

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

Regular Meeting

MINUTES

June 7, 2016

President Haas called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the board room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue. President Haas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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  
Michael O'Brien, Vice President  
Allyson Lambert, Treasurer  
Thomas Bartels, Clerk  
Wendy Dominique, Member  
Sue Hull, Member  
Richard Cole, Base Representative

Absent:

Sean Rice, Member  
Sean Williams, Post Representative  
Eryn Tanner, Student 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  
Sharice Walker, Director of Public Relations  
Doreen Oliver, Director of Employment & Educational Opportunity  
Helen Clark, Director of Federal Programs  
Dan Domke, Director of Career and Technical Education  
Heather Rauenhorst, Director of Grants & Strategic Partnerships  
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board

**PRELIMINARY ITEMS**

**2016 Alaska FFA State Champions** [0:01:03]

In April, Fairbanks students competed in leadership and career development events, participated in community service projects, and attended workshops as part of the 2016 Alaska FFA State Conference. Walt Armstrong, North Pole High School FFA sponsor, and Cheryl Sanders, Hutchison High School FFA sponsor, presented the 2016 FFA state champions in their respective events.

## **2016 Alaska FFA State Champions (continued)**

Matt Chase Agustin Pineda Joe Villa John Villa	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Team – Environmental Science/Natural Resource Management	North Pole High
Keegan Chapin McKinley Still Lilli Rice Troy Whiteside	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Team – Agricultural Mechanics	Hutchison High
Georgia Gibbs Troy Whiteside Amy Whitney	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Team – Marine Technology	Hutchison High
Keegan Chapin	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Individual – Agricultural Mechanics 1 <sup>st</sup> Place Individual - Fisheries	Hutchison High
Ayla Forsman	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Individual – Job Interview	North Pole High
Daisy Herrman	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Individual – Aquaculture 1 <sup>st</sup> Place Individual – Veterinary Science	Hutchison High
Agustin Pineda	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Individual – Environmental Science/Natural Resource Management	North Pole High
Amy Whitney	1 <sup>st</sup> Place Individual – Marine Science	Hutchison High

### **Board Diversity Committee (BDC) Annual Report** [0:06:11]

Jazzanne Gordon-Fretwell, Board Diversity Committee member, presented the annual report of the Board Diversity Committee. The report included an overview of the committee's 2015-16 goals, activities, guest speakers, and accomplishments.

### **Board Questions/Comments**

Board members expressed their appreciation to the Board Diversity Committee members and the work the committee accomplished throughout the year.

### **AGENDA** [0:13:15]

DOMINIQUE MOVED, BARTELS SECONDED, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA WITH CONSENT ITEMS.

The following consent items were moved:

accepted the award in the amount of \$1,000 for the Cultural Collaborations Access Grant from the Rasmuson Foundation, per Fiscal Note: 2016-39.

accepted the award in the amount of \$837,243 for the Indian Education Formula grant from the U.S. Department of Education: Office of Indian Education, per Fiscal Note 2017-01.

accepted the Monthly Management Reports for April 2016.

approved the minutes from the special meetings on May 2, 10, & 24, and the work session on May 24, 2016, as submitted.

approved Resolution 2017-02: Establishing Signatory Authorities to conduct the necessary business activities of the district.

## **Consent Agenda (continued)**

awarded IFB 17-R0002 for the purchase of Dry Foods, Annual Requirements to Food Services of America for \$328,980.50, Quality Sales/Sales Associates of AK for \$105,597, and Taco Loco Products for \$5,005, for a total award of \$439,582.50.

awarded IFB 17-R0003 for the purchase of Bread, Directly Delivered to Quality Sales/Sales Associates of AK for \$51,060.

approved Pearl Creek Elementary School's request to raise funds to send students to Denali Park, September 7-9, 2016, where students will participate in the Denali Park School Science Program, at no cost to the district.

approved Pearl Creek Elementary School's request to send students to Denali Park, September 9, 2016, where students will explore ecosystems and the geology of the Interior, at no cost to the district.

approved Hutchison High School's request to send one chaperone and ten students to Germany, Czech Republic, Poland, and Hungary with EF Tours, March 10-19, 2017, where students will visit historical sites and study the culture of the countries, 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 two chaperones and six JROTC cadets to Whidbey Island, Washington, July 18-22, 2016, where cadets will attend the Cyber Patriot School, at no cost to the district with the United States Marine Corps paying for all expenses, and if Homeland Security issues travel warnings, students will not travel.

accepted the gift of \$1,000 from the Denali Elementary PTA to Denali Elementary School to support the school's student birthday book give-away.

