

**ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**

MINORITY EDUCATION CONCERNS COMMITTEE

MINUTES
April 21, 2005

The Minority Education Concerns Committee met on Thursday, April 21, 2005, at 12:00 in the Superintendent's Conference Room in the ASD Administration Building.

1. CALL TO ORDER

William Johnson called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

Members Present

William Johnson
Atisa Logo
Phyllis Morrell
Helen Sharratt
Alfredia Tyler

Excused

Diane Heard

Absent

Richard Benavides
Skip Hrin
Jesse Vizcocho
Charlene Gibbs

Others Present

Rhonda Gardner, NCLB Coordinator
Marsha Haas, Executive Secretary, Instruction

Mr. Johnson read the letters he had written to Skip Hrin, Jesse Vizcocho and Charlene Gibbs informing them that their membership in MECC has been terminated. All three members had missed five of the seven meetings held thus far in the 2004-2005 school year. The MECC guideline state that "If a seat is unrepresented for three consecutive unexcused business meetings, or a majority of the business meetings in a fiscal year, the incumbent member shall be replaced."

This brings the membership of the committee down to seven members and makes four votes a simple majority. A simple majority is considered a quorum.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION

Moved by Helen Sharratt

to approve the agenda, for the
April 21, 2005 meeting, as amended.

Seconded by Atisa Logo

VOTE

Motion passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION:

Moved by Alfredia Tyler to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2005, meeting, as amended.

Seconded by Atisa Logo

VOTE:

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Rhonda Gardner, No Child left Behind Coordinator, asked the group for their input regarding the District Needs in meeting the NCLB Performance Goals. Hopefully, integration across the District will eliminate redundancies.

Ms. Gardner told the Committee that the Anchorage School District is working with Senator Murkowski's office on the Reauthorization of NCLB in 2007. They are looking at what's working, what isn't, and what the costs outside the grant are.

Information on NCLB can be found on the ASD Website and on Channel 14. Phyllis Morrell suggested using PVAs on regular TV channels, especially to notify parents of deadlines and how to get special help. These public service announcements are free to non-profit organizations.

Alfredia Tyler suggested a good time to put information out to the public would be after the results are announced.

Ms. Gardner will take these suggestions to Michelle Egan in the Communications Department.

5. Helen Sharratt moved that prior to the Chair and Vice-Chair meeting with the School Board, all committee members review the MECC Guidelines and NCLB District Needs, especially the one about expanding community outreach and parent involvement. Phyllis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. Sub-Committee Reports

Ms. Morrell attended the social studies curriculum meeting to select the new curriculum and textbooks for seventh and eighth grade. The committee's recommendation will go to the School Board for approval on May 9, 2005.

Mr. Johnson said the monitoring committee would continue assessing and analyzing the suspension/expulsion data and gathering information regarding minority students. They will also continue to be involved in the due process procedures for students.

Ms. Sharratt submitted the report for the outreach committee at the last meeting.

7. Minority Education Concerns Committee Forums

Ms. Logo said the idea was for the committee members to go to specific organizations/clubs/groups to gather information, not to solve problems. They will target organizations from BridgeBuilders. The meetings will be advertised as a series of meetings and will take place over the next year. Ms. Sharratt suggested having an open microphone and a time limit. Ms. Logo also stated that Superintendent Comeau said a Board member could go along, or anyone else they would like to take. The committee discussed how to document the meetings and take notes for a presentation to the Board.

8. The meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.