

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

Regular Meeting

MINUTES

January 19, 2016

Vice President Gentry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the board room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue. Vice President Gentry led the Pledge of Allegiance. Due to a bus transportation issue, the North Pole High School Orchestra arrived late to the meeting and performed for the school board after the student recognition, under the guidance of Todd Wienke, orchestra director.

Vice President Gentry read the district's mission statement: *"Our mission is to provide an excellent, equitable education in a safe, supportive environment so all students will succeed and contribute to a diverse and changing society."*

Present:

Lisa Gentry, Vice President  
Allyson Lambert, Treasurer  
Michael O'Brien, Clerk  
Sue Hull, Member  
Sean Rice, Member  
Sean Williams, Post Representative  
Kobe Rizk, Student Representative

Absent:

Heidi Haas, President  
Wendy Dominique, Member  
Richard Cole, Base Representative

Staff Present:

Dr. Karen Gaborik, Superintendent of Schools  
Lisa Pearce, Chief Financial Officer  
Sandra Kowalski, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education  
Dan Schmidt, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education  
Traci Gatewood, Executive Director of Human Resources  
Dave Norum, Executive Director of Facilities Maintenance  
Kathie Wassmann, Executive Director of Special Education  
Melanie Hadaway, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Janet Cobb, Executive Director of Technology  
Colleen Fitzgerald, Director of Accounting  
Sharice Walker, Director of Public Relations  
Tim Larrabee, Director of Business Information Services  
Holly Cervin, Director of Alternative Education  
Shaun Kraska, West Valley High School Principal  
Dr. Ellis Ott, Research Associate and Accountability Coordinator  
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board

Others:

John Sedor, Sedor, Sedor Wendlandt Evans & Filippi, LLC  
Mike Cook, Senior Consultant with Cook & Haugeberg CPAs

## PRELIMINARY ITEMS

### We the People State Champions [0:01:06]

The We the People State Competition was held in December in Fairbanks. West Valley High School students took first place in the competition. The We the People competition was a mock Congressional Hearing competition that has been sponsored by the Center for Civic Education. Shaun Kraska, West Valley High School principal, and Amy Gallaway, West Valley coach, made the presentation.

Alicia Alabran	Colton Scribner	Jewel Hediger
Dylan Brabham	Daniel Hornbuckle	Siani Post
Jenny Campbell	Teddy Edquid	Jenna Zusi-Cobb
Mitch Wilson	Teresa Wrobel	Nick Kowalski
Robin O'Donoghue	Jacqueline Lundberg	Brinley Jarvis
Ileana Casiano	Natilly Hovda	Tara Vaughan
Skyler Watt	Carl Birchard	Hunter Meltvedt
Emma Wiegand	Caleb Moretz	Celia Richards
Sam Hiltenbrand	Jonathan Gates	

### ASAA/First National Bank Alaska 2015 All-State Music Festival Recognition [0:06:10 & 0:29:24]

Students who were selected to represent the school district at the ASAA/First National Bank Alaska 2015 All-State Music Festival were recognized. Connie Oba, Alaska Music Educators Association (AMEA) president-elect, made the presentation.

#### ASAA/First National Bank Alaska 2015 All-State Music Festival Participants

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Honor Group</u>	<u>Awards</u>
Jacob Batchelder	Lathrop High	Band	
Jake Carlson	Lathrop High	Band	First Chair String Bass
Athena Hills	Lathrop High	Band	
Anabelle Neiningner	Lathrop High	Band (alternate)	
Lilian Sears	Lathrop High	Band	
Zach Tolver	Lathrop High	Band	
Christain Lynch	North Pole High	Band	First Chair Alto Clarinet
Agustin Pineda	North Pole High	Band	First Chair Euphonium
Brons Gerrish	West Valley High	Band	
Ruth Heidel	West Valley High	Band	
Joey Hogenson	West Valley High	Band	
Rebecca Kahoe	West Valley High	Band	
Pearl Lockwood	West Valley High	Band (alternate)	
Olivia Rockwell	West Valley High	Band	
Roan Willson	West Valley High	Band	
Daniel Woolf	West Valley High	Band	
Bradie Cline	Lathrop High	Orchestra	
Emily Monicken	Lathrop High	Orchestra	
Anabelle Neiningner	Lathrop High	Orchestra	
Lilian Sears	Lathrop High	Orchestra	
Zach Tolver	Lathrop High	Orchestra	
Mikayla Triplehorn	Lathrop High	Orchestra	
Jenna Watson	Lathrop High	Orchestra	
Morgen Frazer	North Pole High	Orchestra	
Alex Apicella-Adams	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Josee Beauchamp	West Valley High	Orchestra	First Chair String Bass
Rosalee Bertram	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Lucas Candelaria	West Valley High	Orchestra	

