

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

Regular Meeting

MINUTES

March 22, 2016

President Haas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the board room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue. Lathrop High School's Jazz Band led the Pledge of Allegiance and performed for the board under the guidance of Tristan Hovest, band director.

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
Allyson Lambert, Treasurer
Michael O'Brien, Clerk
Wendy Dominique, Member
Sue Hull, Member (By Phone)
Sean Rice, Member
Richard Cole, Base Representative
Sean Williams, Post Representative
Kobe Rizk, Student Representative

Absent:

Lisa Gentry, Vice President

Staff Present:

Dr. Karen Gaborik, Superintendent of Schools
Lisa Pearce, Chief Financial Officer
Sandra Kowalski, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education
Traci Gatewood, Executive Director of Human Resources
Dave Norum, Executive Director of Facilities Maintenance
Melanie Hadaway, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Janet Cobb, Executive Director of Technology
Sharice Walker, Director of Public Relations
Helen Clark, Director of Federal Programs
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board

Other:

John Ringstad, District Lobbyist

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

President Haas thanked the Lathrop Jazz Band for the great performance. She was pleased the budget reductions to date did not include any reductions to music.

Interior Alaska Spelling Bee Champion [0:10:37]

The Interior Alaska Spelling Bee was held on Saturday, March 5, 2016. Seventy-five student spellers from 22 schools within the Interior participated. Crawford Elementary sixth grader Kaitlyn O'Bryan won the competition with the word "centaur." Michelle Daml, curriculum coordinator overseeing the competition, made the presentation.

AGENDA [0:13:47]

O'BRIEN MOVED, DOMINIQUE SECONDED, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA WITH CONSENT ITEMS.

The following consent items were moved:

accepted an award in the amount of \$5,000 for the Lowe's Tool Box for Education from the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, per Fiscal Note 2016-31.

accepted the award in the amount of \$139,804 for Alaska 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) grant from the Federal Department of Education via Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, per Fiscal Note 2016-32.

accepted the award in the amount of \$33,680 for Alaska 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) grant from the Federal Department of Education via Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, per Fiscal Note 2016-33.

accepted the increased award in the amount of \$4,534 for the Title X, Part C, McKinney-Vento Homeless Competitive Grant from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, per Fiscal Note 2016-34.

accepted the award in the amount of \$112,101.17 for the Nutritional Alaskan Foods for Schools Designated Legislative Grant from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, per Fiscal Note 2016-35.

approved the minutes from the special meetings on March 2 & 7; the work sessions on March 2, 7, & 9; and the regular meeting on March 1, 2016, as submitted.

approved Ticasuk Brown Elementary School's request to send students to Denali Park on May 12, 2016, where students will explore the region, its land forms, and animals, at no cost to the district.

approved Barnette Magnet School's request to raise funds to send its Robotics Team to Carlsbad, California, May 20-22, 2016, to participate in the Open North American Invitational Robotics Tournament, at no cost to the district, and if the State Department issues travel warnings, students will not travel.

approved Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School's request to raise funds to send its JROTC to Honolulu, Hawaii, March 10-19, 2017, where cadets will compete in a JROTC drill competition 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 raise funds to send one student, as a member of the Barnette Magnet School Robotics Team, to Carlsbad, California, May 20-22, 2016, to participate in the Open North American Invitational Robotics Tournament, at no cost to the district, and if the State Department issues travel warnings, students will not travel.

accepted the gift of \$5,000 from Verizon to Lathrop High School for winning "Best in State" for their submission to the national Verizon Innovation App Challenge, with prize money being used to fund a quadcopter/drone program at the school next year.

accepted the gift of \$10,000 from the Purple & Gold Choir Booster Club to Lathrop High School to support the choir's travel expenses to New York City.

Consent Agenda (continued)

approved the Personnel Action Report for the period February 22 – March 10, 2016.

acknowledged the Personnel Information Report for the period February 20 – March 10, 2016.

acknowledged the Superintendent's Budget Transfer Report for the period February 16-29, 2016.

acknowledged the Long Term Suspension & Expulsion Report for the 2015-2016 school year, as of March 21, 2016.

acknowledged the Board's Reading File.

acknowledged the Coming Events and Meeting Announcements.