accepted the gift of \$2,500 from Fairbanks Youth Sports to University Park Elementary School to purchase bibs with chips and cover the cost of a timing service for all students participating in University Park's Cross Country Running Club Race on September 8, 2016.

accepted the gift of \$2,500 from Chevrolet Buick GMC of Fairbanks to North Pole Middle School for the purchase of wrestling mats.

accepted the gift of \$1,000 from the Eielson Officers Spouses' Club to Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School to support the school's Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) program.

accepted the gift of \$1,200 from the Ben Eielson Booster Club to Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School for the purchase of junior-high Science Augmented Reality Sandbox materials.

accepted the gift of \$2,664.48 from the Ben Eielson Booster Club to Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School to support the school's high-school volleyball program.

accepted the gift of \$1,000 from Jerry Cleworth to Lathrop High School to support the school's Alumni Scholarship.

accepted the gift of \$1,500 from Interior Youth Basketball to Lathrop High School to support the school's basketball program.

accepted the gift of \$2,597.25 from the Lathrop Soccer Booster Club to Lathrop High School to support the school's girls' soccer program.

## **Consent Agenda (continued)**

accepted the gift of \$3,000 from the Interior Girls Softball Association to Lathrop High School to support the school's softball program.

accepted the gift of \$5,000 from the LHS Ballroom Dance Team to Lathrop High School to support the school's ballroom dance program.

accepted the gift of \$9,501.92 from the Malemute Ski Team Booster Club to Lathrop High School to support the school's cross country ski program.

accepted the gift of \$10,032.11 from the Lathrop Wrestling Booster Club to Lathrop High School to support the school's wrestling program.

accepted the gift of \$1,000 from Rosa Denise Welch to North Pole High School to support the school's choir program.

approved the Personnel Action Report for the period May 2-27, 2016.

acknowledged the Personnel Information Report for the period April 19-May 27, 2016.

acknowledged the Superintendent's Budget Transfer Report for the period April 16-30, 2016.

acknowledged the Long Term Suspension & Expulsion Report for the 2015-2016 school year, as of June 6, 2016.

acknowledged the Board's Reading File.

acknowledged the Coming Events and Meeting Announcements.

ADVISORY VOTE. 1 AYE: COLE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

6 AYES: HULL, DOMINIQUE, BARTELS, LAMBERT, O'BRIEN, HAAS

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONAGENDA ITEMS** [0:20:01]

Cindy Apodaca, 550 Falcon View Street, West Valley High School librarian, spoke in support of the district's library programs. Ms. Apodaca had just completed her first year in the district and had concerns about next year's budget and the affect it might have on libraries. Librarians and library assistants did more than just check out books. They were much more hands-on than that. They were a conduit between the future and the past, they taught students about technology, they counseled students, nurtured them, entertained them, and so much more. Students trusted the library staff. In fact, if a student was found to be skipping class, he or she might be found in the library. Libraries provided students with rich experiences. Ms. Apodaca was concerned that if the library assistant positions were cut, she wouldn't be able to do her job and the library's hours would have to be reduced.

President Haas stated unless there were additional budget reductions from the legislature, library assistants were not currently on the list to be cut.

Irene Matheis, 2118 S. Cushman Street, ESSA president, shared her concerns regarding bargaining. Ms. Matheis thought there seemed to be a pressure to go to mediation. There had also been some changes in contract language that had not been highlighted or struck through. When it was brought to the attention of the district's bargaining team, it was explained as an oversight and would be corrected. The corrections had still not been made.

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

The ESSA bargaining team had provided language to change the ground rules so it would highlight and make things like the language changes more relevant. The situation had caused the ESSA bargaining team to have to read all of the counter offers, cross-checking previous versions and in doing so had continued to find mistakes that were not being addressed or corrected. These types of issues, along with not bringing requested information to the table and not addressing counter offers in a timely fashion, caused doubt and trust concerns – all of which contributed to the continuing perception of not being valued or taken seriously.

Ms. Matheis also spoke to the concern email messages sent to the board were being scripted – ESSA had not asked anyone to come to the board or talk to the board. She personally had told members contacting her with concerns how to get ahold of board members to share their concerns, but no one was scripting messages to the board.

ESSA was serious about getting a tentative agreement to take to the membership for ratification. Ms. Matheis said ESSA was aware and recognized the financial difficulties of the state and district and were willing to work with the district. ESSA staff were some of the lowest paid employees in the district. The changes to the health care plan would affect ESSA staff more than other employee groups. She believed some ESSA members would not be able to continue working for the district without some change to the salary schedule to help offset the health care costs.