**ASAA/First National Bank Alaska 2015 All-State Music Festival Recognition (continued)**

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Honor Group</u>	<u>Awards</u>
Sydney Cox	West Valley High	Orchestra	First Chair Violin II
Helen Danielson	West Valley High	Orchestra (alternate)	
Brian Ely	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Anja Endestad	West Valley High	Orchestra	First Chair Violin I
Ari Endestad	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Brons Gerrish	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Naomi Hartman	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Clara Hedman	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Joey Hogenson	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Jade Hsieh	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Mac Levey	West Valley High	Orchestra	First Chair Cello
Van Levey	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Laura Mayo	West Valley High	Orchestra (alternate)	
Sophia Prichard	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Gail Pyne	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Tanner Sprankle	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Marcos Toniolo	West Valley High	Orchestra	
Hayley Zacheis	West Valley High/BEST	Orchestra	
Addie Clark	Lathrop High	Mixed Choir	First Chair Alto II & ACDA All-Northwest Honor Choir
Emily Eaton	Lathrop High	Mixed Choir	
Brett Gilbert	Lathrop High	Mixed Choir	
Kyle Hackett	Lathrop High	Mixed Choir	
Vance Underwood	Lathrop High	Mixed Choir	
Brandon Antesberger	North Pole High	Mixed Choir (alternate)	ACDA All-Northwest Honor Choir
Marshal Chace	North Pole High	Mixed Choir (alternate)	
Taylor Hendricks	North Pole High	Mixed Choir	ACDA All-Northwest Honor Choir
Chris Sanderson	North Pole High	Mixed Choir (alternate)	
Lafi Skipps	North Pole High	Mixed Choir	
Gabe Taylor	North Pole High	Mixed Choir	ACDA All-Northwest Honor Choir
Kelsey Barnum	Lathrop High	Treble Choir (alternate)	
Ainsley Benson	Lathrop High/Hutchison	Treble Choir	
Ellie Flynn	Lathrop High	Treble Choir	
Amara Hackett	Lathrop High	Treble Choir	
Michaela Jackson	Lathrop High	Treble Choir	
Kayla Kurapati	Lathrop High	Treble Choir	
Tristyn Meath	Lathrop High/BEST	Treble Choir	
Christina Nuss	Lathrop High	Treble Choir	
Allie Plachinski	Lathrop High	Treble Choir	
Rebekah Ballard	North Pole High/BEST	Treble Choir	
Leah Dustin	North Pole High	Treble Choir	
Lindsay Moisan	North Pole High	Treble Choir	ACDA All-Northwest Honor Choir
Samantha Perry	North Pole High	Treble Choir	
Izzy Rice	North Pole High	Treble Choir	
Brittany Roberts	North Pole High	Treble Choir (alternate)	
Sabrina Angelo	West Valley High	Treble Choir	
Tana Fudge	West Valley High	Treble Choir	

## **Alaska Music Educators Association (AMEA) 2015-16 Music Advocate & Educators of the Year** [0:13:34]

Melanie Linton, Ticasuk Brown Elementary music teacher, was selected as the Alaska Music Educators Association (AMEA) 2015-16 Music Advocate of the Year. Cynthia Sibitzky, Crawford and Anderson Elementary music teacher, and Sheryl Frey, Denali, Weller, and Woodriver orchestra teacher, were selected as the Alaska Music Educators Association (AMEA) 2015-16 Music Educators of the Year. Connie Oba, AMEA president-elect, made the presentation.

## **North Pole High School Orchestra Performance** [0:19:06]

Due to their bus being late, the North Pole High School Orchestra, directed by Todd Wienke, performed the National Anthem and another piece for the school board after their arrival.

## **Spotlight: North Pole High School** [0:30:51]

Clarice Mingo, North Pole High School principal, presented the spotlight on North Pole High School, which included a delicious beef dish and dessert from students with the school's culinary arts program. The school's mission statement, "Empower students to become global life-long learners and active citizens in our global society" was the foundation of the school's many activities, opportunities, and accomplishments. Students at North Pole High School had the opportunity to experience a wide-range of course offerings such as various CTE options including forensics, culinary arts, health care, and more. The school hosted several award-winning courses, programs, and activities, such as various sports, JROTC and FFA programs, a NATEF certified automotive program, and much more.

## **Board Questions/Comments**

Informational item only. Vice President Gentry thanked Ms. Mingo for her informative presentation and the students for their great food.

## **AGENDA** [0:38:58]

HULL MOVED, RICE SECONDED, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA WITH CONSENT ITEMS.

The following consent items were moved:

accepted the award in the amount of \$5,000 from Charities Aid Foundation America (CAF America) for the N7 Fund grant, per Fiscal Note 2016-24.

accepted the award in the amount of \$17,581 from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, per Fiscal Note 2016-25.

accepted the sub-award in the amount of \$81,461 from the University of Alaska Fairbanks for the Alaska Statewide Mentor Project—Innovations in Education i3, per Fiscal Note 2016-29.

approved the minutes from the work session on November 30; the regular meeting on December 1; and the special meetings on November 30, and December 14, 2015, and January 4 and 11, 2016, as submitted.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-031: Facilities Management Department – Pilot Program in the amount of \$110,000.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-037: English Language Learner Program in the amount of \$29,544.

## **Consent Agenda (continued)**

approved Budget Transfer 2016-038: West Valley High School Activities, in the amount of \$55,129.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-039: West Valley High School Activities, in the amount of \$101,890.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-040: West Valley High School Activities, in the amount of \$54,580.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-041: West Valley High School Activities, in the amount of \$28,205.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-042: Technology Department, in the amount of \$76,040.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-043: Lathrop High School Activities, in the amount of \$66,624.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-044: Lathrop High School Activities, in the amount of \$106,303.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-045: Lathrop High School Activities, in the amount of \$39,699.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-048: Lathrop High School Activities, in the amount of \$34,976.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-050: Star of the North in the amount of \$154,035.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-051: Star of the North in the amount of \$22,529.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-053: Facilities Management Department – Electric, in the amount of \$110,394.

approved Budget Transfer 2016-054: Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School Student Travel, in the amount of \$32,000.

approved Pearl Creek Elementary School's request to raise funds to send students to the School Science Program Science Camp in Homer, Alaska, May 10-14, 2016, where students will study the ocean and coastal ecology, at no cost to the district.

approved West Valley High School's request to send students to France and Spain, March 13-23, 2016, where students will study the culture and visit historical sites, at no cost to the district, and if the State Department issues travel warnings, students will not travel.

approved West Valley High School's request to send students to Rome, Italy, March 15-21, 2016, where students will study the culture and visit historical sites, at no cost to the district, and if the State Department issues travel warnings, students will not travel.

accepted the gift of ten Emotional Regulation Kits (behavior intervention), valued at \$1,530, from Kathy Whitmire of Under the Thinking Cap LLC to Arctic Light Elementary School, for use in kindergarten through sixth grade classrooms.

accepted the gift of \$1,500 from Design Alaska, Inc. to Hunter Elementary School for the purchase of instruments and sheet music for the school's music program.