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (COLE, WILLIAMS, RIZK)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES
(RICE, HULL, DOMINIQUE, O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, HAAS)

Public Comment on Nonagenda Items [0:18:40]

Carey Lutrell, 3735 Helensdale Road, spoke to the issue of out-of-attendance (OAA) students on Eielson Air Force Base. Out-of-attendance families had received a letter regarding the enforcement of the district's OAA policies and regulations for next school year. Ms. Lutrell did not agree with the 10-day waiting period before student placement could be confirmed, especially at the elementary level. The district needed to do what was best for students; the change would have huge impacts on families regarding transportation, day-care, etc. She thought the district did not receive funding for students when they were out-of-attendance and it always seemed to be about money versus kids. Ms. Lutrell pointed out there were empty classrooms at Anderson Elementary, while North Pole Elementary was almost full. If students were required to return to their home school, North Pole Elementary would be over capacity. It did not make sense to force students into crowded class rooms when there were empty classrooms at Anderson.

Mrs. Dominique asked about funding for out-of-attendance students. Superintendent Dr. Gaborik clarified the district received funding for out-of-attendance area schools. She also explained the OAA policies had been in place and principals were working to be consistent in the application of the policies.

President Haas asked for a copy of the OAA letter provided to parents.

Charles Teter, 1620 Washington Drive, Effie Kokrine Early College Charter School Native Youth Olympics coach, spoke in support of having middle school students travel and participant with high school students in the NYO state competition in Anchorage. The competition was a great experience and a good opportunity for middle school students to see role models in the older students and learn from them. Participation also helped to promote a healthy lifestyle. Students who participated in the Native Youth Olympics tended to live a healthier life style. Mr. Teter understood there had been issues during previous trips, but there were parents willing to travel with the team this year to help with supervision. Coaches were also being more selective in the athletes traveling and participating.

Albert Attla, 2800 Reliance Drive, district parent, spoke in support of Native Youth Olympics middle school athletes traveling to Anchorage to participate in the state competition. Mr. Attla's son had been working hard and should be allowed to travel. It would be a good experience for his son. Mr. Attla had noticed a marked improvement in his son's attitude and sportsmanship since he became involved in NYO. The sport had motivated his son to keep his grades up.

Public Comment on Nonagenda Items (continued)

Mr. O'Brien asked why the middle school students were not allowed to travel; he thought the board had previously addressed middle school students traveling with high school students when the ballroom dance team traveled earlier in the year. Mr. Attila did not know the reason for not allowing the middle school students to travel.

Superintendent Gaborik stated it came down to the supervision piece of having middle school and high school students traveling together. For the last two years, the district has had to send an administrator to the NYO event. In hearing the testimony, it appeared there could be additional parental supervision support and if there had been a change, the administration was interested in hearing about it.

President Haas clarified that if there had been a change, the principal or head teacher could submit a request to travel. Dr. Gaborik stated President Haas was correct, but she wasn't aware of a change at the current time.

Scott Darter, 803 Shannon Drive, long-time musician and district teacher, spoke in support of music and the significant role music played in student growth and their education. Mr. Darter has been a teacher for 34 years and a musician for over 50 years. Over the course of his career he had watched children change. One of the most disturbing changes was the inability to defer gratification. Music was one of the few places where children could learn long-term incremental growth towards a goal without immediate gratification. Music, in addition to all the other benefits it provided, provided that opportunity, which addressed one of the most significant needs Mr. Darter had seen in the classroom throughout the course of his career. He encouraged the board to keep that in mind as they worked on the budget. Music played a significant role in academics.

Carol Murphrey, 1066 Sundance Loop, Effie Kokrine Early College Charter School parent, spoke in support of her son traveling to Anchorage to participate in the Native Youth Olympics. NYO had been a very positive experience for her son and she witnessed the encouragement he received from the older students. Last year, her son traveled with the group and it had been a very positive experience. Ms. Murphrey wanted to support her son attending the state competition.

Violet Mayo, 2030 Jack, Randy Smith Middle School parent, supported the middle school Native Youth Olympic athletes traveling to Anchorage to participate in the state competition. Ms. Mayo spoke to how previously her daughter, and now her son, had blossomed since they participated in NYO. Her son now had a positive outlook and was engaging. Competing in NYO took stamina and strength and a lot of work and dedication. As a parent, she would love to volunteer and support the program.

