

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

Work Session

MINUTES

March 2, 2016

President Haas called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m. in the board room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue. The work session was called to accept public testimony and for board discussion and work on the 2016-17 budget.

President Haas 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:

Heidi Haas, President
Lisa Gentry, Vice President
Allyson Lambert, Treasurer
Michael O'Brien, Clerk
Sue Hull, Member (By Phone)
Kobe Rizk, Student Representative

Absent:

Wendy Dominique, Member
Sean Rice, Member

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
Janet Cobb, Executive Director of Technology
Melanie Hadaway, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Helen Clark, Director of Federal Programs
Heather Rauenhorst, Director of Special Programs and Strategic Partnerships
Holly Cervin, Director of Alternative Programs
Sharice Walker, Director of Public Relations
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board

Public Testimony on the 2016-17 Budget [0:02:13]

President Haas called for public testimony.

Marlene Flynn, 1610 Moose Trail, parent and SMART employee, spoke in support of the SMART program. Being new to the SMART program, Ms. Flynn shared some of her observations. The program functioned very well in a structured, comfortable, and safe environment affording students the opportunity to make-up, maintain, or even get ahead on their school work. SMART staff members cared and worked hard to help students and their families. The program was successful in helping some students finish high school rather than become a statistic in the community.

Deborah Rinio, PO Box 205, Hutchison High School librarian, spoke in support of library assistants. Ms. Rinio explained the importance of a library assistant and the support the position provided to the librarian, which allowed her to do her job as a librarian.

Public Testimony on the 2016-17 (continued)

Ms. Rinio was asked how the elimination of the library media director had affected her. Ms. Rinio stated there had been no professional development provided by an expert in the library field. Without a library media director, there was no longer an intermediary between the librarians and the public library. She noted several other services had been reduced or deleted and response time was slower than in the past. Ms. Rinio suggested the board inquire with elementary librarians, as she could see a huge impact from afar at the elementary level.

Cary Landry, 4733 Soapberry Loop, district parent, spoke in support of the SMART program. The program had been very helpful to him as a parent, as well as his son. The program also offered a valuable service to the Fairbanks and military communities.

Chrya Sanderson, 3498 Rosehip Drive, North Pole High School Alaska Native Education tutor, voiced her concerns regarding the results and consequences of the budget cuts. She had seen a decrease in moral and support services. She questioned why there was not a hard look at reductions for the BEST program.

Calling for additional public testimony and hearing none, President Haas closed public testimony at 6:19 p.m.

2016-17 Budget Work [0:19:23]

Superintendent Dr. Karen Gaborik and Lisa Pearce, chief financial officer, provided an overview of the FY 15-16 Approved-Revised Budget Adjustments from last year and the 2016-17 Proposed Budget Adjustments. Adjustments proposed in the 2016-17 budget totaled \$4,698,121. Additional adjustments to the 2016-17 Proposed Budget for salary and benefit obligations totaled \$2,287,451. None of the adjustments increased class size.

The administration's proposed budget was based on the governor's budget, which included a \$50 increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA). Dr. Gaborik approached the budget based on a balanced educational program and what was needed in the schools, rather than from a position of numbers. While specific funding levels were still unknown, the administration had drafted Level 1, 2, and 3 reduction proposals for the board's review. The reductions addressed known collective bargaining agreement costs and potential reductions in state funding.

Dr. Gaborik reviewed each level of proposed reductions, each based on possible funding scenarios (reduction totals were cumulative):

- Level 1 Reductions (pg 4 attached) – If the proposed \$50 increase to the BSA was cut, reductions of \$1,043,501
- Level 2 Reductions (pg 5 attached) – If there was a 5% reduction to the FY16 BSA, reductions totaling \$8,970,316
- Level 3 Reductions (pg 6 attached) – If there was a 10% reduction to the FY16 BSA, reductions totaling \$16,376,483

Board Questions & Comments [0:47:30]

Board discussion ensued. Item for discussion only; no action required. Board members confirmed class size continued to be their top priority and appreciated the administration's menu of potential reductions. Board members questioned the administration and commented on non-personnel costs, student activities, the SMART program, elearning and other online options, behavior intervention specialists and school counselors, looking at vertical cuts, the BEST program and increasing enrollment/revenue, facility management reductions, CBRC's request to reduce class size in the early grades, exempt salaries, special education, and partnering with other community entities and moving the Alaska Room.

Board members requested reduction information with corresponding costs; it was difficult to consider the reductions without dollars associated with them. There was also a request for comparative information regarding human resource department staffing from other districts and entities. Dr. Gaborik noted the administration had HR comparative data ready for the March 7 meeting.

Public Testimony on the 2016-17 Budget [1:37:50]

At the end of board questions and comments, President Haas again called for public testimony.

Donna Cole, 1103 John Kalinas Rd, Alaska Room cultural specialist, testified in support of the district's Alaska Room. Ms. Cole spoke to the important role the Alaska Room served for not only the Native community, but the entire Fairbanks community. Thousands of children visited the Alaska Room each year and learned about Native culture and history. Ms. Cole encouraged the school board to maintain the Alaska Room.