## **Consent Agenda (continued)**

accepted the gift of \$1,003 from Denali Alaskan Federal Credit Union to Lathrop High School to support the school's girls' basketball program.

accepted the gift of \$1,000 from Doyon Limited to Lathrop High School to support the school's girls' basketball program.

accepted the gift of \$1,335 from Kendall Auto Sales to Lathrop High School to support the school's football program.

accepted the gift of \$9,748 from the Lathrop High School Wrestling Booster Club to Lathrop High School to support the school's wrestling program.

approved the Personnel Action Report for the period November 23, 2015 – January 8, 2016, including the list of tenured teachers for the 2015-2016 school year.

acknowledged the Personnel Information Report for the period November 21, 2015 – January 8, 2016.

acknowledged the Superintendent's Budget Transfer Report for January 19, 2016.

acknowledged the Long Term Suspension & Expulsion Report as of January 13, 2016.

acknowledged the Board's Reading File.

acknowledged the Coming Events and Meeting Announcements.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (WILLIAMS, RIZK)  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(RICE, HULL, O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, GENTRY)

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONAGENDA ITEMS** [0:45:38]

Ron Arnold, PO Box 74512, district staff member, asked the board for the 5 W's of how the chief negotiator was selected. He also asked if the school board was a friend or foe of unions.

Superintendent Dr. Gaborik and Mrs. Hull clarified it was testimony time where the board was able to hear from constituents on non-agenda items. While there was time at the end of the meeting for school board and superintendent comments, some concerns might not be able to be addressed immediately, as additional information may need to be gathered. Information could be provided to Mr. Arnold from the administration after the meeting.

Greg Hill, 4320 Parks Ridge Road, previous Noel Wien Library director, spoke to an article he provided to the school board earlier regarding comprehension of print versus digital content. The article, *Digital vs. Print: Reading Comprehension and the Future of the Book*, by M. Julee Tanner, in San Jose State University's *SJSU School of Information Student Research Journal*, included research into the debate between digital reading versus reading print. "People were more likely to recall information read on paper than digitally." The article went on to state, "Print books were still the best suited to the optical, cognitive, and metacognitive requirements of the reading brain. While e-paper technology has been shown to be the optical equivalent of print on paper, e-readers still are lacking in the physicality that has been shown to be so important for comprehension."

Mr. Hill noted comprehension and reading speed were reduced when reading digital versus print. Humans were analog creatures, not digital. Brains were analog. It was more difficult to recall information when presented digitally. When reading was fun, students did it more often and got better at it. Making reading harder by forcing students to read using tablets was moving in the wrong direction. Mr. Hill asked the board to seriously consider the overwhelming research regarding problems with digital reading.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONAGENDA ITEMS (continued)**

Irene Matheis, 2118 South Cushman, ESSA president, spoke to the association's readiness to negotiate. ESSA members were voters, parents, community members – all invested in the community and the district and its families. Ms. Matheis shared about the important role support staff had in the successful education of students. Many times, students made six to seven contacts with support staff members before the student ever made contact with a classroom teacher. The working environment of ESSA staff was the students' learning environment. ESSA members made it possible for teachers to teach. ESSA members provided support and assistance to the certified staff - working together for student success.

Nancy Duez, 2118 South Cushman, FEA president, spoke on behalf of FEA members. Students were association members' number one priority. Crowded classrooms and reduced staffing were having an effect on student learning. FEA members were community members who wished to be respected by the school district.

Ms. Duez and Ms. Matheis presented a large poster with messages from members on how budget cuts had affected student learning. Staff did not have much time to give one-on-one attention to students. As a grandparent, Ms. Duez was saddened her daughter was considering quitting her job to homeschool.

The membership was well aware of the state's budget cuts. Members were asked to prioritize cuts at the school level. Ms. Duez reported some members were uncomfortable with having to possibly put another member's job on the line. The state should be looking at possible revenue streams, rather than additional cuts. She asked the board to do what was right for students.

FEA and ESSA were united and ready to negotiate agreements that were good for members and good for students.

Gwendolyn Brazier, 755 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, district teacher and product of the school district, spoke from the perspective of a parent regarding large class sizes. Her oldest child was a student at Lathrop in a class of 34 students. Ms. Brazier, having attended all of her daughter's classes, found there were not enough desks in one classroom if all students attended class. Her daughter was struggling in such a large class – it was not a good environment for students. Ms. Brazier shared information regarding the increase in central office staff, questioning why that money was not put towards students. She felt something was wrong when the central office staff was growing but there were not enough classroom teachers for students.

Jodi Rhoades, 1920 Long Circle, a district parent, spoke to the types of media allowed in classrooms. While media could be very helpful and enhance learning, it could also be very destructive. Ms. Rhoades asked the board to reconsider the policy regarding the use of movies in classrooms. Her daughter brought home a permission slip for an R rated movie. In researching why it was rated R, Ms. Rhoades found the "f" word would be displayed 27 times – which was unacceptable. If a student said that word 27 times in a classroom, they would be escorted out. Most people did not allow that type of language in their homes, courts, or other public places. Ms. Rhoades asked the board to review their policies regarding classroom movies and other media that could be shown in a classroom. Media could be very helpful, but if it used content that was contradictory to the way most people in general communicated, it could be very destructive. She asked the board to consider how the media might affect students and what the board wanted students to learn.