Cathi Batchelder, 232 Iditarod Avenue, musician and district parent, came from a family full of musicians. Ms. Batchelder was a member of the Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee (MAC), a community-based advocacy group that developed the Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee Annual Report. The primary goal of the committee was to support music in the curriculum and to promote access to music in the curriculum for all students. The MAC report was provided to board members through an earlier email. The purpose of the report was to provide baseline information to establish the current state of music education. Ms. Batchelder provided a brief overview of the report including a summary of how many students were involved in music across the district, at what schools, and who was providing the instruction, along with highlighting the many good things happening throughout the district in regards to music. She thanked the board for their consideration of the report and time; a lot of time and effort had gone into the report.

President Haas reminded board members the report was sent electronically earlier in the day.

Public Comment on Nonagenda Items (continued)

Mr. O'Brien had read the report earlier in the day and was very impressed with it. He thanked the committee for their time and the report.

Kendi Lesley, PO Box 73974, district teacher, yielded her time to Ms. Batchelder so she could continue the presentation on the Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee Annual Report.

Ms. Batchelder continued her presentation of the Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee Annual Report. The report included detailed biographies of district music staff, program information at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, highlights of the positive impact and influence of music on students and staff, and the committee's recommendations.

Liesl Wietgreffe, 2610 Lisa Ann Drive, district staff and president of the Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee (MAC) this year, thanked the board for their support of music through the years. Ms. Wietgreffe was pleased to hear there were currently no reductions to district music programs. She let the board know she and members of the committee were available to talk with board members and answer any questions they might have, as well as get input from them on things they would like to see in future reports. The goal of the committee was to open and expand communication with the board regarding music, to help with any future decisions the board might need to make involving music.

President Haas clarified there were currently no proposed reductions in music in the administration's proposed budget. Once local and state funding was determined, the board would revisit the budget to make any final adjustments and depending on the amount of funding the district received, anything and everything could be on the table.

Charlotte Lewis, 656 Kodiak Street, district parent, spoke to the implementation of the out-of-attendance policy. Ms. Lewis was concerned for the children who would no longer have access to Eielson's before and after school programs. If implementation of the policy was enforced at Eielson schools there could be a number of latchkey kids and she was concerned for their safety. Ms. Lewis also voiced concern about the amount of work on staff to reset a classroom after 10 days if they received or lost OAA students. She encouraged the board to consider what was best for children.

President Haas asked Ms. Lewis how she thought parents might respond if there was an influx of new Air Force families and students next year and increased class sizes if OAA students were allowed to remain. Ms. Lewis thought parents would understand larger classes to stay at a base school.

President Haas thanked everyone for their testimony. The board appreciated hearing from the community.

OLD BUSINESS

Policy 272: Agenda (Second Reading) [0:55:25]

At the board's January 19 board meeting, board members voiced concern regarding three meeting and agenda policies. Action on this policy, along with two others, was postponed until the board had an opportunity to consider it further at a work session. At the last board meeting, President Haas asked for and received no objection from board members to bring Policy 272: Agenda, forward for second reading. The revision, as proposed, would simply move the current language from the policy to the administrative regulation to provide the board more flexibility with meeting agendas.

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

Policy 272: Agenda (Second Reading) (continued)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

None

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (WILLIAMS, RIZK, COLE)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES
(LAMBERT, RICE, HULL, DOMINIQUE, O'BRIEN, HAAS)

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2016-12: Honoring Traditional Chiefs' Day [0:57:05]

Resolution 2016-12 honored Traditional Chiefs' Day during the third week of March and encouraged each school in the district to honor the legacy of Traditional Chiefs by studying their lives and leadership of the indigenous people of Interior Alaska throughout the year.

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

RICE MOVED, O'BRIEN SECONDED, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2016-12:
HONORING TRADITIONAL CHIEFS' DAY.

Mr. Rice read the resolution for the public record.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

President Haas noted this year was the second year of the resolution, which was developed last year through the Board Diversity Committee. It was exciting to hear and learn about Traditional Chiefs and what they had done for Fairbanks and Interior Alaska.