Ms. Matheis knew of a part-time ESSA worker who brought home \$27.13 each pay period after deductions. With the increase in health care, the employee would be paying the district. She asked the board to remember that a one percent increase to the salary schedule for support staff was much smaller than a one percent increase to those employee groups who were salaried. The ESSA contract rolled forward last year without any salary increases. Teachers would have a hard time teaching students without support staff and it would be the children who would suffer. The fewer support staff there were, the less time teachers had to be in front of students, as they would have to pick up some of the duties previously done by ESSA staff.

Flora Roddy, 480 Jeannette Way, ESSA member, was accompanied by a stuffed figure representing ESSA members who could not be in attendance to testify due to having to work two-three part-time jobs to make ends meet. Ms. Roddy referenced Ms. Apodaca's earlier testimony recalling she herself spent a lot of time in the library while in school; the librarian helped her a lot. She also thanked the board for honoring Mr. Dickey, a previous custodian, at their last meeting by approving the renaming of the Ryan gymnasium and court after him. Mr. Dickey was a perfect example of how support staff became mentors to students. It was good to see an ESSA member honored in that way. Ms. Roddy requested the board get on with bargaining. ESSA would like a fair contract and to be appreciated and respected. Ms. Roddy welcomed Mr. Bartels to the board and Wendy Tisland, the new executive director of human resources, to the district. She looked forward to working with them.

Mary Skorulski, PO Box 56173, expressed her displeasure regarding the loss of Bob Meade as the principal at Lathrop High School. Although her children attended West Valley and not Lathrop, they still received counsel from Mr. Meade. Mr. Meade was a very caring man. Ms. Skorulski worked with Mrs. Meade and helped Mr. Meade with errands when he worked in the village schools. She helped Mr. Meade get diplomas, uniforms, sports equipment, prom supplies, whatever was needed, because Mr. Meade wanted to be certain kids could enjoy high school.

Ms. Skorulski could not understand how the district could let someone as valuable as Mr. Meade go. She was very disappointed with the district. When her son was struggling at West Valley, it was Mr. Meade who took the time to counsel him about the importance of staying in school. Mr. Meade helped her son see the value of an education.

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

Ms. Skorulski reiterated her disappointment and found it hard to believe the reasons why she had heard Mr. Meade was dismissed. She was shocked the district would let people like Mr. Meade leave. The district needed good people; people who put kids first; and were not “yes” men. It was not good to have “yes” people around; it was good to have people who put kids first.

Ms. Skorulski’s son was now graduated and she truly appreciated Mr. Meade’s assistance with her son. She appreciated the entire Meade family. She found it an honor that she was included to help village schools because she didn’t realize how rough it was in village schools. The Meade’s helped her understand the education most took for granted in Fairbanks.

In reference to Ms. Apodaca’s testimony, Ms. Skorulski added her son was one of the students who when he didn’t want to go to class because it was boring, went to the library and he received the help he needed.

### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** [0:35:10]

Superintendent Dr. Gaborik provided a superintendent report.

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

Dr. Gaborik spoke to several topics.

- **Board’s Consideration of a K-8 School:** It was important to note if it was the board’s direction to shift from the Tanana Feeder System to a K-8 model, the costs outlined in the agenda for the work session on Monday evening, would change and could potentially be savings. The costs and shifts would be dependent upon what the transition looked like. If all the planning was done next year for a K-8 model and the shift was done in 2018 and Tanana closed, then personnel positions could shift and some positions might not be needed. However, if that happened, there would be a cohort of students who would be significantly impacted with transitions - 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Tanana, Ryan for 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and Lathrop for 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

If the transition was done one year at a time, it would allow 7<sup>th</sup> graders to remain at Tanana for 8<sup>th</sup> grade, but then it would cause some redundant staffing. It would be important to discuss the options in August, as parents were beginning to discuss and make decisions for their middle school students. If parents were interested in the middle school concept, they might enroll their student now at Ryan so they would have two years at Ryan rather than make the transition after 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Costs would be a consideration, as would the cohort of students who would be impacted depending upon the transition.