Christine Villano, 2142 Bridgewater Drive, a district teacher, thanked the board for their community service. Ms. Villano, a self-defined worrier, shared her concern about the budget and all the options to cope with the fiscal crisis. She understood there had to be cuts, but 30 students

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONAGENDA ITEMS (continued)**

in a class was not constructive. Ms. Villano spoke to the recent hiring of a new labor relations director and asked why the board had then also contracted with an outside negotiator at a special meeting at noon, with minimal notice and minimal board attendance – especially when the district had just recently hired a new labor relations director. She was concerned about the cost of the chief negotiator during a time of fiscal crisis.

Christie Reynolds, 261 Wilderness Drive, Tanana parent, spoke to the K-8 agenda item. *[Point of Order: Vice President Gentry allowed Ms. Reynolds to testify to the agenda item during non-agenda testimony, as Ms. Reynolds was unable to stay until the item was before the board under new business.]* Ms. Reynolds did not believe combining the middle school and elementary schools into a K-8 model was a good idea. She did not think it would work well to cramp all the kids into the schools and thought the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders would be bored. Ms. Reynolds liked Barnette Magnet School, so if there was to be a K-8 school, she thought it should be modeled after Barnette. She thought changing a school to a K-8 model just to save money was not a good idea. It was important to find out the main reason for the change. Ms. Reynolds hoped the district's survey would be considered in the decision rather than the board just doing what it wanted.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Policy 260: Meetings (Second Reading)** [1:11:09]

At the board's October 24 work session, the board discussed meeting efficiencies and suggested board meetings be streamlined. The proposed policy was revised to include the board's amendment from first reading.

*Core Value/Goal: Effective Communication: Establish transparent and consistent communication to increase student, parent, staff, and community connectedness with the district.*

LAMBERT MOVED, HULL SECONDED, TO APPROVE SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADOPTION OF POLICY 260: MEETINGS.

HULL MOVED, LAMBERT SECONDED, TO POSTPONE ACTION ON POLICY 260: MEETINGS UNTIL AFTER A FUTURE WORK SESSION.

### **Public Comments**

Tammy Smith, 4201 York Avenue, district teacher, wasn't necessarily against the change in policy, but was seeking clarification about the reasoning for the change. Ms. Smith was concerned the board would be limiting public discussion to once a month. Regarding the other proposed policy changes to meetings, she asked if the wording regarding a work session would be "shall" or "will" hold a work session, and if public testimony would be accepted for any topic or specific to the topic of the work session.

### **Board Questions/Comments**

Board members expressed their concern and confusion regarding the proposed changes to the meeting policies and thought a work session to consider the proposed changes would help with clarity for all.

The board voted on the motion to postpone Policy 260: Meetings.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (WILLIAMS, RIZK)  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, RICE, HULL, GENTRY)



**Policy 264: Types of Meetings (Second Reading)** [1:17:27]

At the board's October 24 work session, the board discussed meeting efficiencies and suggested board meetings be streamlined. The proposed policy was revised to include the board's amendment from first reading.

*Core Value/Goal: Effective Communication: Establish transparent and consistent communication to increase student, parent, staff, and community connectedness with the district.*

LAMBERT MOVED, HULL SECONDED, TO APPROVE SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADOPTION OF POLICY 264: TYPES OF MEETINGS.

**Public Comments**

None

**Board Questions/Comments**

Board members expressed their concern and confusion regarding the proposed changes to the meeting policies and thought a work session to consider the proposed changes would help with clarity for all.

HULL MOVED, RICE SECONDED, TO POSTPONE ACTION ON POLICY 264: TYPES OF MEETINGS UNTIL AFTER A FUTURE WORK SESSION.

The board voted on the motion to postpone Policy 264: Types of Meetings.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (WILLIAMS, RIZK)  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(HULL, O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, RICE, GENTRY)

**Policy 272: Agenda (Second Reading)** [1:19:13]

At the board's October 24 work session, the board discussed meeting efficiencies and suggested board meetings be streamlined. The proposed policy was revised to include the board's amendment from first reading.

*Core Value/Goal: Effective Communication: Establish transparent and consistent communication to increase student, parent, staff, and community connectedness with the district.*

LAMBERT MOVED, O'BRIEN SECONDED, TO APPROVE SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADOPTION OF POLICY 272: AGENDA.

**Public Comments**

None

**Board Questions/Comments**

HULL MOVED, RICE SECONDED, TO POSTPONE ACTION ON POLICY 272: AGENDA UNTIL AFTER A FUTURE WORK SESSION.

The board voted on the motion to postpone Policy 272: Agenda.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (RIZK, WILLIAMS)  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(RICE, HULL, O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, GENTRY)

The board took a short break at 8:22 p.m. and reconvened at 8:27 p.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Travel Request: Lathrop Ballroom Dance Team Middle School Students** [1:21:22]

Lathrop High School's Ballroom Dance Team requested permission for middle school students from Ryan and Tanana Middle Schools to accompany Lathrop's dance team to Orange County, California, February 10-16, 2016, where the team would compete in the California Open Dance Sport Competition, with administrator costs paid by the district, and if the State Department issued travel warnings, students would not travel.

*Core Value/Goal: Student-Centered: Center everything we do on the student and student learning.*

LAMBERT MOVED, O'BRIEN SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE LATHROP HIGH SCHOOL BALLROOM DANCE TEAM'S REQUEST TO ALLOW MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM RYAN AND TANANA MIDDLE SCHOOLS TO ACCOMPANY LATHROP'S DANCE TEAM TO ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, FEBRUARY 10-16, 2016, WHERE THE TEAM WILL COMPETE IN THE CALIFORNIA OPEN DANCE SPORT COMPETITION, WITH ADMINISTRATOR COSTS PAID BY THE DISTRICT, AND IF THE STATE DEPARTMENT ISSUES TRAVEL WARNINGS, STUDENTS WILL NOT TRAVEL.

Dr. Gaborik spoke to the travel request and had previously emailed board members the group's approval process timeline.