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (COLE, WILLIAMS, RIZK)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES
(O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, RICE, HULL, DOMINIQUE, HAAS)

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Superintendent Report [1:00:25]

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

Superintendent Dr. Gaborik spoke to the Native Youth Olympics travel and asked for the board's direction. If there were enough chaperones, would the board support the middle school students traveling and/or did they support the administration sending district administrators? The group was scheduled to travel on April 21. Dr. Gaborik asked if it was the board's intent to allow middle school students to travel with high school students. Board members voiced their individual support for allowing middle school students to travel with high school students. Dr. Gaborik noted the administration was reviewing and working on all travel policies

Superintendent Report (continued)

President Haas requested supervision information be included on student travel requests involving middle and high school students traveling together.

Dr. Gaborik announced Elizabeth Medicine Crow would be the keynote speaker at the September 2016 back-to-school inservice. She was very excited to have Ms. Medicine-Crow. The topic would be culturally responsive teaching. There would be sessions on military-culture, teaching social studies and engaging all students, culturally responsive teaching and how it related to the Alaska Standards, math and cultural context, and other sessions facilitated by Ms. Medicine-Crow on Alaska Native Ways of Knowing, and Poverty and the Culture of Poverty.

Dave Norum, executive director of facilities management, provided a brief update on the building rentals pilot and weekend facility-user coverage. The pilot was working very well, with the hiring of four employees. The pilot allowed for regular time pay rather than overtime, saving money to the district and user groups, yet still allowing for activity coverage. Revisions to the user fees for next year would be effective July 2016. Mr. Norum thanked the board for being persistent and challenging the staff to find ways to reduce costs. The new program seemed to be working well for all involved.

Legislative Update [1:15:29]

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

John Ringstad, district lobbyist, provided a legislative update. The legislature was down to the last four weeks of the regular 90-day session. The focus this year had been on the budget crisis. The budget had gone to conference committee, and things should start to move. Legislators were intentionally leaving room in the budget for specific reasons such as an overhaul of the corrections system and Medicaid reform, both which would result in significant budget savings.

In regards to the \$50 increase to the Base Student Allocation (BSA) in the governor's budget, the house and senate have both kept it in their versions of the budget to-date. There had been minimal discussion on pulling the increase out.

There had been very little other legislation because legislators were focused on the budget. Legislation topics to watch included TRS/PERS and the state's contribution, rehiring district retirees, parental rights – opting in/opting out, and classroom presenters.

It was year two of a two year legislature. At the end of the session, most bills would die and work would begin again with the new legislature.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Barbara Haney, 520 North Freeman Road, borough citizen, from Mr. Ringstad's report, asked if SB 89 was considered a hostile bill by the district.

Mr. Ringstad stated the district did not necessarily consider SB 89 a hostile bill, but the opt-in/opt-out provisions would be difficult administratively for the district.

Dr. Haney asked about the district's position and what version of SB 89 they were working from. She supported SB 89 and had in fact written part of the original bill. It was difficult to know the district's position if she didn't know what version of the bill the district was working with.

Legislative Update (continued)

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Mrs. Hull expected the TRS/PERS bill anytime. She would be interested to see what the cost to the district would be. She thanked Mr. Ringstad for tracking the legislation and the update. She would provide an update on the recent AASB conference and state board meeting at the next meeting, as she was preparing to catch her flight to Fairbanks.

Mrs. Hull, participating by phone, had to leave the meeting at 8:29 p.m. to catch her flight.

President Haas announced there would be a Legislative Committee Meeting on April 4. She thanked Mr. Ringstad for the update, traveling to Juneau, and always being willing to take board member calls and questions throughout the session.

Report on Draft AR 985: Commencement Ceremony Participation [1:30:14]

Administrative Regulation (AR) 985: Commencement Ceremony Participation was drafted to address previous concerns regarding graduation attire. The AR was updated since the last report to the board on February 16.

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

Superintendent Dr. Gaborik explained Mr. Schmidt was out, so Shaun Kraska, West Valley High School principal, would speak to the revisions. To address the board's request from the last meeting, to take the administration regulation to the Alaska Native Education Parent Advisory Committee (ANE PAC), the committee had reviewed the language.

