

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

Regular Meeting

MINUTES

June 22, 2011

President Brophy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue. Superintendent Lewis led the Pledge of Allegiance. The board meeting was not broadcast on KUAC radio due to programming conflicts with the Wednesday meeting.

Present:

Kristina Brophy, President  
Sharon McConnell, Vice President  
Sue Hull, Treasurer  
Sean Rice, Clerk  
Silver Chord, Member  
Wendy Dominique, Member  
Leslie Hajdukovich, Member  
Timothy A. Jones, Post Representative

Absent:

Vacant, Base Representative  
Brooke Wilson, Student Representative

Staff Present:

Pete Lewis, Superintendent  
Roxa Hawkins, Assistant Superintendent – Elementary  
Wayne Gerke, Assistant Superintendent – Secondary  
Mike Fisher, Chief Financial Officer  
Peggy Carlson, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Bob Hadaway, Executive Director of Special Education  
Clarence Bolden, Executive Director of Human Resources  
Traci Gatewood, Director of Grants & Special Projects  
Elizabeth Schaffhauser, Director of Employment & Educational Opportunity  
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board

**PRELIMINARY ITEMS**

**2011 Track and Field State Champions**

The following Eielson students placed first in the 2011 State Track & Field Competition. Eielson Coach David Dyer made the presentations. The state champions from Lathrop were not available and would be recognized at the board's August meeting.

Event	Student Names
Boys 100m Dash	Pat Brown
Boys 200m Dash	Pat Brown
Boys 110m Hurdles	Antonio Hamilton
Boys 4x100m Relay	Antonio Hamilton Tyler Ellsworth Scott Delauder Pat Brown

## 2011 Track and Field State Champions (continued)

Boys 4x200m Relay	Antonio Hamilton Tyler Ellsworth Scott Delauder Pat Brown
Sportsmanship Award	Eielson Girls Team
Sportsmanship Award	Eielson Boys Team

### **AGENDA**

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

The following consent items were moved:

accepted the Indian Education Formula Grant, Part II award in the amount of \$731,152, per Fiscal Note 2012-01.

accepted the Center for Alaska Coastal Studies, Inc. award in the amount of \$960, per Fiscal Note 2012-02.

accepted the Monthly Management Reports for May 2011.

approved the minutes from the regular meeting May 24 and the work session June 2, 2011, as submitted.

approved commitment of fund balance in the Teen Options Program, Curriculum Staff Development Program, Community Donations to School Projects Program, and the School Activities Special Revenue Fund, for the intended purpose of those programs and funds.

approved delegating the authority to assign fund balance to the Superintendent of Schools.

approved the establishment of the interim policy statement that where applicable, restricted fund balance is spent before unrestricted fund balance, and that committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance be spent, in that order, when an expenditure is incurred that is allocable to more than one fund balance classification.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-342: Reallocation of funds to comply with GASB 54 reporting requirements in the amount of \$1,112,440.

approved Resolution 2012-02: Establishing Signatory Authorities to conduct the necessary business activities of the district.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-316: Facilities Management Department in the amount of \$262,000.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-323: Hutchison High School CTE Equipment in the amount of \$59,257.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-324: B.E.S.T. Program in the amount of \$248,119.

## **Consent Agenda (continued)**

approved Budget Transfer 2011-325: Star of the North Charter School in the amount of \$28,785.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-328: Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School in the amount of \$39,891.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-341: Network Services in the amount of \$97,795.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-346: Special Education in the amount of \$196,205.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-350: Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School SDA Accounts in the amount of \$49,941.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-351: North Pole High School SDA Accounts in the amount of \$36,859.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-352: Extra Duty Accounts in the amount of \$36,712.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-355: Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School CTE Equipment in the amount of \$25,450.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-356: Substitute Salaries in the amount of \$181,014.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-357: Principal Interns in the amount of \$139,237.

approved Budget Transfer 2011-364: Year-end Purchases in the amount of \$2,452,000.

awarded #IFB 11-F0023 for an Absence Reporting and Subcalling System for \$91,500, based on a five year total cost of ownership.

awarded #IFB 12-R0001 for Frozen Foods Requirements for Nutrition Services for \$840,691.50.

approved submission of the Alaska Youth First Program grant in the amount of \$105,603.

approved submission of the Title I, Part D, Subpart 1, Neglected and Delinquent grant in the amount of \$13,164.08.

approved submission of the Title I, Part D, Subpart 2, Neglected and Delinquent Competitive grant in the amount of \$125,342.55.

approved submission of the No Child Left Behind Consolidated Application in the amount of \$5,256,992.

approved North Pole Middle School's request to raise funds to send students to Washington, D.C., April 13-22, 2012 to participate in the Close-Up Capital Experience and visit historical sites, at no cost to the district.

approved Hutchison High School's request to raise funds to send students to Anaheim, California, June 20-26, 2011 to participate in the National Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Leadership Conference, at no cost to the district.