#### **Public Comments**

Stefani Borrego, 2920 Riverview Drive, Lathrop ballroom dance team coach, clarified the ballroom dance group was not asking for an additional administrator, there were already 11 chaperones traveling. Ms. Borrego shared details of the trip, including the group would be performing at Knott's Berry Farm and Disneyland. She expressed her frustration regarding the approval process for the trip.

Amber Cheney, 1015 Galena Street, mother of one of the ballroom dance team members, voiced her concerns regarding the approval process. Ms. Cheney felt the communication regarding the approval process for the trip had been handled poorly. She understood the request had been denied, with no reason given, by the administration before it even had the opportunity to come before the board. Ms. Cheney was concerned the administration might be setting a precedent for future travel and wanted to be certain policies were administered fairly.

Amber Cagwin, 999 Coppet St, mother of one of the ballroom dance team members, made the point the Lathrop Ballroom Dance group was like any other team, if one member was removed from the team, it affected the entire team. Ms. Cagwin asked the board to take that into consideration when making their decision.

#### **Board Questions/Comments**

Board members had several questions regarding the travel request including the authority of chaperones, the reasoning behind the administration's initial denial, and the administration's request for sending an additional administrator, considering the team already had 11 chaperones traveling. Dr. Gaborik stated sending an additional administrator was a bigger picture issue. In order to provide the level of supervision needed when middle school and high school students traveled together, the administration wanted a middle school administrator to accompany the group. In the past, although not with the Lathrop Ballroom Dance group, when middle school students traveled with high school students, there had been issues. Going forward, Dr. Gaborik anticipated both middle school and high school administrators would be sent as chaperones when middle and high school students traveled together. Board members understood the administration's intent, but felt this specific trip probably did not require an additional administrator.

## **Travel Request: Lathrop Ballroom Dance Team Middle School (continued)**

Dan Schmidt, assistant superintendent of secondary education, explained the trip had initially been denied because students would be missing three days of instruction.

HULL MOVED, O'BRIEN SECONDED, TO AMEND THE MAIN MOTION TO STRIKE THE LANGUAGE, "WITH ADMINISTRATOR COSTS PAID BY THE DISTRICT" ELIMINATING THE NEED FOR AN ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATOR TO TRAVEL WITH THE LATHROP BALLROOM DANCE TEAM.

### **Board Questions/Comments on the Amendment**

It was clarified, that although the administration anticipated sending both a middle school and high school administrator when middle school and high school students traveled together in the future, the amendment would not require the additional administrator for this particular trip.

The board voted on the amendment.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (WILLIAMS, RIZK)  
AMENDMENT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, RICE, HULL, GENTRY)

### **Board Questions/Comments on the Main Motion as Amended**

Board members thought additional discussion may be needed regarding the issue and suggested the policies regarding the issue go before the Policy Review Committee; it was suggested the need for an additional administrator might not be warranted in all cases. Board members expressed concern with the communication process and delay in approving the trip. They hoped the students had a great time on their trip.

The board voted on the main motion as amended.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (WILLIAMS, RIZK)  
MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(LAMBERT, RICE, HULL, O'BRIEN, GENTRY)

### **Annual Audit Report** [1:47:11]

The school district's Fiscal Year 2014-15 Financial Statement Audit was complete and presented to the school board.

*Core Value/Goal: Effective Communication: Establish transparent and consistent communication to increase student, parent, staff, and community connectedness with the district.*

LAMBERT MOVED, HULL SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE FY 2014-15 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND AUDITOR'S REPORT.

Colleen Fitzgerald, director of accounting services, and Mike Cook, senior consultant with Cook & Haugeberg CPAs, presented a brief overview of the audit report. The school district was once again awarded the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Association of School Business Officials International Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the June 30, 2014 financial statements. The district had obtained the awards for the past several years.

The audit of the financial statements did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that were considered to be material weaknesses. The audit did note a potential area of improvement regarding other matters involving the district's systems of internal control and their operation.

## **Annual Audit Report (continued)**

### Public Comments

None

### Board Questions/Comments

The board asked Ms. Fitzgerald and Mr. Cook to report on the area of improvement needed and any progress made regarding last year's recommendations.

### Current Recommendation

Risk Information: The district did not regularly receive information regarding new or ongoing insurance related claims filed against the district. This situation limited the district from being able to effectively manage and possibly mitigate potential risk claims, and created difficulty in monitoring contingency costs timely throughout the fiscal year. The auditors encouraged the district to work with risk management in order to determine the most effective way to communicate the information in a timely manner and in accordance with HIPAA requirements.

### Previous Year Recommendations

Personnel File Documentation: In 2012, the audit found instances where W-4 documentation was missing. It did not identify any missing W-4 information while performing the 2014 audit; however, while performing 2015 audit procedures, in two files selected for additional test work, that information was found to be incomplete. The auditors continued to recommend completed W-4 documentation should be obtained and maintained in each employee's payroll file.

Year End Encumbrances: During the audit, it was once again noted there were open purchase orders that should have been closed during the district's year-end procedures. The auditors suggested the district's closing procedures include a thorough review of long outstanding open purchase orders and follow-up discussions with the corresponding departments to determine whether or not open purchase orders were for items still needed and not yet received.

Cash Handling Procedures: It was noted administrative secretaries at the schools were not notified when there were NSF checks, which could result in incorrect recording of student payments. The auditors suggested the district monitor and continue to improve the process of notification to schools when NSF payments were identified.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (RIZK, WILLIAMS)  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, RICE, HULL, GENTRY)

Board members thanked Ms. Fitzgerald, Mr. Cook, and their staffs for all their work and assistance.

### **Resolution 2016-09: Honoring Black History Month** [2:01:37]

School Board Resolution 2016-09 honored Black History Month and proclaimed February 2016 Black History Month for cultural celebrations and activities throughout the district, throughout the year.