Deanna Houlton, borough resident, Alaska Room employee, spoke to the importance of maintaining the Alaska Room. Ms. Houlton was sad to see it on the reduction list. Evaluations from the Alaska Room expressed 100 percent gratitude regarding the knowledge of Alaska Native culture experienced during visits. The Alaska Room provided hands-on learning to students across the district by staff, guests, and Elders who knew their culture; the experience was invaluable. Ms. Houlton encouraged board members to visit the Alaska Room and experience it for themselves.

Twana Landry, 4733 Soapberry Loop, district parent, shared how the SMART program had helped her son. Ms. Landry spoke to the program's exceptional staff and the support they provided to both her son and her family. It was wrong to take a program away that was helping students. Ms. Landry questioned the costs associated with elearning and other online courses and how students would pay for the classes or even get access to the Internet. As a member of the military who had served in war zones, she had seen kids struggling. In America, kids should not struggle; we need to take care of our own. Ms. Landry asked the board to maintain the SMART program.

Julia Kakaruk, 229 Palace Circle, Alaska Room employee, spoke in support of the Alaska Room. The Alaska Room was very important and she was disappointed it only served elementary students and not secondary students. Ms. Kakaruk was thankful she did not go to school in the district; the district was the hardest district for students of her color. She questioned the safety of moving the Alaska Room to the Morris Thompson Cultural Center; the facility was open to the public. Schools were enclosed and students were safe.

Dr. Gaborik explained the administration was not suggesting the Alaska Room be totally eliminated and apologized for the use of the term eliminate on the budget documents. The vision, which was started under a previous superintendent was to partner with the Morris Thompson Cultural Center to offer the Alaska Room. Dr. Gaborik was surprised to hear concern about the Morris Thompson Cultural Center; she usually heard it was a great place.

Board Comments/Announcements [1:53:30]

President Haas announced the upcoming budget meetings.

- Monday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m. – Budget Work Session, including the CBRC report
- Wednesday, March 9 at 6:00 p.m. – Public Hearing & Budget Work Session
- Monday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. – Budget Work Session
- Wednesday, March 23 at 6:00 – Special Meeting: 2016-17 Recommended Budget Approval

The board would not be meeting over spring break. Public comment on the budget would also be accepted at the March 22 Regular Meeting. The public was encouraged to listen to the budget meetings and provide input. The board encouraged the public's full participation. The district was facing a very difficult budget situation and the board and administration would continue to monitor the situation.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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

Reductions to 2016-17 Proposed Budget

Level 1 Reduction -\$50 to BSA (\$5930)

(\$1,043,501)

Presented by Program

FTE

Response to Intervention (RTI)

RTI Coordinator - Cut to 10 months

Student Activities

Eliminate Elementary SAS & SDA
 Reduce MS/Jr. High Activities - 40% Reduction to SAS & SDA
 HS Activities: Outsource hockey, swim, xc skiing, cheer, wrestling, gymnastics
 Federal Programs student travel

Student Support Services

Eliminate Teen Option program (3.0)
 Prevention Intervention Specialist - Hutchison (1.0)
 Safe & Healthy Students Coordinator - Cut to 10 months
(4.0)

Teaching, Learning & Prof Dev

Reduce Curriculum Materials

Personnel Adjustments

(4.0)
\$ (1,043,701)

<i>Program</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Overall</u>
<i>Instruction</i>		
<i>Student Support Services</i>	(4.0)	-4.66%
<i>RTI -K-8 Interventions</i>	(2.0)	-9.52%
<i>Special Education</i>	(2.0)	-0.52%
<i>Facilities Management</i>		
<i>Administrative Center</i>		
<i>Student Activities</i>		

Reductions to 2016-17 Proposed Budget

Level 2 Reduction -5% to FY16 BSA (\$5586)

(\$8,970,316)

