Room 202 in the Administration Building and the public is encouraged to attend. Members attended one of the CIRI family gatherings. It was very educational and informative.

J. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

Moved to later in the agenda.

K. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. ASD Memorandum #235 – Resolution Designating May 12, 2004 as National School Nurses Day

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board adopt the attached resolution designating Wednesday, May 12, 2004 as National School Nurse Day.

2. ASD Memorandum #252 – New Eagle River Area High School Boundaries (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on Second 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. This recommendation passed unanimously on First Reading at the School Board meeting on April 12, 2004.

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.

3. ASD Memorandum #238 - Award of Contract: Airport Heights Elementary School HVAC Upgrade

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Airport Heights Elementary School HVAC Upgrade Project to Christensen Builders Inc. for the Base Bid amount of \$595,000, plus Allowance/ Assignment of \$81,902 for a total award of \$676,902.

4. ASD Memorandum #220 - Award of Contract: Girdwood Elementary School Fire Protection System Upgrade

It is the Administration's recommendation the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the 2004 Girdwood Elementary School Fire Protection System

Upgrade to Accel Fire Systems, Inc. for the Base Bid amount of \$222,649.

5. ASD Memorandum #256 - Award of Contract - Bartlett High School Renewal Temporary Music Room Tenant Improvement

It is the Administration's recommendation the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Bartlett High School Renewal Temporary Music Room Tenant Improvement to Christensen Builders Inc., for the Base Bid amount of \$136,206, plus Allowance Assignment of \$15,348, for a total award of \$151,554.

6. 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.

7. ASD Memorandum #240 - Personnel Report

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

The following memoranda were removed from the Agenda: Memoranda #235, #252, #220, and #251.

ACTION:

Moved by Jeff Friedman  
seconded by Crystal Kennedy

ASD Memorandum #238;  
Memorandum #256; and  
Memorandum #240.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Carol Comeau announced the new principal positions for the next school year.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

Dorothy Orr gave a brief presentation to the Board regarding National Physical Education and Sports Day (May 1-7, 2004).

ASD Memorandum #235 – Resolution Designating May 12, 2004 as National School Nurses Day

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board adopt the attached resolution designating Wednesday, May 12, 2004 as National School Nurse Day.

ACTION:

Moved by John Steiner                      to approve ASD Memorandum #235  
seconded by Mary Marks

Mr. Steiner stated that he pulled this memorandum in order to have the opportunity to read the resolution to honor the school nurses and proclaim the Board's appreciation for their services. The School Board members read the resolution simultaneously.

Carol Comeau commented that the nurses do incredible work in our schools. The District has a number of students with significant health challenges and they would not be able to be as successful as they are without the nurses. John Steiner mentioned that this is also to recognize the school nurse substitutes.

VOTE:

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

Nays:     None

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #252 – New Eagle River Area High School Boundaries (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on Second 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. This recommendation passed unanimously on First Reading at the School Board meeting on April 12, 2004.

### 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.

Carol Comeau stated that the Administration was very pleased that this passed First Reading unanimously on April 12. Once the boundaries are set Ms. Burnett, the principal, will convene a committee of residents and students to work through the future name of the school, the mascot, colors, and huge job of staffing. With this step behind, we can move forward with everything else that needs to be accomplished.

### AMENDMENT

Moved by: John Steiner  
seconded by: Crystal Kennedy

that the Anchorage School Board approve on second reading the attendance boundaries recommended in ASD Memorandum #252, Scenario #6, with the added provision that Board Policy 444.24(4), allowing zone exemptions following a boundary change for under-enrolled schools, will be deemed to apply for

enrollment to both Chugiak High School and the New Eagle River Area High School, up to 97 percent of EED capacity, after first granting timely applications for zone exemptions under Board Policy 444.24(1)-(3). The Executive Director for High School Education and the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction are requested to supervise and coordinate this process, but need not review each individual exemption request under Board Policy 444.24 in this instance.

Mr. Steiner explained that his thought is that the Administration would set a deadline for applications, perhaps requiring lottery applications at the same time - just in case - then process applications under 444.24(1)-(3). The remaining spaces in each school would then have to be determined based on the (1)-(3) requests for each school. The rest of the applications would then be tallied and compared for each school. If there is a shortage of space relative to requests, 444.2 - which calls for lottery procedures - would apply.

Mr. Steiner stated he confirmed with the Administration that it was part of the intent of the original recommendation by the Administration that open enrollment be allowed at Chugiak High School and New Eagle River High School, to maximize the opportunity for attendance at both schools, because both will have some space left in them. We also recognized that Board Policy 444.24 already provides for open enrollment at an under enrolled school to be an exception to the general rule, which says that, other than seniors, after the first year after a boundary change there can be no zone exemptions. The under enrolled school provision applies here and should apply up to 97 percent of capacity. It is Mr. Steiner's view that we should not go to 100 percent because we need to have some room for growth. Also, the Board Policy lists three other exceptions, one being seniors, and the other two have to do with specific educational programs which may be at one school and not the other. The other one is for a particular hardship that a family might have. It is important that those three items should have priority over the general enrollment, but that the open enrollment should be available to all students and the Board should make it clear that that is the intent with this boundary change.

