

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

Regular Meeting

MINUTES

August 5, 2014

President Haas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the board room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Haas read the district's mission statement: *"Our mission is to provide an excellent and equitable education in a safe, supportive environment so all students can become productive members of a diverse and changing society."*

Present:

Heidi Haas, President
John Thies, Treasurer
Allyson Lambert, Clerk
Lisa Gentry, Member
Sue Hull, Member
Larry Rice, Base Representative
Wyatt Hoyes, Student Representative

Absent:

Wendy Dominique, Vice President
Sean Rice, Member
Sidney Zemp, Post Representative

Staff Present:

Dr. Karen Gaborik, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Mike Fisher, Chief Financial Officer
Sandy Kowalski, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education
Shaun Kraska, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education
Dave Norum, Executive Director of Facilities Maintenance
Bob Hadaway, Executive Director of Special Education
Janet Cobb, Executive Director of Technology
Johanna Carson, Director of Public Relations
Bett Schaffhauser, Director of Employment & Educational Opportunity
Helen Clark, Director of Federal Programs
Katie Sanders, Director of Library Media Services
Dan Domke, Director of Career Technical Education
Heather Rauenhorst, Director of Grants & Special Projects
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

David G. Stone Secondary Vocational Training Administrator of the Year [0:59]

The Alaska Workforce Investment Board named Daniel Domke, CTE director and previous Hutchison High School principal, the David G. Stone Secondary Vocational Training Administrator of the Year. Department of Labor Commissioner Dianne Blumer made the presentation.

Staff Introductions [4:46]

Interim Superintendent Dr. Gaborik introduced several administrators new to the Administrative Center: Sandra Kowalski – assistant superintendent of elementary instruction; Shaun Kraska – interim assistant superintendent of secondary instruction; Dan Domke – director of career technical education; and Johanna Carson – public relations director. Helen Clark, director of federal programs introduced Jennifer Randall – ESEA program compliance coordinator.

AGENDA [10:59]

THIES MOVED, LAMBERT SECONDED, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA WITH CONSENT ITEMS.

The following consent items were moved:

approved the minutes from the work session on May 28; the special meetings on July 9 and June 2, 4, and 9; and the regular meeting on June 3, 2014, as submitted.

awarded IFB 15-F0004 for Welding Machines, Electric, North Pole High to Airgas-Norpac Inc. for \$55,040.

approved Two Rivers School's request to send all its students by train to Denali National Park on September 10, 2014, at no cost to the district.

approved North Pole Middle School's request to raise funds to send students to Juneau, February 15-20, 2015 to participate in the Alaska Junior Close Up program, with the district paying substitute costs.

approved North Pole Middle School's request to raise funds to send students to Washington, D.C., April 17-26, 2015 to participate in the Close Up Capital Experience and visit historical sites, at no cost to the district.

accepted the gift of \$5,000 from North Pole Physical Therapy to Ben Eielson Junior-Senior High School to help fund an athletic trainer.

accepted the gift of \$1,500 from DBD Enterprises LLC to Hutchison High School to support the school's Skills USA program.

accepted the gift of \$1,000 from the Optimist Club of Fairbanks to Hutchison High School to support the school's soccer and cross country running programs

accepted the gift of \$8,836 from the Lathrop Baseball Booster organization to Lathrop High School to support the school's baseball program.

accepted the gift of \$3,501.40 from the Lathrop School Boys' Soccer organization to Lathrop High School to support the school's soccer program.

accepted the gift of \$9,350 from the Lathrop Fastpitch Softball organization to Lathrop High School to support the school's girls' softball program.

accepted the gift of \$5,933 from the Lathrop High School Girls' Soccer organization to Lathrop High School to support the school's girls' soccer program.

accepted the gift of a BrailleNote Apex, a Braille Sense U2 Mini, and two iPad Air devices, valued at \$11,000 from the Alaska Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired to the district's special education department to be used for the Assistive Technology Library Loan program.

approved the Personnel Action Report for the period May 28 – July 25, 2014.

acknowledged the Personnel Information Report for the period June 4 – July 25, 2014.

acknowledged the Superintendent's Budget Transfer Report for the end of the year 2013-14.