Ms. Kraska reported Mr. Schmidt had met with the ANE parent advisory committee and they had provided input. The input from the ANE PAC was provided to the secondary principals, who did not make any additional revisions; they had liked the input provided from the ANE PAC. She reported both the secondary principals and ANE PAC were very pleased with the revisions.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Board discussion ensued. Item for discussion only; no action required. Board members thanked the principals and Alaska Native Education Parent Advisory Committee for their input and work on the administrative regulation.

K-12 Science Curriculum Revision Report [1:34:23]

The proposed *K-12 Science Curriculum* was provided under separate cover for the school board's review and consideration. The board would be asked to act on this item at its April 5, 2016 meeting.

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

Melanie Hadaway, executive director of curriculum and instruction, summarized the revisions to the K-12 Science Curriculum. During the science revision process, proposed drafts were widely disseminated to ensure teachers, administrators, the school board, and members of the general public were well informed about revisions and had an opportunity for clarification and input prior to adoption and implementation.

K-12 Science Curriculum Revision Report (continued)

The current science curriculum document was adopted on March 3, 2009. During the revision process for the 2009 document:

- Revisers examined the required high school courses to ensure students met Grade Level Expectations for the Science Standards Based Assessments.
- Focused on *Earth and Space Science* as the recommended foundational course for incoming 9th graders.

In June 2012, the Alaska State Standards (AKSS) were adopted which included standards for Literacy in Science. High academic standards were an important first step in ensuring all Alaska students had the tools they needed for success. At the current time, Alaska's adopted science standards were identified as Grade Level Expectations, although revision of the state science standards was expected to begin within the next year.

Since work on the science revision began in spring 2015, the document underwent a thoughtful and rigorous drafting and refining process. The curriculum currently recommended for adoption established a strong foundation for the knowledge and skills all students needed for success in high school and postsecondary education.

Teachers had the initial opportunity to review the proposed curriculum during the August 14, 2015 districtwide professional development day and provided comments through September 6, 2015. Subsequent drafts were sent out to teachers for input. The Board Curriculum Advisory Committee (BCAC) members discussed the science curriculum at their September 3, October 8, and November 5, 2015 meetings.

The FNSBSD K-12 proposed Science Curriculum was aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The state of Alaska had not yet adopted the NGSS, but there were indications that since it had been so long since the science standards were reviewed, the state would be looking at a revision of the standards in the future. The NGSS provided an important opportunity to improve not only science education but also student achievement. Based on the *Framework for K-12 Science Education*, the NGSS were intended to reflect a new vision for American science education.

The proposed curriculum met both Alaska Grade Level Expectations and the Next Generation Science Standards. In addition, the inclusion of the Science and Engineering Practices aligned the proposed curriculum with the Mathematic and Literacy standards and expectations of the district's other currently adopted curriculum.

The BCAC was involved throughout the revision process. All drafts were reviewed by the committee; member concerns and suggestions were considered. At the March 3, 2016 BCAC meeting, members voted and approved forwarding the K-12 Science Curriculum to the school board for adoption. The committee provided their formal recommendation for the board's consideration.

The administration anticipated recommending adoption of the proposed Science Curriculum at the April 5, 2016 Regular School Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Barbara Haney, 520 North Freeman Road, recommended the board proceed more slowly in consideration of the science curriculum. Dr. Haney thought the content was lacking. For political and budgetary considerations, she thought the board might want to consider delaying the adoption of the curriculum. There were less than 300 days left of the Obama administration. After that, there would be a new president, with new ideas. She would hate to see the district invest in training and new materials and within less than a year, have to redo it again for a new administration.

K-12 Science Curriculum Revision Report (continued)

Dr. Haney did not like the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), but there were other districts which had adopted them without the world ending. She was just concerned at this point of the fiscal ramifications of having to redo new curriculum and materials under a new administration. She urged the board, from a fiscal perspective, to move forward with caution.

Dr. Haney pointed out many notable scientists were absent from the curriculum, which concerned her. She also noted she had other concerns with the district, but felt the testimony time was not the appropriate time to address them.

President Haas encouraged Dr. Haney to email or call the board with any other concerns.