## **Consent Agenda (continued)**

approved North Pole High School's request to raise funds to send choir students to New York City, New York, March 11-17, 2012 to participate in workshops, lectures, perform, and attend Broadway productions, at no cost to the district.

approved North Pole High School's request to raise funds to send their Future Farmers of America (FFA) students to Indianapolis, Indiana, October 19-23, 2011 to represent Alaska at the National FFA Convention, at no cost to the district.

accepted the gift of two Bretford Power Carts, valued at \$4,899.90, from Weller Elementary PTA to Weller Elementary School for the school's iPods and iPads.

accepted the gift of \$1,000 from the Interior Baseball Lions Club to Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School for the boys' 2011 baseball program.

accepted the gift of \$2,000 from the City and Borough of Juneau School District to Lathrop High School for the girls' basketball program.

accepted the gift of \$4,433.15 from the Lathrop Hockey Booster Club for the hockey program.

accepted the gift of \$2,868.50 from the Lathrop Boys' Soccer Booster Club for the boys' soccer program.

accepted the gift of \$2,864 from the Lathrop Girls' Soccer Booster Club for the girls' soccer program.

approved the Personnel Action Report for the period May 17 – June 14, 2011.

acknowledged the Personnel Information Report for the period May 17 – June 14, 2011.

acknowledged the Superintendent's Budget Transfer Report for June 22, 2011.

acknowledged the Board's Reading File.

acknowledged the Coming Events and Meeting Announcements.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 7 AYES

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONAGENDA ITEMS**

Robinson Duffy, PO Box 72998, had attended almost every board meeting over the past six years and had never once felt the urge to give public comment. Mr. Duffy wanted to discuss the issue of books in school libraries. He hoped the board recognized how serious the issue was to him. Two people, at the last board meeting, had urged the board to remove the Harry Potter books from school libraries because, as they put it, they espoused religion and it wasn't fair to other religions, such as Christianity. During the board comments at the end of the meeting, one board member voiced agreement and urged the superintendent to ban Harry Potter from the schools. So everyone was on the same page, Mr. Duffy quoted the board member's comments, "I hope we are looking into the Harry Potter issues. I think it is something the district should set criteria, policy, whatever we have to do to make sure we don't have it in our schools because it is a part of religion. So we need to make sure we're following our policies when we bring things like that into our district."

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

Mr. Duffy had a list of other books that were currently in the school libraries available for students to check out which also espoused religion and according to some people should probably be banded such as the *Left Behind* series by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins. Mr. Duffy shared the publishers blurb on the series for those who were unfamiliar with the series, "With over 11 million copies sold in the series, *Left Behind the Kids* was a favorite of readers aged 10-14. Each book followed a group of teens left behind when other friends and family members were taken to Heaven by God and the Rapture. All they had left were their friendship and their growing faith in Jesus Christ." In all, there were more than 40 books in the *Left Behind* series. The books of Christian author, C.S. Lewis, including *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, was an allegory or retelling of the crucifixion, resurrection, and atonement of Christ. Besides C.S. Lewis's Narnia novels, the district's libraries also had his *Essays on the Christian Faith*, *The Joyful Christian*, and the *Screwtape Letters*. *The Genesis Enigma: Why the Bible Is Scientifically Accurate* was written by a noted creationist and fundamentalist Christian who argued that science proved the existence of the Christian God. *Classic Bible Stories*, a children's book, was in several of the district's elementary schools. Last but certainly not least, was the *Holy Bible*, containing the Old and New Testament.

Mr. Duffy noted he had not presented an exhaustive list but rather just a few examples of books in school libraries that espoused religion. If the argument was to band Harry Potter because it espoused religion and it was not fair to other churches, Mr. Duffy would say Christianity was pretty well represented in the school libraries.

Mr. Duffy made it clear he did not want to see any of the books removed from the schools, just like he did not want to see Harry Potter removed. His point was to help board members see the full-picture before talking about banding a handful of books in the name of religious fairness. Mr. Duffy thanked the board.