Carol Comeau stated that she has discussed the amendment with Mr. Henry and Ms. Christiansen and it is acceptable. However, it needs to be made abundantly clear that, in cases of zone exemptions, there will be no district transportation provided. Also, if there are more requests than available space at the 97 percent, we will implement the District's lottery procedures. We must allow growth in both of these schools because there is construction in several areas out there.

Jeff Friedman commented that this Board policy was recently amended in order to make it clear that the Board wanted to allow open enrollment when space is available. This amendment says it is limited to the 97 percent capacity. Mr. Friedman would rather allow the principals to decide if they have space for the student and make a determination to accept or not accept a zone exemption. Mr. Friedman stated that he doesn't think the Board needs to put an arbitrary cap at 97 percent when it has already been determined that the DEED capacity figures aren't that meaningful. Although Mr. Friedman feels it will not be a major problem, he feels it goes counter to the changes in the policy that were done earlier this year. Therefore, Mr. Friedman will not support the amendment.

John Steiner commented that it is true that they provided zone exemptions for under enrolled schools. It did provide that once a zone exemption is granted, there is no need to reapply. That locks in a student's right to go to a school and go on through the years. The principal will have to monitor the zone exemptions to make sure that too many are not let in so that the school is not overcrowded. The principal could hold it back to 90 percent if they thought there was too much growth. Mr. Steiner wants to make sure that there is a little bit of space but to indicate that it is the Board's intent that they can go up to 97 percent but they do not have to hold more space than that.

There was a request to call the question by Mr. Metcalfe.

VOTE:

Ayes: Metcalfe, Kennedy, Steele,  
Steiner, Roberts

Nays: Marks, Friedman

VOTE ON AMENDMENT PASSED

AMENDMENT

Moved by: Jeff Friedman  
seconded by: Jake Metcalfe

to amend the boundaries so that all of  
the Eagle River Elementary attendance

area is included in the Chugiak High School attendance area.

Jeff Friedman spoke to his amendment by stating that there is a tiny corner of Eagle River Elementary that is currently proposed to go to the new high school. When Mr. Friedman compared them to the map and how they would have to be bussed to the new high school, it looked like it would be just as easy to keep everyone together in terms of the elementary school. Those same students are mostly together in terms of the middle school. It generally keeps them together. Mr. Friedman believed that at the last meeting, it would not be a significant problem for the Transportation Department.

Carol Comeau reminded the Board that she anticipates the District will be changing the Eagle River elementary boundaries in the next two to three years at the most. Steve Kalmes stated that it is helpful when we keep neighborhoods together for transportation purposes. It would be preferable to use the major thoroughfares as the major boundaries. Ophelia Dargan-Steed commented that this affects 48 students. Steve Kalmes recommended that Eagle River Road would be a preferable boundary, and he does not recommend this change. Mike Henry stated that this is Scenario 4. There were no major problems with this Scenario, but the committee yielded to transportation issues. It was felt that the Eagle River Road would be a better boundary. Carol Comeau confirmed with Mr. Friedman that, with this amendment, he is stating that the entire Eagle River Elementary boundaries would go to Chugiak High School. Ms. Comeau reminded Mr. Friedman of changes that will probably be made to the boundaries in two years. Mr. Friedman replied that looking at what we have today, we have 48 students that are going to be on a bus and they can either go one way or another on a bus. One of the goals has always been to keep elementary schools together. John Steiner commented that he knows the neighborhood and he does not see a neighborhood split there.

Jake Metcalfe asked if there has been a request for this change. Mike Henry replied that he does not recall receiving a request to go to Chugiak instead of Eagle River High School.

Jake Metcalfe called the question.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

Ayes: Steele, Friedman,  
Roberts

Nays: Metcalfe, Kennedy, Marks,  
Steiner

VOTE ON AMENDMENT FAILED

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

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

Nays: None

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED

Crystal Kennedy requested information in regards to looking at middle school boundaries in terms of including the Fort Richardson middle school students into the Gruening Middle School attendance area and look at what that would entail as far as numbers. The reason would be to provide some continuity in the secondary school timeframe for students that are in the Fort Richardson housing areas. Ms. Comeau stated that she thinks that is a good suggestion.

ASD Memorandum #220 - Award of Contract: Girdwood Elementary School Fire Protection System Upgrade

It is the Administration's recommendation the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the 2004 Girdwood Elementary School Fire Protection System Upgrade to Accel Fire Systems, Inc. for the Base Bid amount of \$222,649.