- **Online Registration:** There had been 370 enrollments, with 196 fully processed. Anderson, Ladd, Hunter, Badger Road, and Denali Elementary Schools had seen good use of the online option. The online registration feature had strong support with the rollout and had seen great use so far.
- **Position Vacancies:** The district would be hiring more over the upcoming summer than had been done in a long time. There were over 80 positions to fill – 29 elementary vacancies, 21 secondary vacancies, music and counselor positions, 10 special education positions, 6 librarian vacancies, some principal positions, and other miscellaneous positions. There were eLearning and CTE positions that may be filled depending upon the final budget, along with some ESSA positions.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT (continued)**

- District Web Filter: Janet Cobb, executive director of technology, met with West Valley Staff and students regarding the district's Internet filter. The takeaways from the meeting were teachers and students needed more training related to how the web filter worked; there seemed to be inconsistencies with the web filter that needed to be investigated; and administration was considering an advisory committee to get stakeholder input into the district's use of filters. Mrs. Cobb felt it would be worth considering a more lenient filter for high schools. She felt the students and teachers had been heard. Progress was continuing on the issue.
- Attendance Matters Video Contest: There were 22 entries submitted. The winners were Logan Monaghan at North Pole Elementary; Nicholas Samuel at North Pole Middle School; and Haley Vonder Haar at Hutchison High School. GCI, a district business partner, sponsored prizes for the winners. The winning entries would be professionally produced as 30 second PSAs and broadcast on local media this fall.
- Native Youth Olympics Awards: Brandon Vanlandingham, West Valley High School, placed second in the Indian Stick Pull and fifth in the One Hand Reach. Lathrop's team received the Academic Excellence award for having the highest GPA of all teams in the state and won \$500 for the team for next year.
- School Visits: Departments were tasked to leave the Administrative Center and visit schools. To help Ryan Middle School with their move to the new school, the administration organized a group of "Heather's Helpers" – Administrative Center staff who went over to the school and helped pack up boxes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Policies 811-811.2: Employee and Volunteer Use of Electronic and Social Media Communications (Second Reading)** [0:45:25]

The new policy pertaining to the use of electronic and social media communications informed employees and volunteers, especially those who worked directly with students, to be aware of and avoid the risks associated with electronic communication and participation in social media. There were no changes from first reading.

*Core Value/Goal: Safe Environment: Strive to provide a safe learning environment.*

HULL MOVED, O'BRIEN SECONDED, TO APPROVE SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADOPTION OF POLICIES 811-811.2: EMPLOYEE AND VOLUNTEER USE OF ELECTRONIC AND SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Mrs. Hull thought the policies were very important and it had taken a lot of work to get the policies developed. She commended the administration for putting together a comprehensive policy that would enable the types of communication that needed to occur, but would also provide protection for students and staff.

ADVISORY VOTE. 1 AYE: COLE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

6 AYES: LAMBERT, O'BRIEN, HULL, DOMINIQUE, BARTELS, HAAS

Mrs. Hull asked for the status on Policy 921.3: Electronic Media Selection, which was reconsidered at the May 10 meeting and was originally scheduled for second reading at the current meeting. She was prepared to make some language revisions/suggestions for the policy. Dr. Gaborik stated administration realized the policy needed further vetting with principals. She anticipated principals would work on it in the fall and it would be brought back before the board after that. Mrs. Hull reported she had information and policy information from other districts and it seemed they consistently had references to the ratings and how the district would deal with the ratings in the policy rather than in the administrative regulation. President Haas asked Mrs. Hull to forward the information to the full board.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Charter School Report & Contract Renewal: Watershed Charter School** [0:49:03]

Included in the board packet was the proposed 2016-17 contract for Watershed Charter School. The contract language was unchanged from the current year. After Watershed Charter School representatives presented their annual report to the school board, the administration recommended next year's contract be approved.

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

HULL MOVED, DOMINIQUE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE 2016-17 CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT BETWEEN WATERSHED CHARTER SCHOOL INC. AND THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Jarrold Decker, Watershed head teacher, was pleased to report on another successful year at Watershed Charter School. Mr. Decker had framed Watershed's school improvement initiatives within the five strategic goals of the district's strategic plan: personalized learning, effective communication, parent and community engagement, organizational support, and technology integration.

One of the biggest challenges for the school was its limited space and limited staff. The school continued its engagement in civic projects, looking for projects to give back to the community and support the curriculum. The charter school had worked over the year to increase its diversity, including attending a Board Diversity Committee meeting and participating in more community outreach, such as with the JP Jones Community Center.

Changes for next school year included exploration for offering an after school program in addition to its existing after school club options. Primary teachers were also exploring alternative standards-based or standards-aligned alternatives to the current grading system used at the school and throughout the district. The network and computer services department would be upgrading the charter school's network and installing an intercom system, synchronized clocks, and surveillance cameras.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Board discussion ensued. Board members had many questions regarding the charter school's efforts in expanding diversity, especially without real structural change to the enrollment and lottery process. Mr. Decker agreed increasing diversity was and would continue to be a challenge, but it began with greater outreach so more people were aware of the charter school. Other areas of concern for the board included the charter school's Advisory Parent Committee (APC) selection process; seeking appointments to the APC from various cultural groups; preference enrollment placements; the limited number of student enrollment slots; possible restructure of the lottery process; and the possibility of increasing class size to allow for more openings.