Steve Laroe, 2118 South Cushman, outgoing Fairbanks Education Association (FEA) president and recovering from a medical issue, wanted to wish the board the best of luck with contract negotiations which had begun under his tenure. Interest Based Bargaining was something new that was being tried and everyone had to participate equally. Mr. Laroe also wanted to say goodbye as the outgoing president of FEA. It had been a great experience and he had learned more than he ever wanted to know. Serving as president had given him great insight into the district and how it operated. Due to Mr. Laroe's recent medical issue, he had not ended his tenure in the manner he had wanted. But he reassured the board it would not be his last time to appear before them, as he would probably find something to say about something in the future. Mr. Laroe thanked the board for the wonderful experience and opportunities.

Mrs. Brophy thanked Mr. Laroe for his service to the district and asked other board members for their comments. Mrs. Dominique thanked Mr. Laroe for his service and looked forward to seeing him at future board meetings. Mr. Rice was happy to see Mr. Laroe at the meeting. He thanked him for his service and noted it had been good to work with him. Ms McConnell thanked Mr. Laroe for all he had done. She recognized it took a lot of dedication and she appreciated it. Mr. Chord thought it was great to see Mr. Laroe at the meeting. He thanked him for the insights he always provided to the board. Mrs. Hull noted that although some things had changed for Mr. Laroe, his heart and concern for kids had not changed. She said it helped the board to hear the perspective of a teacher and appreciated Mr. Laroe's input. It said a lot about him to come forward to speak on behalf of children. Mrs. Hajdukovich was glad to see Mr. Laroe and hear his laugh. They had been through a lot. They were neighbors and she was so happy to see him at the meeting. Colonel Jones was happy to see Mr. Laroe back. He appreciated Mr. Laroe's support of education and for the military community. He wished him the best in his recovery. Superintendent Lewis was also happy to see Mr. Laroe and looked forward to their continued conversations. Mrs. Brophy joined the others in her appreciation of Mr. Laroe's participation in the educational process and looked forward to seeing him in the future.

## OLD BUSINESS

### **Resolution 2012-01: Adoption of the 2011-12 School District Approved Budget**

Before the School Board was Resolution 2012-01 adopting the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District's 2011-12 Approved Budget. The combined budget for all funds totaled \$242,090,180 before amendments, and \$242,517,760 with the amendment as proposed by administration.

HULL MOVED, MCCONNELL SECONDED, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2012-01: ADOPTION OF THE 2011-12 SCHOOL DISTRICT APPROVED BUDGET.

The administration recommended Amendment #1 be approved.

### **2011-12 RECOMMENDED BUDGET AMENDMENT #1**

<u>Combined Budget - All Funds</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>
Recommended 2011-12 Revenue Budget	\$ 242,090,180	
Change in state revenue:		
a. Loss of \$100 on BSA	\$ (2,594,390)	
b. One-time state supplemental funding	2,137,890	
c. Voc-ed supplemental funding	1,171,950	
d. Quality Schools Initiative funding adjustment	3,300	
e. Lost state funding due to additional impact aid	(945,920)	
f. Charter school funding	(942,100)	
Change in state funding	<u>(1,169,270)</u>	
Change in federal revenue:		
g. Increase in impact aid based on latest variables	1,154,410	
Change in other financing sources:		
h. Operating Fund - fund balance	442,440	
i. Special Revenue Funds - fund balance	340,000	
j. Special Revenue Funds - transfer from Operating Fund	(340,000)	
Net change	<u>427,580</u>	
Approved 2011-12 Revenue Budget	<u>\$ 242,517,760</u>	
Recommended 2011-12 Expenditure Budget	\$ 242,090,180	1,743.22
k. Add budget for Voc-ed categorical funding	1,171,950	4.80
l. Eliminate charter school budget	(942,100)	(7.00)
m. Charter school share of per student state funding	137,730	
n. Increase heating and fuel budget	400,000	
o. Reduce transfer to Transportation Fund	(290,000)	
p. Reduce transfer to Nutrition Services Fund	(50,000)	
Approved 2011-12 Expenditure Budget	<u>\$ 242,517,760</u>	<u>1,741.02</u>

## **Resolution 2012-01: Adoption of the 2011-12 School District Approved Budget (continued)**

HAJDUKOVICH MOVED, MCCONNELL SECONDED, TO AMEND THE 2011-12 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$427,580 BY ACCEPTING AMENDMENT #1 AS PROPOSED BY ADMINISTRATION.