ACTION:

Moved by Jeff Friedman                      to approve ASD Memorandum #220  
seconded by Mary Marks

Mr. Friedman commented that there has been some concern from the Girdwood community regarding the availability of the library during the construction and asked Mr. Amsden to comment publicly. Mr. Amsden replied that the District's commitment was to make the library as accessible as possible. There will be a window of closure. We are waiting for final schedules from the contractors so we can properly coordinate that. The commitment was to minimize that as much as possible. It was also indicated that there could be some inconveniences, i.e. you may have

to walk a distance because parking will not be available nearby but the community members were amiable to that as a solution. Mr. Friedman appreciated Mr. Amsden's comments. Carol Comeau appreciated Mr. Amsden and Mr. Vakalis working with the people of Girdwood regarding this issue. Ms. Comeau stated that we are aware of how important the library is to the community, however, we also know how important fire protection is there, and we need to do our work also. We have come to a good resolution and will make sure we keep them in the loop as far as communication so they know when there will be some closures. Mr. Friedman stated his appreciation for the Administration's efforts to go over and above the call of duty to get the issue worked out.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

The Board recessed at 7:50p.m. and returned at 8:05p.m.

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.

ACTION:

Moved by John Steiner to approve ASD Memorandum #251  
seconded by Mary Marks

Carol Comeau commented that the Board was provided with a number of maps that have been provided of the school. On June 15th, half of Service High School will be undergoing great construction.

Marv Ungreth with Architects Alaska, Rob Balivet and Summer Sauve were available, along with Mr. Amsden, to answer questions.

Mr. Amsden stated that the Phase 2b design is very much a mirror image of the 2a, which is beginning construction this summer. The School Board approved the supplementary ed specs of Phase 2a in April of 2002. We deferred the construction activity to minimize the impact of housing students until we opened South High School. The Phase 2a design is very similar to the 2b, which we are asking approval of tonight. Phase 2b is a little smaller addition and will provide housing for an equivalent number of students on the east end of the building. It has a couple of additional classrooms but is very similar to 2a.

Ray Amsden gave a synopsis of the earlier construction. The first construction activity was the site work that added a fourth drive for getting in and out of the school, which has been greatly enhanced. Part 2 of Phase 1 was the completion of the science classrooms. We also did the east parking lot and relocated the hockey rink. Last summer the construction activity consisted of constructing a field that is below the base of the sledding hill.

We also have Phase 3, which will be construction of the administration area and moving the library. Then, Phase 4, the largest of the work, includes constructing the new cafeteria and gym, and renovates the existing library space into an auditorium.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #233 - Status Report: Submission of Discretionary Grants, Third Quarter 2003-2004 School Year

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

Carol Comeau announced that the Anchorage Community Learning Center's five-year project for \$2,500,000, was approved so we will be able to continue the 21st Century Community Learning Centers at Muldoon, Ptarmigan, Russian Jack and Wonder Park Elementary Schools.

Jeff Friedman commented that he hopes, to the extent that staff is available to do so, that we are trying to collect hard data on the CSF program to see how good they are. Patricia McRae replied that we have had a grant evaluator visiting each year and is coming back. We have a great deal of anecdotal data from the parents who comment on their children's success in school. We are doing long range tracking of report cards to look at social and academic grades and teacher and principal ratings of the program. The Board will receive a grant evaluator's report each year. Carol Comeau commented that this kind of a program is making a difference for our kids. It was designed for them and they looked at what are the problems of the kids and developed a program to help them.

ASD Memorandum #242 - Out-of-District Travel - Third Quarter Report FY 2003-2004

The attached Travel Report summarizes the travel taken by District employees and School Board members during the third quarter of FY 2003-2004 for both in-state and out-of-state travel. This report complies with the travel procedures established with the revision to School Board Policy Sections 156, Board Member Travel, and 526, Staff Travel.

There were 124 District employees and School Board members who traveled during the third quarter of FY 2003-2004 on 147 trips for a total cost to the District of \$145,816.35.

ASD Memorandum #243 - Operating Budget Transfer - March Monthly Report FY 2003-2004

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

John Steiner commented that it was suggested by members of the public that our investment policy might be outdated and precluding us from

making investments that are sound and safe and yet provide a higher return than what we are averaging. The Alaska Housing Finance Corporation adopted a new policy that the Administration might want to look at. Ms. Stokesbary indicated that she would take a look into that.

ASD Memorandum # 245 - End-of-Month Membership Summary for March 2004

The total active enrollment at the end of March was 48,811. This enrollment represents a decrease of 324 students when compared to end of month March 2003. Table 1 compares the membership totals.

A revised memorandum was given to the Board. The difference in elementary schools should have shown -605, and not 221.

J. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

K. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Jake Metcalfe suggested the Board look into purchasing new chairs.

Macon Roberts congratulated Tim Steele and thanked Jake Metcalfe for his good services as President of the School Board. Mr. Metcalfe was always liberal and generous with his time and training for the new members.

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

M. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of May 3, 2004, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Steele, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Friedman, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robin Siegfried, Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Minutes Approved