## **Charter School Report & Contract Renewal: Watershed Charter School (continued)**

Mr. Decker explained the school had advertised more widely for its Parent Advisory Committee members. In regards to enrollment openings for next year, he anticipated 9 kindergarten spots and one 8<sup>th</sup> grade spot. Mr. Decker was not certain on how to change the enrollment process without weighting the lottery. He also pointed out one of the charter school's core values was keeping class sizes low. Ideally, they tried for 22 students per class, but were prepared and could make 23 students per class work, although increasing class size would probably not increase the number of available student enrollments, as most positions on the waitlist were siblings of current students.

O'BRIEN MOVED, DOMINIQUE SECONDED, TO POSTPONE APPROVAL OF THE 2016-17 CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT BETWEEN WATERSHED CHARTER SCHOOL INC. AND THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT.

### Public Comment to Postpone

Michael Campbell, Fort Wainwright Garrison school liaison officer, represented the Garrison and approximately 7400 military families. Mr. Campbell reported that after the charter school's presentation to the board last year regarding increasing diversity at the charter school, the Garrison had been partnering with Watershed Charter School throughout the current school year. The main concern the Garrison had identified was the sibling waiting list and lack of new open enrollment slots. The Garrison had been looking for volunteers for the school, along with ways to increase the military membership of the school. Mr. Campbell knew Mr. Decker and Watershed Charter School had been actively recruiting and supporting the military community.

Flora Roddy, 480 Jeannette Way, district staff member, spoke in opposition to the postponement. Being of diverse ethnic background herself, she believed in diversity and believed the charter school had shown good faith in trying to be as diverse as possible. Ms. Roddy did not think postponing the contract at the current time was the right way to go.

Craig Kind, PO Box 322, Career Education Center head teacher and Watershed parent, asked about and spoke to the possible repercussions of delaying the approval of the charter contract. Mr. Kind believed it would leave the Advisory Parent Committee powerless and without the ability to run the school, to hire, to sign any contracts, etc. He also asked about the repercussions of the lease with the landlord. Mr. Kind asked if it was the board's intent to not renew the contract or just delay it and if so, when it would be signed. As a parent, he was concerned about this son and if there would be a school for his son to attend next year.

### Board Questions/Comments to Postpone

Mrs. Hull did not support postponing the contract. She had not heard anything to make her believe charter schools were not working to increase diversity. She would not be in favor of increasing class sizes. Small class sizes were foundational to the charter school. She also questioned the legal aspect of weighted lotteries. Mrs. Hull had not heard any viable suggestions that could be made within the timeframe of postponing the contract. She did not believe postponing the contract would help the district make headway.

Superintendent Gaborik stated if the contract was not renewed by July 1 there would be ramifications and she would need to confer with legal counsel.

Mrs. Dominique asked about the repercussions of not renewing the charter contract. In a quick review of board policies and administrative regulations, Melanie Hadaway, executive director of curriculum and instruction, stated there were only certain reasons and conditions for which the board could justify non-renewal of the charter contract. There was no stipulation related to diversity. If the school board did not renew the charter school contract, the charter school could appeal to the State Board of Education.

## **Charter School Report & Contract Renewal: Watershed Charter School (continued)**

Mrs. Dominique believed the school had been working to increase its diversity, but something more needed to be done. She often received calls from parents about not being able to enroll their student in the charter school.

Mr. O'Brien stated Mr. Decker was a great head teacher and Watershed was a great school, but it needed to increase its enrollment opportunities. It would take real structural changes in its enrollment and lottery to make a difference. Board members often received comments about the lack of vacancies at the school. While small class sizes were a foundation and draw of the school, maintaining small class sizes at the charter school sometimes meant larger class sizes at the regular brick and mortar schools.

President Haas did not support postponing the contract and agreed with Mrs. Hull for a number of reasons. She would encourage board members, if they felt strongly about reaching more diverse communities to lobby the legislature for transportation for charter schools. She thought one of the biggest hindrances for some families was transportation. The class size piece was difficult as while the board heard from families frustrated because of the limited number of vacancies, small class sizes was part of the draw of a charter school.

Mrs. Hull spoke to the issue of class size. She thought class size was a school board problem and the charter school should not be penalized for being successful in keeping class sizes low. She opposed the motion to postpone because there were no viable options and it would put the school in limbo. She was eager to approve the charter.