Mr. Fisher explained there had been a number of changes to estimated revenues since the Recommended Budget was approved by the board on March 24, 2011. There were changes to both estimated state and federal revenues. The impact of the changes and the timing of federal funds received at year-end also impacted how much fund balance was used.

The program and personnel cuts the board made in the Recommended Budget were still cut from the Approved Budget. The expenditure side of the budget had a few recommended changes:

### Revenue

The legislature provided an additional \$2.138m in one-time funding for the 2011-12 school year, in lieu of a \$100 increase to the base student allocation as included in the Recommended Budget. That action resulted in a net shortfall in state funding of \$457k.

The legislature provided \$1.172m in vocational education categorical funding for next year, and the same approximate amount for the following four years. Those funds must be used to address CTE type programs in grades nine through twelve, and were not available for general discretionary spending.

The district's estimate of 2011-12 state funding was also impacted by recent receipts of federal impact aid funds and the State Board of Education's delay in approving the Early College of Alaska Charter High School application. There was also a small adjustment to Quality Schools Initiative funding.

Recent receipts of federal impact aid funding above the current year budget would flow into fund balance (less the borough lapse amount), but the state would also reduce next year's foundation funding by about 55 percent of any unanticipated amount. The revised decrease to state funding next year would be about \$946k.

The Early College of Alaska Charter High School application was not approved by the State Board of Education at their June meeting. The concept of the charter school was met with approval, but there were some state funding legalities state attorneys must research before approval could be granted. Early College of Alaska Charter High School would not open in 2011-12. The district reduced state revenue (and corresponding expenditure budgets) by \$942k to reflect this action.

As noted earlier, the district received more federal impact aid in the current year above what was originally budgeted. The federal appropriation included a substantial increase to the per student allocation amount. The estimate for next year's federal impact funding had been revised based on the formula variables in the latest federal allocation. The revision would increase next year's estimated federal impact aid funding by \$1.154m.

### Expenditures

There were only a few recommended changes to the expenditure side of the budget, and they did not include any cuts to educational programs or personnel.

In fact, the budget must be increased by \$1.172m to address the legislature's supplemental and categorical funding of vocational education programs. The funding must be used in grades nine

## **Resolution 2012-01: Adoption of the 2011-12 School District Approved Budget (continued)**

through twelve and follow other spending guidelines. The preliminary spending plan for those funds anticipated adding 4.8 teaching positions, which were allocated to schools in the budget. The remaining amount would be allocated to a districtwide secondary vocational education account while administration finalized a plan for the most efficient and effective use of the funds.

The initial budgets for charter schools did not include any estimated increase for per student funding. Legislative action provided additional one-time per student funding and vocational education funding. The proposed amendment would allocate an additional \$137.7k to charter schools as intended in state statute. Also, as previously noted, the State Board of Education had not approved the Early College of Alaska Charter High School application. That action would result in a decrease of \$942k from the budget and 7.0 positions.

A majority of the 2011-12 Recommended Budget was developed back in December. Since then the revised estimate of heat and fuel costs had increase substantially. The proposed amendment would add an additional \$400k to those budgeted line items.

The GASB 54 review process and the late budget approval process had given administration the opportunity to evaluate the level of available fund balance in the Transportation and Nutrition Services funds. The administration anticipated both funds would have more fund balance available next year than estimated back in December. The district would be able to utilize the fund balance and reduce transfers to those funds next year. The amendment would reduce the operating transfer to the Transportation Fund by \$590k and to the Nutrition Services Fund by \$350k.

The consolidated amendment #1 balanced the budget for all funds at \$242,517,760 and a decrease of positions from the Recommended Budget.

### BOARD QUESTIONS ON THE AMENDMENT

None

### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AMENDMENT

None

### BOARD COMMENTS ON THE AMENDMENT

None

The board voted on the amendment.

AMENDMENT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 7 AYES

### BOARD QUESTIONS ON THE MAIN MOTION

None

### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE MAIN MOTION

None

### BOARD COMMENTS ON THE MAIN MOTION

Mrs. Hajdukovich thought everyone should remember the money from the legislature was one-time money only and had not added to the base student allocation. The district would be back to square one at the next budget cycle. The current budget was a good one, but it was important to remember the district had received one-time funding. It was also important to remember, with the way the formula worked, the district received reduced state funding when local funding was reduced. Mrs. Hajdukovich thought it was a great budget and applauded the administration for all their work.