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Board discussion ensued. Item for discussion only; no action required. Regarding Dr. Haney's comments, board members asked about teachers being allowed to teach about scientists not included in the curriculum. Mrs. Hadaway explained there was not a list of scientists that should or should not be taught and teachers had the flexibility to supplement the curriculum. Board members also asked about textbooks and library media kits.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS [1:45:28]

On behalf of the entire board, President Haas thanked the Lathrop Jazz Band and Mr. Hovest for their great performance. She congratulated Kaitlyn O'Bryan as the Interior Alaska Spelling Bee Champion. President Haas thanked everyone for their testimony. She also thanked the administration for their reports and work. She announced the Lathrop Choir would be performing at Carnegie Hall on Easter Sunday.

President Haas also announced the board would be meeting the next day at 6:00 p.m. to approve the 2016-17 Recommended Budget. The district's last budget forum was scheduled for March 29 at 6:00 p.m. in the West Valley High School library. A Legislative Committee Meeting was scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on April 4, 2016.

Colonel Williams thanked the Lathrop Jazz Band and Mr. Hovest for the great performance; it was a great way to kick-off the meeting. Regarding middle school and high school students interacting together in activities, it could be wonderful opportunity in the right setting. He shared about the Tanana Middle School and Ladd Elementary School buddy program where approximately 75 pairs of students met at the Ft. Wainwright Physical Fitness Center. It was a great opportunity for the older students to mentor the younger students. Colonel Williams asked about the intent of having mostly parental supervision or administrators for middle and high school trips and the possible fiscal ramifications in light of the district's budget restraints.

President Haas thought adding the supervision information to the travel memos would be helpful during the transition. She often heard from the community about too many administrators traveling with groups.

Colonel Cole agreed with Colonel Williams about the good opportunities regarding middle school and high school students traveling together, but was concerned about committing the district to additional expenses. He appreciated the musical performance. Colonel Cole appreciated all the public testimony and information provided. He was amazed how much music helped learning. Music was truly important to education and student learning.

Mr. Rice was happy to see students participating in the Native Youth Olympics. He thanked the administration for the graduation attire regulations.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

Mrs. Lambert thanked everyone who testified. The Citizen Budget Review Committee was pretty much adjourned until next September. She thanked all the committee members for their work on the budget. She supported middle school students traveling with high school students. If there needed to be additional supervision for the NYO trip, she supported sending administrative support. Mrs. Lambert thanked the administration for the graduation ceremony policy, she was excited to see how it panned out during the upcoming commencements.

Mr. O'Brien echoed the appreciation of others regarding public testimony. He was pleased to see the administration, board, and public working together to resolve issues. The meeting was a good example of everyone working together. He appreciated the graduation ceremony regulations and thought it sent a great message to students. Graduations were not only a celebration for students and their families of their academic achievement, but also a time to celebrate and honor their culture. Mr. O'Brien announced the Policy Review Committee would be meeting on Monday, March 28. The committee would continue their work on the social media policy, along with other policies.

Mrs. Dominique thanked everyone who testified. She agreed with Colonel Williams and Colonel Cole regarding sending administrators on trips during a budget crisis. She suggested seeing how many parents would be attending and if needed, perhaps send one administrator.

In recognition of Women's History Month, Mrs. Dominique recognized Dr. Ann Shortt, previous district superintendent. Dr. Shortt was an outstanding superintendent who served the district and community with dignity. She also recognized Diane Humetewa, the first Native woman nominated to serve on the federal bench. President Obama nominated Ms. Humetewa to the U.S. District Court for Arizona. Mrs. Dominique noted the beautiful Women in History display in Colonel William's building on Ft. Wainwright. She appreciated the presentation and work on the science curriculum.

Mr. Rizk thanked the Lathrop Jazz Band for the great musical performance. He also thanked everyone who had come forward to testify. He announced the upcoming Alaska Association of Student Governments (AASG) Spring Conference in Kodiak, April 7-9, 2016.

Dr. Gaborik was excited about Governor Walker's upcoming visit to Fairbanks. As President Haas had announced earlier, the district's final budget forum was scheduled for March 29 in the West Valley High School library at 6:00 p.m. The district would be presenting the 2016-17 Recommended Budget to the Borough Finance Committee on Thursday, April 7 at 5:30 p.m.

President Haas was very interested in finding out more on the out-of-attendance (OAA) policy and if there were proposed changes or if the current policy was being enforced. She was looking forward to clarification. She reiterated her earlier appreciation to the members of the public who came forward to testify.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

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