Presented by Program

	FTE
<u>Instruction</u>	
Class Size Adjustment K +0.0 to 22.5	0.0
Class Size Adjustment 1-3 +0.5 to 24.5	(4.0)
Class Size Adjustment 4-6 +0.5 to 26.5	(4.0)
Class Size Adjustment 7-8 +1.0 to 27.5	(3.5)
Class Size Adjustment 9-12 +2.5 to 31.0	(11.5)
Teacher - Barnette Supplemental (reduce 50%)	(1.0)
Teacher - Career & Technical Education - CTE	(1.0)
Teacher - Elementary 4th Grade Instrumental	(2.0)
Teacher - DW Art (1 coordinator remains)	(3.0)
	(30.0)
<u>Response to Intervention (RTI)</u>	(18.0)
<u>Student Activities</u>	(18.0)
Reduce High School Activities - 10% Reduction to SAS & SDA	
<u>Administrative Center</u>	
Reduce Communications Coordinator	(0.5)
Reduce Grants/Policy Coordinator	(0.5)
Assistant Accounting Clerk	(1.0)
Purchasing Clerk	(1.0)
Technology Engineer	(1.0)
Eliminate hard drives for teacher laptops (would not be repurposed to students)	(4.0)
	(4.0)
<u>Teaching, Learning & Prof Dev</u>	
Reduce Curriculum Materials	
MAP Testing grades (reduce from grades 3-10 to 5,7,9 only)	
<u>Facilities Management Department</u>	
Carpenter	(1.0)
Electronic Technician	(1.0)
Wire Crew - term position	(1.0)
	(3.0)
<u>Charter Schools</u>	
Reduce funding level	
<u>Human Resources (HR) Department</u>	
Benefits Assistant	(1.0)
<u>Special Education</u>	
Secretary	(1.0)
Teacher - Mentor	(1.0)
	(2.0)
<u>Student Support Services</u>	
School Technology Specialists	
Reduce Library Assistants (4MS, 3HS - WV, LA, NP)	(6.0)
Eliminate SMART Program	(7.0)
Secretary - Barnette Supplemental (reduce 50%)	(4.0)
Swimming Aide (RYN)	(0.5)
Reduce Extended contracts for counselors & librarians	(1.0)
Department Heads	
Eliminate Regular Education Summer School	
	(18.5)
Level 2 Reductions	(76.5)
Level 1 Reductions	(4.0)
Proposed Budget Adjustment	(4.0)
	(84.5)
	\$ (8,971,685)

Program	Cumulative FTE	Overall
Instruction	(30.0)	-3.22%
Student Support Services	(22.5)	-26.19%
RTI -K-8 Interventions	(20.0)	-95.24%
Special Education	(4.0)	-1.05%
Facilities Management	(3.0)	-1.71%
Administrative Center	(5.0)	-5.29%
Student Activities	0.00%	0.00%

Reductions to 2016-17 Proposed Budget

Level 3 Reduction -10% to FY16 BSA (\$5292)

(\$16,376,483)

Presented by Program

	FTE
<u>Instruction</u>	
Class Size Adjustment K +0.0 to 22.5	0.0
Class Size Adjustment 1-3 +1.0 to 25.0	(4.0)
Class Size Adjustment 4-6 +1.5 to 27.5	(4.0)
Class Size Adjustment 7-8 +2.5 to 29.0	(4.5)
Class Size Adjustment 9-12 +3.0 to 31.5	(2.5)
Teacher - Career & Technical Education - CTE	(1.0)
Teacher - Elementary 5th & 6th Grade Instrumental	(8.5)
Teacher - eLearning Labs	(5.0)
	(29.5)
<u>Response to Intervention (RTI)</u>	
RTI Coordinator	(1.0)
RTI Non-Personnel	
Eliminate AIMS Web K-2	
	(1.0)
<u>Student Activities</u>	
Eliminate MS/Jr. High SAS & SDA	
Activities Coordinators (1 remaining DW Coordinator)	(2.5)
	(2.5)
<u>Administrative Center</u>	
Eliminate Communications Coordinator	(0.5)
Warehouse Person I	(1.0)
AP/Fixed Asset Accountant	(1.0)
ITT-Instructional Technology Teachers (1 remaining for inst design)	(2.0)
Director of Personalized Learning	(1.0)
Director of Business Services	(1.0)
Computer Technician	(1.0)
Technology Admin Secretary	(1.0)
	(8.5)
<u>Charter Schools</u>	
Reduce funding level	
<u>Teaching, Learning & Prof Dev</u>	
Reduce Curriculum Materials	
<u>Facilities Management Department</u>	
12 Month Custodians	(2.0)
<u>Human Resources (HR) Department</u>	
Sr Human Resource Assistant I	(1.0)
<u>Special Education</u>	
Program Cuts TBD	
<u>Student Support Services</u>	
Behavior Aides	(18.0)
Prevention Intervention Specialists (3HS - WV, LA, NP)	(3.0)
Assistant Principal (RSMS)	(1.0)
eLearning Labs Chromebooks	
Eliminate Alaska Room - AWE	
ELL Secretary - Cut to 10 months	
ELL Equipment	
	(22.0)
Level 3 Reductions	(66.5)
Level 2 Reductions	(76.5)
Level 1 Reductions	(4.0)
Proposed Budget Adjustment	(4.0)
	(151.0)
	\$ (16,376,309)

<i>Program</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>	
	<i>FTE</i>	<i>Overall</i>
<i>Instruction</i>	<i>(59.5)</i>	<i>-6.39%</i>
<i>Student Support Services</i>	<i>(44.5)</i>	<i>-51.80%</i>
<i>RTI -K-8 Interventions</i>	<i>(21.0)</i>	<i>-100.00%</i>
<i>Special Education</i>	<i>(4.0)</i>	<i>-1.05%</i>
<i>Facilities Management</i>	<i>(5.0)</i>	<i>-2.84%</i>
<i>Administrative Center</i>	<i>(14.5)</i>	<i>-15.34%</i>
<i>Student Activities</i>	<i>(2.5)</i>	<i>-71.43%</i>