Mrs. Lambert did not support the motion to postpone, but believed the diversity conversations needed to continue. She was not interested in seeing charter schools increase their class sizes, but would like to see the charter school Parent Advisory Committee take a serious look at the enrollment process. After the priority placements and PAC slots, there weren't many enrollments slots available so transportation would probably not help. Mrs. Lambert would support renewing the contract, but asked the charter school and Parent Advisory Committee to seriously look at the priority enrollment placements and structure.

The board voted on the motion to postpone the contract. [1:36:50]

ADVISORY VOTE. 1 NAY: COLE  
MOTION FAILED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.  
6 NAYS: DOMINIQUE, BARTELS, LAMBERT, O'BRIEN, HULL, HAAS

The board resumed discussion on the original motion. [1:37:30]

### **Board Questions/Comments**

Mrs. Dominique asked about the number of students who were tested. Mr. Decker explained not all students were tested; only students in grades three through eight took the assessment.

Dr. Gaborik thanked Mr. Decker for the organization of the charter's annual report which was based upon the district's strategic plan.

Mr. O'Brien asked about the application process and if online enrollment and/or an online orientation video was an option for the school. Mr. Decker stated the school was part of the current kindergarten online enrollment program. The charter school's application for the lottery could be completed electronically and sent by email. He was hesitant to replace the actual experience of the orientation experience with a video. It was important for parents to really see the school and what was expected and what was in store for them. The school worked with families on a one-to-one basis if a family could not make the scheduled orientation. Mr. O'Brien was looking to remove as many hurdles as possible. It was sometimes hard for working families to attend meetings.

## **Charter School Report & Contract Renewal: Watershed Charter School (continued)**

The board voted on the Watershed Charter School contract.

ADVISORY VOTE. 1 AYE: COLE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

5 AYES: BARTELS, LAMBERT, O'BRIEN, DOMINIQUE, HAAS

AWAY FROM SEAT: HULL

President Haas thanked Mr. Decker for the report. She really appreciated him framing the annual report to the strategic plan.

## **Charter School Report, Charter Amendment, & Contract Renewal: Star of the North Secondary Charter School** [1:45:05]

Included in the board packet was the proposed 2016-17 contract for Star of the North Secondary Charter School. The contract language included the amendment to Star of the North eligibility requirements presented to the school board on May 10, 2016. After Star of the North Secondary Charter School representatives presented their annual report to the school board, the administration recommended next year's contract be approved.

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

BARTELS MOVED, LAMBERT SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE 2016-17 CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT BETWEEN STAR OF THE NORTH SECONDARY CHARTER SCHOOL INC. AND THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Craig Kind, Career Education Center head teacher, and Diana Childs, North Pole Academy head teacher, presented an overview of the 2015-16 school year at Star of the North Charter School's two campuses. Star of the North continued to provide educational alternatives for Fairbanks students in grades 11 and 12 at the Career Education Center and for students in grades 7-12 at the North Pole Academy. The charter school strived to meet students' diverse needs in their small school settings by providing close adult guidance paired with individualized learning and flexible pacing. The potential of each student was valued. The schools celebrated students' successes and worked hard with them to alleviate their struggles.

The 2015-16 school year had been a challenging year for Star of the North with some turnover of staff at the North Pole Academy. One of the known positions had yet to be posted due to the district's hiring freeze. While the charter school staff understood the district's hiring freeze, it was imperative the school be given the support to hire the appropriate staff, rather than have a person placed in the position relative to the collective bargaining agreement. The charter school also went through the accreditation process with AdvancED this year. At the time of the report, the school had received word the school was, "Accredited, Under Review." What that meant was the school maintained its accreditation, but the external review team had significant concerns they wanted addressed in the next two years.

Two challenges the charter school faced included the departure of its founders and the tendency of small, alternative schools to be too informal in policies and procedures. The charter was still waiting on the official accreditation report, but recognized they had a great deal of work ahead of them to further define their mission, determine their most effective governance structure, and document policies and procedures, especially in the areas of post-secondary planning and social-emotional supports for students.

## **Charter School Report, Charter Amendment, & Contract Renewal: Star of the North Secondary Charter School (continued)**

Unlike some of the other charter schools, Star of the North had room for more students and offered limited transportation. The charter school contract included a change to the enrollment criteria in an effort to reach out to more students.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Board members appreciated Mr. Kind and Ms. Childs' report and the important work of their staffs in supporting students. The charter school met an important need in the district. Board questions and comments included outreach for increasing enrollment, alternative/additional support options, higher education statistics, the Intersession program, at-risk student data, student credit levels, the graduation rate, and attendance.