## **Resolution 2012-01: Adoption of the 2011-12 School District Approved Budget (continued)**

Mrs. Hull commended the administration on their work. The administration had done an admirable job of putting together a budget that did not reduce student programs. She thought the administration's original proposal was conservative and the legislature had come in at a conservative amount. Mrs. Hull agreed with Mrs. Hajdukovich in regards to the legislature's one-time funding; it put the district in a difficult position in regards to maintaining the same programs next year. The administration had done a great job on the budget this year.

Mrs. Hajdukovich wanted to make it clear from a recent article in the paper about the funding for the new charter school that had originally been included in the budget. It had been taken out of the budget because the charter school had not been approved at the state level. She did not want people to think the \$900,000+ originally budgeted for the charter school would be available in the district's budget. It didn't work that way – the money would have been an “in and out” situation.

Mrs. Brophy thanked the administration for their work on the budget.

Mrs. Brophy restated the main motion on the floor - to approve Resolution 2012-01 as amended, adopting the 2011-12 School District Approved Budget in the amount of \$242,517,760.

The board voted on the main motion.

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 7 AYES

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Policy 804: Mobile Learning Devices (First Reading)**

The administration drafted proposed School Board Policy 804: Mobile Learning Devices. The policy review committee forwarded it to the board for consideration. The purpose of policy 804 was to establish the policy of the school district on the provision for and use of mobile learning devices by students.

DOMINIQUE MOVED, MCCONNELL SECONDED, TO APPROVE FIRST READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADVANCEMENT TO SECOND READING OF POLICY 804: MOBILE LEARNING DEVICES.

Superintendent Lewis stated the district had been looking and thinking forward to find innovative ways to incorporate mobile learning devices in the classroom, if teachers desired to use them.

Bett Schaffhauser, employment and educational opportunity director, explained the creation of the new policy stemmed from the continuation of the district's effort to develop technology policies. The initial drafting of the language materialized after research of the issues and what other school districts were doing. The proposed policy had been vetted, more than one time, by management team, the policy review committee, principals, and the public.

The term mobile learning device encompassed mobile phones, smart phones, iTouches, iPads, personal digital assistants, personal media players, and portable computers to name a few. In regards to the number of devices being used, studies suggested 85 percent of high school students had cell phones. That translated to roughly 3,500 mobile phones in the school district. The district accounted for providing over 500 iPads and over 600 iTouches to schools for a total of nearly 1,200 devices in schools, mostly at the elementary level. There were likely more to come. Between student owned and school district provided devices, there were approximately 5,000 mobile devices in the district for which the proposed policy would address.

## **Policy 804: Mobile Learning Devices (First Reading) (continued)**

The proposed policy recognized the above mentioned reality; mobile learning devices existed, were owned, possessed, and used by district students. Many of them probably considered them a necessity or wondered if they could ever live without them. Mobile learning devices were capable of engaging minds with innovative technology that enhanced learning.

The proposed policy also recognized mobile learning devices made it possible for students to engage in activities that distracted from learning, either their own or that of others. The policy would say “yes” to mobile learning devices, but with rules. The policy stated the school principal would make the rules. If students broke the rules of where to use or how to use the mobile learning devices, they could be disciplined. The policy established if a mobile learning device was confiscated from a student, it must be secured with reasonable care.

The proposed policy identified conduct strictly prohibited, to include harassing or bullying communication, the capturing of visual images that harassed or embarrassed or constituted cheating. Other specific prohibitions were the use of a mobile learning device in criminal activity, or that violated laws, statutes, policies, or behavior standards.

The issues of conducting device searches were also noted in the proposed policy. The policy clearly stated a student had no expectation of privacy on a school district owned mobile learning device. Prior to searching student owned mobile learning devices, the administrator had to have reasonable suspicion the search would provide evidence of a violation, ensure the scope of the search was reasonable related to what the principal expected to find, and the search was not excessively intrusive. These were the same standards that applied to all searches in the district. The policy review committee wanted the parameters spelled out in the policy so principals, parents, and students would be aware they applied to searches of mobile learning devices.

The proposed policy warned administrators not to transmit to other school personnel the explicit images of a minor discovered as a result of a search. For instance, if the assistant principal found evidence of sexting on a cell phone, he or she should not forward the image to the principal, lest an overzealous prosecutor charged them with trafficking in child pornography, as had happened back East.

The policy also gave guidance for a limited search of a mobile learning device without an apparent owner to determine ownership. There was no requirement to determine ownership; the principal had discretion to do so. The policy also gave instruction for schools not to rely on gathering emergency contact information from mobile learning devices. School records should be the source of information, except in extenuating circumstances.