*Core Value/Goal: Respect: Embody respect for the diversity and dignity of all.*

HULL MOVED, O'BRIEN SECONDED, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2016-09:  
HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH.

Mr. O'Brien read the resolution for the public record.

## **Resolution 2016-09: Honoring Black History Month (continued)**

### Public Comments

None

### Board Questions/Comments

Board members expressed their support for the resolution and shared information about civil rights and several events taking place throughout the community in honor of Black History Month and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (RIZK, WILLIAMS)  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(HULL, O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, RICE, GENTRY)

## **Resolution 2016-10: Honoring Elizabeth Peratrovich Day** [2:08:10]

School Board Resolution 2016-10 honored Elizabeth Peratrovich Day and proclaimed February 16, 2016, Elizabeth Peratrovich Day for studying her life and commitment to the ideals of civil rights and nondiscrimination, on an ongoing basis.

*Core Value/Goal: Respect: Embody respect for the diversity and dignity of all.*

O'BRIEN MOVED, LAMBERT SECONDED, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2016-10: HONORING ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY.

Mrs. Hull read the resolution for the public record.

### Public Comments

None

### Board Questions/Comments

Board members expressed their support for the resolution and the importance of continuing the recognition throughout the year.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (WILLIAMS, RIZK)  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(RICE, HULL, O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, GENTRY)

## **Resolution 2016-11: In Support of a State Fiscal Plan to Resolve the State Budget Gap** [2:13:28]

School Board Resolution 2016-11 supported a state fiscal plan to resolve the state budget gap.

*Core Value/Goal: Student-Centered: Center everything we do on the student and student learning.*

LAMBERT MOVED, HULL SECONDED, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2016-11: IN SUPPORT OF A STATE FISCAL PLAN TO RESOLVE THE STATE BUDGET GAP.

Mrs. Lambert read the resolution for the public record.

### Public Comments

None

### Board Questions/Comments

It was noted the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce passed a similar resolution on August 24, 2015. The chamber's resolution's recognized a long-term sustainable fiscal plan could not be accomplished without considering other revenue sources, such as the use of Permanent Fund Earnings.

**Resolution 2016-11: In Support of a State Fiscal Plan to Resolve the State Budget (continued)**

O'BRIEN MOVED, HULL SECONDED, TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION TO ADD THE LANGUAGE, "BY CONSIDERING OTHER REVENUE SOURCES, SUCH AS THE USE OF THE PERMANENT FUND EARNINGS RESERVE" AS THE LAST LINE OF THE RESOLUTION.

Public Comments on Amendment #1

None

Board Questions/Comments on Amendment #1

It was noted the use of the Permanent Fund Earnings was an important issue facing the legislature.

The board voted on the first amendment.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (WILLIAMS, RIZK)  
AMENDMENT ONE CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 4 AYES; 1 NAY  
(AYES: LAMBERT, HULL, O'BRIEN, GENTRY) (NAY: RICE)

Board members asked about the state's budget deficit. Lisa Pearce, chief financial officer, explained the deficit in the resolution aligned with original information from the state in June, but believed it had since been changed to \$3.5 billion.

HULL MOVED, NO SECOND RECORDED, TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION IN SEVERAL PLACES: 1) IN THE FIRST WHEREAS, TO STRIKE THE FIGURE OF \$3 BILLION AND REPLACE IT WITH \$3.5 BILLION; 2) IN THE FIRST WHEREAS, TO STRIKE THE WORD "PRECIPITATE" IN THE SECOND SENTENCE AND REPLACE IT WITH "FORCE"; 3) IN THE FIRST WHEREAS, TO ADD THE WORD "ALASKA'S" IN THE THIRD SENTENCE BEFORE "CHILDREN"; 4) IN THE SECOND WHEREAS, TO STRIKE THE LANGUAGE "IN ADDITION TO FUNDING A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES" IN THE SECOND SENTENCE; AND 5) IN THE SEVENTH WHEREAS, STRIKE THE LANGUAGE "DOING NOTHING SIGNIFICANT ABOUT THE BUDGET GAP THIS YEAR IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE OPTION" AND REPLACE IT WITH, "POSTPONING ACTION TO CLOSE THE BUDGET GAP TO FUTURE YEARS PLACES THE STATE AT GREATER PERIL."

Vice President Gentry asked for and heard no objection to combining all amendments into one motion.

Public Comments on Amendment #2

None

Board Questions/Comments on Amendment #2

Mrs. Hull spoke to the amendment.

The board voted on the second amendment.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (WILLIAMS, RIZK)  
AMENDMENT TWO CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, RICE, HULL, GENTRY)

**Resolution 2016-11: In Support of a State Fiscal Plan to Resolve the State Budget (continued)**

The board voted on the main motion as amended.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (RIZK, WILLIAMS)  
MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(RICE, HULL, O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, GENTRY)

**Approval to Continue to Explore the Feasibility of Transitioning Multiple Schools from a K-6 to a K-8 Model** [2:26:43]

At the school board's November 30, 2015 work session on K-8 and high school options, the board expressed support for the administration to continue research and planning for a change from the current model to one that included multiple K-8 schools with a target transition date of fall 2017.

*Core Value/Goal: Personalize Learning: Provide students with options to meet their needs and achieve academic success.*

LAMBERT MOVED, O'BRIEN SECONDED, TO DIRECT THE ADMINISTRATION TO CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF TRANSITIONING MULTIPLE SCHOOLS FROM A K-6 TO A K-8 MODEL.

Dr. Gaborik reminded board members of the strategic plan goal of personalized learning. At the November work session, the administration presented an update from the K-8 Options Work Group. During fall 2015, the work group made significant progress researching the possibility of shifting from the current K-6/middle school model toward multiple K-8 schools districtwide. The administration conducted a survey on the matter and had already received approximately 1400 responses. Information from the survey would be used to inform the work group. Dr. Gaborik stressed no decisions had yet been made. If the decision was eventually made to move to a K-8 option, parents would have the choice to have their students attend the K-8 model or remain in a middle school option.