Consent Agenda (continued)

acknowledged the Board's Reading File.

acknowledged the Coming Events and Meeting Announcements.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (L. RICE, HOYES)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 4 AYES (HULL, LAMBERT, THIES, HAAS)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONAGENDA ITEMS [14:40]

President Haas called for nonagenda public comments. Hearing none, nonagenda public comment time was closed.

OLD BUSINESS

Policy 770: Food Services Management (Second Reading) [15:31]

The U.S. Department of Agriculture issued final orders relating to statutes and regulations regarding the school lunch program. The administration revised the policy to ensure compliance with current USDA guidance. The Policy Review Committee and borough legal reviewed the policy. There were no changes from first reading.

Board Priority: *Develop long-term sustainability of overall district operations.*

HULL MOVED, THIES SECONDED, TO APPROVE SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADOPTION OF POLICY 770: FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT.

Elizabeth Schaffhauser, director of employment and education opportunity, explained the changes were related to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. The U.S. Department of Agriculture expected the district to comply with the regulations starting with the 2014-15 school year.

BOARD QUESTIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

None

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (HOYES, L. RICE)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 4 AYES (THIES, HULL, LAMBERT, HAAS)

Policy 771: Vending Machines (Second Reading) [16:55]

The U.S. Department of Agriculture issued final orders relating to statutes and regulations regarding the school lunch program. The administration revised the policy to ensure compliance with current USDA guidance. The Policy Review Committee and borough legal reviewed the policy. There were no changes from first reading.

Board Priority: *Develop long-term sustainability of overall district operations.*

LAMBERT MOVED, HULL SECONDED, TO APPROVE SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADOPTION OF POLICY 771: VENDING MACHINES.

Policy 771: Vending Machines (Second Reading) (continued)

BOARD QUESTIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

None

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (L. RICE, HOYES)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 4 AYES (LAMBERT, THIES, HULL, HAAS)

Policy 1061: School Wellness;

Policy 1061.2: Nutrition Education; &

Policy 1061.3: Food & Beverage Provided By School (Second Reading) [17:49]

The administration revised the policies to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. The law imposes higher standards for disseminating, evaluating, assessing, and reporting on the student wellness policy and its goals. Borough legal reviewed the policies. There were no changes from first reading.

Board Priority: *Student learning is at the center of everything we do.*

HULL MOVED, THIES SECONDED, TO APPROVE SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF POLICY 1061: STUDENT WELLNESS; POLICY 1061.2: NUTRITION EDUCATION; AND POLICY 1061.3: FOOD & BEVERAGE PROVIDED BY SCHOOL.

Elizabeth Schaffhauser, director of employment and education opportunity, explained the Policy Review Committee had recommended the removal of some compliance language, but the administration had reinstated the language as it was required by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

BOARD QUESTIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

None

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (HOYES, L. RICE)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 4 AYES (LAMBERT, THIES, HULL, HAAS)

Policy 1068: Erin's Policy for a Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program (Second Reading) [19:58]

The school board seeks a policy patterned after "Erin's Law" stating its commitment to providing a safe learning environment for all students. The policy will implement a comprehensive program informing students and staff about child sexual abuse and available resources. After first reading, the administration revised the title and the organization of the policy. Borough legal vetted the revised policy.

Policy 1068: Erin's Policy for a Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program (Second Reading) (continued)

Board Priority: *Provide a safe learning environment.*

THIES MOVED, LAMBERT SECONDED, TO APPROVE SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADOPTION OF POLICY 1068: ERIN'S POLICY FOR A CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.

Elizabeth Schaffhauser, director of employment and education opportunity, explained she had removed some of the redundancies and reorganized the policy to be more straightforward, in response to board comments during first reading.