### **BOARD QUESTIONS**

Mrs. Dominique thought the policy was wonderful and she was happy there was a start in bringing students up to par. She asked about district provided devices. Ms. Schaffhauser stated the district had not purchased cell or smart phones for students, just iTouches and iPads. Cell phones were student owned. As an example of how student owned devices might be used, Superintendent Lewis used the example of a student using a scientific calculator through their cell phone for an assignment, rather than purchasing a separate calculator.

Mrs. Dominique asked about purchasing applications for district-owned mobile learning devices. Superintendent Lewis stated, if the device was district owned, there was a process through the school principal to purchase applications that allowed schools to bypass purchasing to tryout the application, up to \$75. The process had been working well.

## **Policy 804: Mobile Learning Devices (First Reading) (continued)**

Mrs. Dominique asked about security for the devices. Ms. Schaffhauser stated the devices were class-sets and on carts. There might be times when students had to take the instrument home, but it would not be the norm. If there was a student-owned device, there was an understanding the district did not accept responsibility for the device, as was the case with all items brought to school.

Mrs. Hajdukovich asked about principals determining the use of student devices by school. She asked if it would be a decision for the entire building or left up to classroom teachers. Superintendent Lewis explained the implementation would be similar to if water or snacks were allowed in the classroom. Principals would make the decision for their individual buildings within the parameters of the policies. Mrs. Hajdukovich was happy to hear that, as different instructors had different tolerances for things. She also asked if the policies would be different between the elementary and secondary levels. Superintendent Lewis stated the policies applied to all grades. Mrs. Hajdukovich noted she was thinking more about cell phones and thought it might be a little harder to manage at the elementary level.

Mr. Rice asked about filters and having Wi-Fi available in all buildings. Superintendent Lewis stated all buildings had Wi-Fi. If a student was utilizing a district device, it would have the same filters as any other district device. As was already the case, the district could not monitor individual networks, but appropriate use was part of learning responsible digital citizenship.

Mr. Chord spoke about principals having the individual authority to implement the policy in their schools. The district's mission statement was for equitable treatment of all students, rather than individualizing it by school. President Brophy asked if Mr. Chord had a question, as it was time for questions, not comments.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

### BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Chord thought the proposed policy had a punitive approach. He believed if the district wanted to improve the graduation rate and decrease the dropout rate, policies should not be geared to a punitive approach.

Mrs. Dominique thanked the administration for the policy. It was a digital society and she felt the district was already somewhat behind the technology curve. She had been a proponent of the One-to-One initiative from the beginning. She believed it was a way to get technology into the hands of students and it would help keep students in school. Mrs. Dominique appreciated the policy and thought it was a good move for the district.

Mrs. Hull agreed with Mrs. Dominique about the policy; well done. Students needed to be prepared for the future. The policy recognized the range of devices and it was good the policy included the devices students used. Mrs. Hull thought standardizing things was a good approach, but in a world where change occurred so quickly everyone needed to look forward and inspire student learning. Mrs. Hull had been a little dismayed to hear and wanted to know why most the iPads and iPods were at the elementary level and they weren't being purchased at the secondary level.

Mrs. Hull had heard about a workshop at the recent NSBA national conference relating to how school districts were utilizing devices owned by students in classroom instruction. She liked the proposed policy addressed student-owned devices and hoped the district would be looking outside the usual parameters because there was a lot of potential for learning.

### **Policy 804: Mobile Learning Devices (First Reading) (continued)**

Ms. McConnell, as chair of the policy review committee, thanked everyone for their input on the policy. It was important to have the policy and she supported it.

Mrs. Hajdukovich hoped the policy and administrative regulation would be continually reviewed as technology was evolving so quickly. She thought student-owned technology should be utilized and having policies in place regarding its appropriate use was important. Mrs. Hajdukovich was okay with students having the device taken away if it was being used inappropriately. She supported the policy.

Mr. Rice thought the policy was good as mobile devices could be useful. He agreed with Mrs. Hajdukovich in he hoped the policy would be reviewed more frequently than other policies because technology was constantly changing.

Mrs. Brophy agreed with other board members regarding the policy being a living document that would be changing and evolving. The policies were not meant to be punitive, but provide guidance. She believed the policy was general in its intent. Technology could sometimes present a burden, but without a policy, it could become more of a burden.

MOTION CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES, 1 NAY: CHORD

### **Policy 810: Social Media for Community Outreach (First Reading)**

The administration drafted proposed School Board Policy 810: Social Media for Community Outreach. The policy review committee forwarded it to the board for consideration. The purpose of policy 810 was to establish the policy of the school district as it pertained to the district's, schools', departments', committees' and affiliated groups' use of social media to a broad or targeted audience as a means of rapid, cost effective, easily accessible communication which was unrelated to direct classroom instruction.