ADVISORY VOTE. 1 AYE: COLE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

6 AYES: HULL, DOMINIQUE, BARTELS, LAMBERT, O'BRIEN, HAAS

### **2018 Capital Improvement Plan List** [2:23:23]

The state Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) required a board approved Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) be submitted annually by September 1 in order to be considered for state grant funding. The administration was now submitting the CIP for approval by the school board.

*Core Value/Goal: Safe Environment: Strive to provide a safe learning environment.*

DOMINIQUE MOVED, LAMBERT SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE 2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN LIST.

Dave Norum, executive director of facilities management, reviewed the project list. Due to the state's funding situation, the list was mostly unchanged from last year. The administration had moved a couple roofing projects closer to the top. The district would be submitting four projects to the state for funding consideration: the Barnette Magnet School Renovation, Phase IV; the Administrative Center's air conditioning/ventilation replacement; and the Joy and Ladd Elementary roofing projects.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Driving by the school, Mrs. Dominique noticed work on the Tanana roof and asked if the project was on the list. Mr. Norum explained the Tanana roof work was part of the bond project that was previously approved. Other bond work included Salcha Elementary School's room remodel and Ticasuk Brown and University Park window replacements.

Mr. Bartels asked about the third project on the list – the districtwide backflow preventers to meet requirements of the local water utility in order to prevent cross contamination of the potable water system. Mr. Norum explained the list was reviewed each year for safety and need requirements.

ADVISORY VOTE. 1 AYE: COLE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

6 AYES: HULL, DOMINIQUE, BARTELS, LAMBERT, O'BRIEN, HAAS

**Suspend Policy 264: Types of Meetings for 2016-2017 School Board Regular Meeting Schedule Adjustments** [2:28:20]

Historically, the school board has cancelled its second December and first January meetings due to their close proximity to winter break. In order to set the school board's regular meeting calendar for the 2016-2017 school year, the administration recommended the board cancel their December 20, 2016 and January 3, 2017 meetings.

The board's May 16, 2017 meeting was scheduled to be held on the same evening as the North Pole High School graduation and was being recommended to be rescheduled to May 9, 2017.

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

O'BRIEN MOVED, LAMBERT SECONDED, TO SUSPEND THE RULES, POLICY 264: TYPES OF MEETINGS TO CANCEL THE DECEMBER 20, 2016 AND JANUARY 3, 2017 MEETINGS AND RESCHEDULE THE MAY 16, 2017 MEETING TO MAY 9, 2017.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

None

ADVISORY VOTE. 1 AYE: COLE  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.  
6 AYES: O'BRIEN, HULL, DOMINIQUE, BARTELS, LAMBERT, HAAS

**INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

**Grants Forecast Report** [2:30:21]

Heather Rauenhorst, director of grants, resources, and strategic partnerships, Helen Clark, director of federal programs, and Julie Wild-Curry, director of after school programs, presented the Grants Forecast Report.

*Core Value/Goal: Organizational Support: Create an environment that supports the needs of staff to enable a school and organizational climate where students thrive.*

Mrs. Rauenhorst, Mrs. Clark, and Mrs. Wild-Curry provided a brief overview of the grants forecast for fiscal year 2017 funding, including a breakout of the ESEA Consolidated grant and continuing multi-year grants, along with the grants forecast for fiscal year 2018 funding applications.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Board discussion ensued. Item for information only. No action required. Board members had questions about the after school program grants and fee-based programs and the rollout of the DODEA grants and options for making some of the services available to other schools that did not receive the grant.

President Haas thanked Mrs. Rauenhorst, Mrs. Clark, and Mrs. Wild-Curry for the report; it provided a clear picture of the district grants.

## **BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS** [2:41:34]

On behalf of the entire board, President Haas congratulated the FFA champions and thanked the staff for their reports and work. She also thanked all the donors of gifts to district – their donations were much appreciated. President Haas announced several upcoming board meetings:

6/09/16	4:00 pm	Joint Work Session with Assembly Capital Projects Committee: Request for Joint October 2016 Bond (This meeting will be held in the Mona Lisa Drexler Assembly Chambers, 809 Pioneer Road)
6/09/16	5:30 pm	Public Hearing & Work Session: 2016-17 Budget Work
6/09/16	6:30 pm	Special Meeting: Approval of Resolution 2017-01: Adoption of the FY 2016-17 School District Approved Budget (This meeting was rescheduled from Friday, June 10, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.)
6/21/16	5:30 pm	Parent Engagement Committee Meeting (This meeting was rescheduled from Thursday, June 9, 2016)
6/30/16	7:00 pm	Graduation: Intersession (The graduation will be held in the Hering Auditorium, 901 Airport Way) No Regular Meeting in July
8/02/16	6:00 pm	(If Needed) Special Meeting: Student Discipline Matters; and FEA and ESSA Negotiation Matters; to include possible executive sessions regarding student discipline matters; and negotiation matters to review bargaining agreements, including strategy and information, and provide direction to the district negotiator and bargaining team, matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the district
8/02/16	7:00 pm	Regular Meeting

President Haas congratulated district retirees who had recently retired.