BOARD QUESTIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Hull proposed an amendment allowing parents, if desired, a provision to opt-out their student from participation. After board discussion during first reading, borough legal provided board members with suggested language for an opt-out provision.

HULL MOVED, LAMBERT SECONDED, TO AMEND THE POLICY TO INCLUDE THE LANGUAGE, "A MINOR STUDENT SHALL BE EXCUSED FROM PARTICIPATING IN CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION REGARDING SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT UPON RECEIPT BY THE PRINCIPAL OF A WRITTEN REQUEST FROM THE STUDENT'S PARENT OR GUARDIAN" AS THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF THE POLICY.

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ON THE AMENDMENT

Mrs. Hull thought the amendment would reassure parents of the district's practice to allow parents the provision to opt out their students from participation.

The board voted on the amendment.

ADVISORY VOTES ON THE AMENDMENT. 2 AYES (L. RICE, HOYES)

AMENDMENT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 4 AYES (HULL, LAMBERT, THIES, HAAS)

President Haas thanked the administration and borough legal for their work on the important policy. She hoped the legislature would pass Erin's Policy next year.

The board voted on the main motion as amended.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (HOYES, L. RICE)

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 4 AYES (HULL, LAMBERT, THIES, HAAS)

Mrs. Gentry arrived at 7:26 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

2016 Capital Improvement Plan List [25:31]

The Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) requires a board approved Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) be submitted annually by September 1 in order to be considered for state grant funding. The CIP list was pulled from the board's June 3 agenda and was now before the board for approval.

Board Priority: *Maintain excellent school facilities and manage capital improvement projects.*

LAMBERT MOVED, THIES SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE 2016 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN LIST.

Superintendent Gaborik was pleased the administration had started a good collaboration with the borough and established some monthly meetings with borough staff, including the mayor, chief of staff, and public works director.

Dave Norum, executive director of facilities management, presented the administration's report on the recommended 2016 CIP list. He noted the costs associated with the projects were estimates and were subject to change, depending on delays, price increases, etc.

BOARD QUESTIONS

President Haas asked about the administrative center HVAC renovation. Mr. Norum explained the project was completed and the district was seeking reimbursement. Some of the projects on the list were seeking funding and some were seeking reimbursement.

Mrs. Hull asked Mr. Norum if there were ways to improve the CIP process. Mr. Norum stated the administration had been working with Juneau and other districts on changes. Small changes had been made to the application process over the last couple of years. Mrs. Hull and Mr. Norum agreed there should be more consideration and emphasis for emergency/life & safety issues. Work and discussions on the process would be continuing; Mr. Norum expected some significant scoring changes for the coming year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

None

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (HOYES, L. RICE)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES

(HULL, GENTRY, LAMBERT, THIES, HAAS)

Policy 263: Teleconference Participation in Meetings (First Reading) [38:06]

The school board requested a policy allowing a board member to participate remotely in regular meetings using communication technology. The borough legal department presented the draft policy for board consideration.

Board Priority: *Develop long-term sustainability of overall district operations.*

LAMBERT MOVED, THIES SECONDED, TO APPROVE FIRST READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADVANCEMENT TO SECOND READING OF POLICY 263: TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS.

Policy 263: Teleconference Participation in Meetings (First Reading) (continued)

Elizabeth Schaffhauser, director of employment and education opportunity, reviewed the proposed policy. The proposed policy would allow board members to participate in regular meetings by teleconference, up to two times per year. There were conditions for participation and teleconference participation was the exception, not the rule. A quorum of board members, outside the member(s) participating by teleconference, must be physically present for a meeting.

BOARD QUESTIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Hull appreciated the proposed policy and liked the parameters.

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (HOYES, L. RICE)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES

(THIES, HULL, GENTRY, LAMBERT, HAAS)

Policy 1046.7: Harassment (First Reading) [41:30]

The policy was from the student behavioral standards section and needed to be revised in order to be consistent with other recently revised policies to ensure consistent language identifying the bases upon which harassing conduct was defined.