The administration clarified it was seeking to formalize the board's direction from the work session. If the motion was approved, the administration would continue to research the feasibility of offering a K-8 option. The intent of the K-8 work group was to consider all the input received and all available options such as full-day kindergarten, magnet school models, etc. The information would be provided to the board at a later date for their consideration. The decision was not to be made at the present time. After all the input was gathered and considered, the board could decide to go with a K-8 model, a magnet school model, or something else. Dr. Gaborik noted a magnet school would most likely require boundary changes, where a K-8 model might not require boundary changes.

**Public Comments**

Carri Forbes, 607 Old Steese Highway, district parent, voiced her concern that parental choices would be limited if the district moved to all K-8 schools. Ms. Forbes would like her children to attend a middle school model; a K-8 model would need a lot of structure before she might be convinced to send her children to a K-8 school. She questioned busing options and availability for families who elected to not to participate in the K-8 schools. In speaking to teachers, Ms. Forbes did not think teachers were interested in teaching K-8.

Frida Shroyer, 1635 Becker Ridge Road, Tanana Middle School teacher, was aware of the current financial climate and understood difficult financial decisions had to be made, but did not believe moving to a districtwide K-8 model was in the best interest of students. Ms. Shroyer noted the early teens were difficult years for many students and they needed middle school to prepare for success in high school. Middle school offered students changing classes, multiple teachers, and content specific teachers.

## **Approval to Continue to Explore the Feasibility of Transitioning Multiple Schools from a K-6 to a K-8 Model (continued)**

The district had taken positive steps to increase rigor throughout the curriculum and Ms. Shroyer did not see how the elementary schools would have enough room for the number of content teachers needed to prepare students for high school and beyond. Middle school was needed to meet the unique needs of middle school students.

At 9:50 p.m.

HULL MOVED, RICE SECONDED TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND CONTINUE THE MEETING TO 10:30 P.M.

Vice President Gentry asked for and received no objection and continued the meeting.

Kristina Schmitt, 505 Herning Road, speaking as a parent, community member, and Tanana Middle School teacher, believed the movement towards a K-8 model was a step backwards in education. The district's current middle school model offered a plethora of resources and great teachers. Research showed students who attended a middle school model transitioned more successfully to high school than students who transitioned from a K-8 model. Ms. Schmitt spoke to the advantages offered to students in traditional middle school settings. While the district had successful K-8 schools, they were program and theme specific and reproducing the same setting was not always feasible, as it would put a strain on the district's already taxed budget and financial woes. Ms. Schmitt asked the board to consider the community's interest as a whole, not just those who had children in the district.

Pepper McFarland, PO Box 71517, Tanana Middle School teacher, spoke to the opportunities students would miss if they did not attend a traditional middle school model. Ms. McFarland was passionate about the opportunities available to middle school students and what they would miss in a K-8 model, such as preparing for high school, practicing with lockers, changing classes, learning from different teachers with different expectations, prioritizing homework and time management, electives, experiencing a diverse population, physical education in large gyms, competitive sports – all things they would not be able to experience in a K-8 model and prior to high school. Ms. McFarland asked the board to consider what students would miss if they did not attend a traditional middle school model.

Jennifer Luke, 412 Baranof, a long-time foster parent, had seen education lacking in the children in her home. Ms. Luke recognized the importance of full-day kindergarten. As foster parents, her family had gotten special permission to pay for private kindergarten, so the children would be able to attend a full-day kindergarten program. Ms. Luke was a huge supporter of full-day kindergarten; she had seen a huge change with her children in full-day classes. Kindergarten was an important stepping stone in the elementary education program. She asked the board to consider full-day kindergarten. Ms. Luke also recognized the support and teaching staff at Hunter Elementary School – they were incredibly awesome and she thanked them for their assistance and genuine caring for her and her children.

Cindy Bachert, 511 Glacier Avenue, Tanana nurse, spoke to her long-time experience as a nurse and how she had worked to show students what she did as a school nurse. Ms. Bachert worked with student teacher aides in the nurse's office to show them how math and school applied to real-life jobs. Over the years she had received requests for reference letters from students who had gone on to successful careers as nurses and physicians. She targeted students who did not want to be in school – to try to show them the relevance of education and motivate them to stay in school. Ms. Bachert spoke to the board about a rumor she had heard about the district moving to a program where there would be one nurse to six schools; she wanted the board to know she could not do her job if that was the case.



## **Approval to Continue to Explore the Feasibility of Transitioning Multiple Schools from a K-6 to a K-8 Model (continued)**

Linda Cozzini-McKirgan, 1364 Opportunity Way, Tanana Middle School teacher, asked the board to consider the transition into adulthood with middle school, which was a concern she had with the K-8 model. There were middle school students who were taking care of siblings and parents, and who had jobs. The middle school was designed for young adults and their transition to adulthood; elementary schools were not equipped for young adults. Ms. Cozzini-McKirgan questioned if the elementary schools were prepared for young adults and had the space necessary for music rooms, art rooms, various computer labs, science labs, woodshop, and family and other consumer science courses. She liked the idea of a K-8 model if the model could accommodate the adult side of learning. Ms. Cozzini-McKirgan asked the board to consider the transition to adulthood.

Kindi Lesley, PO Box 73974, elementary band teacher at Hunter, Ladd, and Anne Wien Elementary Schools, had some red flags about moving to a K-8 model. In looking through the agenda, Ms. Lesley repeatedly saw language regarding what was best for kids. She asked the board as they continued researching and looking into a K-8 model to do what was best for kids and their development. She believed change might be necessary, but not all change was beneficial and just because something was feasible did not mean it was better. Ms. Lesley noted that K-8 and magnet school models required a higher level of parental involvement in order to work. Expecting all schools to have that same level of parental involvement was setting the school up for failure. She also noted full-day kindergarten could be offered without moving to a K-8 model. Ms. Lesley suggested that rather than utilizing extra rooms at the elementary schools for middle school students to utilize them to offer full-day kindergarten. She appreciated the board thinking outside the box, but asked that a K-8 model not be their only option.