MCCONNELL MOVED, RICE SECONDED, TO APPROVE FIRST READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADVANCEMENT TO SECOND READING OF POLICY 810: SOCIAL MEDIA FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH.

Superintendent Lewis stated the proposed policy was a starting point in regards to social media. It would provide safe opportunities to move into the area of social media to find ways to better communicate and provide avenues for the public to interact with the district. The district needed to look at a variety of ways to communicate in ways that could be supported and sustained. There needed to be structure and guidelines in place for that to occur.

Bett Schaffhauser, employment and educational opportunity director, explained the creation of the new policy stemmed from the continuation of the district's effort to develop technology policies. The initial drafting of the language materialized after research of the issues and what other school districts, local governments, and corporations were doing. The proposed policy had been vetted, more than one time, by management team, the policy review committee, principals, and the public.

To help envision how social media might work in a school setting, Ms. Schaffhauser spoke about receiving a twitter from the PTA reminding people about a fundraiser; a facebook update on the progress of school construction projects, a blog entry during the season on a winning team, or the instant notification of emergency situations. Seventy-nine percent of school leaders thought social media was important. Twice as many parents used twitter and facebook to get their news than went to a website.

## **Policy 810: Social Media for Community Outreach (First Reading) (continued)**

The use of social media was another avenue for communication. The board recognized the importance of communication with parents and the community to sustain the district. Adopting the policy would allow the administration to utilize social media tools to get information out to people. Although the use of social media was exciting and offered many opportunities, the administration was approaching it with caution by going slow, experimenting, and testing the waters. The administration would investigate the pros and cons of instituting the different types of social media before deciding which one to launch. Administrative regulations would be in place addressing the issues of confidentiality, harassment, and professional conduct standards. The policy would allow the district to dip its big toe into the wading pool of social media. It would not be diving head first into the deep end.

### **BOARD QUESTIONS**

Mr. Rice asked if other districts were doing similar things. Ms. Schaffhauser stated other districts were utilizing social media tools and the district was taking advantage of their experience. He asked if webinars would be used to teach courses at different school locations. Ms. Schaffhauser stated she thought he was referring to distance learning. The proposed policy was designed to address administrators, committees, and other educational groups getting information disseminated, rather than student instruction.

Mr. Rice asked how it would work in regard to board communications – specifically with regard to official comments and announcements. Ms. Schaffhauser stated the administrative regulation would outline all the procedures. Superintendent Lewis added nothing would really change, as individual board members were always entitled to their individual opinions at any time, but the board, as a whole, spoke as one, usually through the president.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Ms. McConnell thought it was a really good policy. It provided an avenue that was important to the community. Board members continually received calls and input about getting parents more involved. This policy would be a good way to get parents more involved.

Mr. Rice thought the proposed policy was a good idea. If the state was looking at starting a facebook page and twitter accounts, the district should too. He thought it would also be a great way for students to comment on their education.

Mrs. Brophy thought the proposed policy was a great way to engage parents and families. She thanked Ms. Schaffhauser for her report.

**MOTION CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES, 1 NAY: CHORD**

### **Suspend Policy 264: 2011-12 Regular Meeting Adjustments**

Historically, the Board had cancelled its second December meeting and first January meeting due to the close proximity to Winter Break. Also, the Board's second May meeting for 2012 (May 15, 2012) was scheduled to be held on the same evening as the graduations for Hutchison and North Pole High Schools. In order to set the Board's regular meeting calendar for the 2011-2012 school year, the administration was recommending the Board cancel their December 20, 2011 and January 3, 2012 meetings and reschedule their May 15, 2012 meeting to May 22, 2012.

## **Suspend Policy 264: 2011-12 Regular Meeting Adjustments (continued)**

DOMINIQUE MOVED, MCCONNELL SECONDED, TO SUSPEND THE RULES, POLICY 264 – TYPES OF MEETINGS, AND CANCEL THE DECEMBER 20, 2011 AND JANUARY 3, 2012 MEETINGS AND RESCHEDULE THE MAY 15, 2012 MEETING TO MAY 22, 2012.

### **BOARD QUESTIONS**

None

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 7 AYES

### **INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

Included in the consent agenda.