Board Priority: *Respect for the diversity and dignity of all individuals and groups is essential.*

LAMBERT MOVED, HULL SECONDED, TO APPROVE FIRST READING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADVANCEMENT TO SECOND READING OF POLICY 1046.7: HARASSMENT.

Elizabeth Schaffhauser, director of employment and education opportunity, noted the policy was overlooked when the other harassment policies came before the board at the end of last school year.

BOARD QUESTIONS

President Haas asked about the specific demographics related to harassment. She thought harassment could relate to any topic. She asked about adding a category of "other." Superintendent Gaborik agreed and believed the issue was addressed in the district's discipline and bullying policies.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

None

ADVISORY VOTES. 2 AYES (L. RICE, HOYES)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES

(LAMBERT, THIES, HULL, GENTRY, HAAS)

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Included in the consent agenda.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS [44:14]

President Haas had several announcements.

- August 11 – School Board Special Meeting at 5:30 p.m. regarding ongoing investigations
- August 14 – Back to School Event for Staff – Hering Auditorium at 8:00 a.m.
- August 20 – first day for students in grades 1-8 & Ignition for freshman and new students in grades 10-12
- September 13 & 14 – AASB Fall Boardsmanship Academy in Fairbanks

President Haas encouraged the public to stop by the district's fair booth for lots of good information. She asked board members interested in attending the AASB Fall Boardsmanship Academy to notify the board secretary. President Haas followed up on an email sent earlier to board members and reminded members to submit their ideas about meaningful and measurable parent engagement by Monday, August 11.

On behalf of the entire school board, President Haas announced and congratulated district retirees since the last board meeting: Steven Kennedy, Charles Gerrish, Gayle Pierce, Susan Miller, Karen Robinson, and Dale Suomi. She also congratulated Mr. Domke on his award and welcomed all the new administrators who were introduced earlier in the meeting.

President Haas wished everyone a great start to the new school year. She could feel the energy building around the district as the new school year approached.

Mrs. Hull reported on the first day of the Education Summit and some of the challenges facing other districts in the Interior and how the Fairbanks district might be able to support those districts. She also reported on the recent National School Board Association (NSBA) Pacific Region summer meeting, which offered many presentations, such as early brain development and how technology affected early learning. Mrs. Hull congratulated the Catholic Schools of Fairbanks for their one-to-one program for grades 7-12; she would like to see Fairbanks begin the program in the younger grades.

President Haas noted the board had a work session on the district's B.E.S.T. home school program scheduled for October 6.

Mrs. Gentry welcomed all the new administrators and noted her daughter was excited to start the new school year.

Mr. Thies added his welcome to the new administrators; he encouraged people to visit the district's fair booth for great back to school information.

Mrs. Lambert congratulated the new administrators; she was excited for school to start and was looking forward to a great school year.

Superintendent Gaborik enjoyed attending and participating in the Education Summit earlier in the day. There was a lot of good discussion and information. She thanked Yatibaey Evans, the district's Alaska Native Education coordinator, for her presentation at the summit.

Superintendent Gaborik encouraged parents to utilize the parent portal in PowerSchool, the district's mobile app, and website – there was a lot of important information available and it was a good way to stay informed about students and activities throughout the district. Bus routes could be found on the district's website. Superintendent Gaborik announced the STEP (State Training & Employment Program) grant opportunity – a special education teacher training program for staff – which would help the district to “grow our own.” She encouraged interested staff to apply.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

Mrs. Hull shared she had received comments about the lack of a receptionist at the administrative center and suggested adding the administrative center phone extensions to the district's mobile app. Superintendent Gaborik thought Mrs. Hull suggestion was a great idea.

President Haas announced the next regular board meeting would include action on student attendance, including discussion and consideration on the borough's ordinance and the district's attendance policies and administrative regulations. She asked board members to contact Rene Broker, borough attorney, if they had questions or suggestions on the attendance issue and/or the related borough ordinance. Superintendent Gaborik's interim superintendent contract was also scheduled to come before the board at their next regular meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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