Courtney Wappett, PO Box 10585, parent of four district students, appreciated the board's work and efforts to make a better community. Ms. Wappett voiced her support for Tanana Middle School; it provided a rich quality learning environment for youth. The school had provided an environment that allowed her son to grow and flourish from the extra opportunities it offered. The school prepared students to go on to high school. Ms. Wappett appreciated the teachers at Tanana and what they were doing to support and prepare students.

### **Board Questions/Comments**

Board members thanked everyone for their comments and input. Board members noted that up to the evening's testimony, most of the feedback and comments they had heard were positive and supported the K-8 option. They appreciated the testimony.

The board's work had always been about what was best for students. It was about providing options and increasing opportunities and choices for students and families. Board members would not support change that was not in the best interest of students and their learning and development. Board members encouraged people to continue to submit their input and take the survey.

Board members voiced their support for the motion directing the administration to continue their research and review of K-8 and other options. Some concern was voiced regarding the class sizes of the full-day kindergarten pilot. The board appreciated the administration's approach to researching K-8 models, magnet schools, and other options.

After the input was compiled and the work group completed its work, the administration anticipated bringing back recommendations for the board's consideration. The board would then consider the input and administration's recommendations in making their decisions.

## **Approval to Continue to Explore the Feasibility of Transitioning Multiple Schools from a K-6 to a K-8 Model (continued)**

At 10:28 p.m.

RICE MOVED, HULL SECONDED TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND CONTINUE THE MEETING TO 11:00 P.M.

Vice President Gentry asked for and received no objection and continued the meeting.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (RIZK, WILLIAMS)  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES  
(O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, RICE, HULL, GENTRY)

### **INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

#### **Superintendent Report** [3:22:43]

*Core Value/Goal: Effective Communication: Establish transparent and consistent communication to increase student, parent, staff, and community connectedness with the district.*

Superintendent Dr. Gaborik had Dave Norum, executive director of facilities management, provide the board with an overview of how the district managed snow removal/parking lot plowing.

Dr. Gaborik announced the administration had moved the mailroom from the administrative center to the warehouse. There were no staffing changes associated with the move.

#### **Board Questions/Comments**

Board members appreciated the review and the work of the snow removal crews.

An update on the district's Internet/website filters was requested. Dr. Gaborik would have an update at the next meeting.

#### **Enrollment and Ethnicity Report** [3:32:10]

Janet Cobb, executive director of technology, and Dr. Ellis Ott, research associate and accountability coordinator, presented the Enrollment and Ethnicity Report. Dr. Ott reviewed the multi-race reporting which allowed information to be represented accurately and respected the district's great diversity. The report was based on the enrollment as of October 1, 2015, and included the comparison groups under the normal process for reporting and Dr. Ott's multi-ethnic reporting process.

*Core Value/Goal: Effective Communication: Establish transparent and consistent communication to increase student, parent, staff, and community connectedness with the district.*

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Board members appreciated Dr. Ott's work on developing the new, more accurate reporting and noted the state was taking Dr. Ott's process under consideration.

#### **BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS** [3:49:22]

Mrs. Hull reported on the Parent Engagement Committee (PEC). She was excited about the committee and its work. The next Parent Engagement Committee meeting was scheduled for February 11, 2016.

## **BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)**

Mrs. Lambert announced the next Citizen Budget Review Committee (CBRC) meeting was scheduled for February 4, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. Dr. Gaborik would be presenting the administration's 2016-2017 Proposed Budget to the school board on February 1, 2016.

Mr. O'Brien thanked Ms. Gallaway at West Valley High School for the invitation to judge the We the People event, which was a fantastic experience. He also thanked Ben Eielson High School for hosting him for a school visit. The school reported a board member hadn't been to their school in 10 years. He encouraged board members to visit the school. Mr. O'Brien thanked the North Pole High School students for the food – it was fantastic, especially with the length of the meeting. He announced the Policy Review Committee (PRC) would be meeting on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Mr. O'Brien asked the administration to continue their work on the microphones, especially at the public speaking booth, as it had cut-out throughout the meeting.

Mr. Rizk thanked everyone for attending the meeting. It was great to see all the student and staff recognition. He announced the Regional Student Council would be meeting the next day at 11:00 a.m.; they had a full agenda, including the valedictorian/salutatorian process. Mr. Rizk felt obligated to bring up the issue of lunch detentions. There were teachers who were giving lunch detention for not doing homework. He pointed out, some students were making conscious decisions not to do the homework in some classes, as they had to prioritize their work and other obligations. Mr. Rizk suggested a possible future discussion on lunch detentions; he didn't realize they were still being given to students. He informed the board of an issue raised at the last Regional Student Council meeting regarding transgender students' involvement in athletic activities; the issue had been raised at the statewide Alaska School Activities Association (ASAA) level. He described the discussion at the Regional Student Council meeting as a fiery discussion, as there were legitimate concerns and legitimate discussions to be had.

On behalf of the entire board, Vice President Gentry congratulated all the student and staff awardees and thanked the North Pole High School Orchestra for their performance and Ms. Mingo and her students for the spotlight and delicious food. She thanked everyone for their testimony and comments throughout the meeting; it was important for board members to hear from students, parents, and community members. She also thanked the staff for their reports and presentations.

Dr. Gaborik explained staff had been and would continue to work on the board room's sound system until all the issues were corrected.

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 p.m.

Submitted by Sharon Tuttle, executive assistant to the Board of Education.