- Greg Platt – Tanana Middle School principal retired with 12 years of service.
- Patricia Nelson – administrative secretary at Randy Smith Middle School retired with 15 years of district service.
- David Frey – prevention intervention specialist at Tanana Middle School retired after 16 years with the district.
- Dave Parsons – district mail clerk retired with 22 years of service.

Colonel Cole thanked Mr. Decker, Mr. Kind, and Ms. Childs for their charter school reports; he had enjoyed the reports and appreciated the work the staffs were doing. Colonel Cole expressed his appreciation for serving on the board and wished everyone a great summer.

Mrs. Hull appreciated Superintendent Gaborik's report regarding the number of possible transitions associated with the K-8 model and the implementation timeline. Mrs. Hull wanted to point out that students attending Ryan this year would also have a transition as they moved into the new school this fall.

Mrs. Hull was able to visit the Pipeline Training Center during a visit of a Washington dignitary and share about the State Board of Education and their engagement with the business community and getting students into the workplace for credit. She would be sending the board a link to a video on a work for credit program. The district already offered apprenticeships with the trade unions and could branch out to provide apprenticeships with attorneys, mechanics, accountants, and others. She thought the possibilities were endless, especially with an Independent Learning Center. All these options took time, but it was important to help people see the board's vision. The board needed to look beyond what had always been done. Mrs. Hull was excited about the State Board engaging with the Chamber of Commerce and hoped the local Chamber would get involved in the conversations about doing the right things for kids.

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

Mrs. Lambert thanked Mr. Decker, Mr. Kind, and Ms. Childs for their charter school reports. The schools were meeting the needs of students and it was good to hear how well they were doing. She apologized if the board put Mr. Decker on the spot, but it was important to continue to look at and address expanding diversity.

Mr. O'Brien was happy to hear about the online enrollment option and Mrs. Cobb had met with the West Valley students and staff regarding the district's Internet filter. He liked and supported Dr. Gaborik's decision to have Administrative Center staff visit the schools – it was important for people to see what happened at the school level. Mr. O'Brien appreciated the charter school reports and noted all three schools served important functions. The conversation regarding diversity in charter schools would continue and he looked forward to the upcoming conversations.

President Haas wished everyone a great summer and welcomed Mr. Bartels to the school board.

Mr. Bartels thanked board members, Dr. Gaborik, and Mrs. Tuttle for their support and assistance as he began his service on the board. He appreciated the trust of the board members and the opportunity to serve on the board.

At 9:55 p.m. [2:53:04]

DOMINIQUE MOVED, HULL SECONDED, TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO CONTINUE THE MEETING UNTIL 10:15 P.M.

Asking for and hearing no objection, President Haas continued the meeting.

Mrs. Dominique spoke to some of the testimony from earlier in the evening – specifically the library assistants and librarians who testified how they loved coming to work each day – that was to be commended. She hoped bargaining would result in a contract. In regards to Mr. Meade, Lathrop principal, Mrs. Dominique appreciated the testimony, but noted the public did not always know why things happened the way they happened, as some information was confidential. She hoped the school could move forward. She would be meeting with Mr. Meade regarding some ideas he had not been able to get instituted.

In regards to the impact of transitioning to a K-8 model, Mrs. Dominique recalled that as a military spouse, her family moved frequently. While she was not in favor of a K-8 model, she was in favor of a magnet school. She cautioned the district about doing anything with the military schools – they already had many transitions in their lives.

Mrs. Dominique commented on the district's large number of position vacancies; she didn't recall that many openings in one year since she had been on the board. She thought the district might have a difficult time retaining staff with the threat of position cuts looming. But with the large number of vacancies, it might be a good opportunity to get a job with the school district.

Mrs. Dominique spoke to when she first came on the school board. She did not receive a good welcome to the board. Her mom would never have stepped out into the public arena as she did. There were many people who would not step up to say they wanted their students to go to a specific school. If there was a situation where students were not able to enroll in a school that might help them, it was a problem. Someway, somehow, the cultural diversity issued needed to be addressed and needed to begin with the charter schools' application. There needed to be more diversity in the charter schools.

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

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