### **BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT'S QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS/ COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Colonel Jones announced it was his last school board meeting. He would transfer his command on July 8 to Colonel Ron Johnson, as well as the advisory seat on the board. He would be retiring and staying in Fairbanks. It was a unique and special community. He had been honored to serve the district.

Mrs. Hajdukovich thanked Colonel Jones for his service. It had been wonderful to work with him and he had done an outstanding job representing the military. The military representatives were a great benefit to the board. Mrs. Hajdukovich thanked Mr. Duffy for his comments. She wished everyone a great summer.

Mr. Chord thanked Colonel Jones for his service and contributions to the board and district. He also drew attention to Hutchison High School senior, Ashley Elsberry and her senior project. The project focused on suicide awareness and Gatekeeper Training. Mr. Chord had recently attended a session on Gatekeeper Training through the Fairbanks Resource and Adoption Agency. Ms. Elsberry's report was part of the board's reading file and Mr. Chord thought it would be worthwhile for people to check out, including the administrative and school staffs. Suicide was a shocking event that unfortunately happened too frequently.

Mr. Chord thought the board had to start considering the students' side of things when considering policies. He felt the policies were geared to be more punitive and controlling than for providing guidance. He said students and parents needed to be invited into the educational process.

Mr. Rice thanked Colonel Jones for his military and board service. He wished him the best in his retirement. Mr. Rice congratulated the track and field champions. He noted he was curious about how the policies would work; they were good first steps. The district needed to move forward with the times.

Ms. McConnell also congratulated the track and field champions. It had been good to see Mr. Laroe and she welcomed incoming FEA president, Tammy Smith (who was in the audience). Ms. McConnell thanked Colonel Jones for all he had done for the district and military and wished him well.

**BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT'S QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS/  
COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)**

Ms. McConnell announced the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics (WEIO) would be taking place in Fairbanks in mid-July. There would be traditional Native games and dancing and she invited the community to attend. Ms. McConnell wished everyone an enjoyable summer!

Mrs. Hull added her thanks to Colonel Jones for his service; he would be missed. The military representatives were an important part of the board and their input was appreciated. Mrs. Hull was also happy to see Mr. Laroe.

Mrs. Dominique expressed her appreciation to Colonel Jones for being on the board and she could attest to what he was doing on Ft. Wainwright for district students. He made sure the word got out about what was happening in the school district. Mrs. Dominique also thanked Mr. Duffy for his comments. She stated she was the board person he referred to in his comments. She noted everyone was entitled to their opinion and she stood by her comments. She thought it was good that people had differing opinions and thought more people should come out and speak out about things – for or against what was being said by the board. It was the only way to grow and learn and find out what people wanted or did not want.

Mrs. Dominique congratulated the track and field champions. It was good to see Eielson students placing first and making such a good showing.

Mrs. Brophy thanked Colonel Jones for his service to the country and the board. She was happy he was staying in Fairbanks and hoped he would enjoy his retirement. Mrs. Brophy thanked Mr. Duffy for his comments and perspective, as well as pointing out there were many books in the school libraries on a variety of subjects.

Mrs. Brophy announced the board's special meeting and work session, scheduled for the following evening, had been moved from the board room to the superintendent's conference room on the fourth floor.

Superintendent Lewis had visited with a teacher in the audience prior to the start of the meeting and found out he was working on developing an application; that was great and fell right in line with the policies on the agenda.

Superintendent Lewis and others had recently provided tours of the school facilities to some assembly members so they could see firsthand the conditions of schools and improvements being made. He hoped to be able to take more assembly members through the schools.

Superintendent Lewis updated the board on the recent PLC conference, where about 60 staff members had participated. There were a number of summer activities taking place throughout the district and community, such as summer school, math camp, art camp, etc. There were also a number of summer construction projects – lighting, window replacements, and other energy improvements.

The assembly would be addressing redistricting at their regular meeting the following evening and Superintendent Lewis invited board members to contact an assembly member if they had input. Unfortunately, there would not be a board representative at the meeting, as the board had a work session scheduled for the same time.

Work on the career technical education (CTE) plan continued. Superintendent Lewis and Mr. Gerke would be meeting with representatives in July to hopefully develop agreements to get students into trade apprenticeship programs.

**BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT'S QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS/  
COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)**

Superintendent Lewis was grateful for the opportunity to have worked with Colonel Jones. He had worked alongside Colonel Jones in different situations and seen him in action, including crisis situations. Colonel Jones was the ultimate professional and a true advocate for military students and families. He would be missed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Submitted by Sharon Tuttle, executive assistant to the Board.