

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

Regular Meeting

MINUTES

September 2, 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. Interim Superintendent Dr. Gaborik led the Pledge of Allegiance and a Staff Jazz Combo performed for the board.

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
Wendy Dominique, Vice President
John Thies, Treasurer
Allyson Lambert, Clerk
Sue Hull, Member
Sean Rice, Member
Larry Rice, Base Representative
Sidney Zemp, Post Representative
Wyatt Hoyes, Student Representative

Absent:

Lisa Gentry, Member

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
Kathy Hughes, Executive Director of Alternative Instruction & Accountability
Dave Norum, Executive Director of Facilities Maintenance
Bob Hadaway, Executive Director of Special Education
Peggy Carlson, Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Janet Cobb, Executive Director of Technology
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

Others Present:

Rene Broker, Borough Attorney

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

ESP of the Month [14:55]

Stephani Hillen, Career Education Center program secretary, was recognized as the Extra Special Support Staff Person for September 2014. Craig Kind, Career Education Center head teacher, made the presentation.

Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award [21:47]

Heidi Imhof, Barnette teacher, was selected by National History Day (NHD) as one of two Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year state winners. Dana Evans, Barnette principal, and Maida Buckley, UAF adjunct assistant professor, made the presentation.

Staff Introductions [27:24]

Sandy Kowalski, assistant superintendent of elementary instruction, introduced new elementary building administrators: Cori Anthony, Ladd interim principal; Tori Brannan, Salcha interim principal; Deborah Hall, Denali principal; Lalaunie Whisenhant, Arctic Light assistant principal; and Robyn Ward, Hunter principal. Kristie Calvin, the new interim principal at Two Rivers, was ill and unable to attend.

Shaun Kraska, interim assistant superintendent of secondary instruction, introduced new secondary building administrators: Bob Meade, Lathrop High School principal; Carly Sween, Stacey Stansell, and Rob Sylvester, Lathrop High School interim assistant principals; Joshua Snow, Effie Kokrine Charter School head teacher; and Allyson Nicholson, Randy Smith Middle School interim assistant principal.

AGENDA [38:13]

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

The following consent items were moved:

accepted the award from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development in the amount of \$15,000 for the BEST Program Digital Technology & Safety Upgrades project, per Fiscal Note 2015-01.

accepted the award from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development in the amount of \$60,000 for the Chinook Charter School Digital Technology & Safety Upgrades Project, per Fiscal Note 2015-02.

accepted the award from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development in the amount of \$23,650 for the Hutchison High School Digital Technology & Safety Upgrades Project, per Fiscal Note 2015-03.

accepted the award from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development in the amount of \$51,000 for the University Park Elementary School Digital Technology & Safety Upgrades Project, per Fiscal Note 2015-04.

accepted the award from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development in the amount of \$61,000 for the West Valley High School Digital Technology & Safety Upgrades Project, per Fiscal Note 2015-05.

accepted the award from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development in the amount of \$19,000 for the Woodriver Elementary School Digital Technology & Safety Upgrades Project, per Fiscal Note 2015-06.

accepted the award from the Alaska State Department of Labor and Workforce Development in the amount of \$29,938 for the State Training and Employment Program (STEP) grant, per Fiscal Note 2015-07.

Consent Agenda (continued)

accepted the award from the U.S. Department of Education in the amount of \$838,983 for the Indian Education Formula Grant, Part II, per Fiscal Note 2015-08.

accepted the award from the U.S. Department of Education in the amount of \$334,191 from the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 grant, per Fiscal Note 2015-09.

accepted the award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$11,726 for the Migrant Education Book Program, per Fiscal Note 2015-10.

approved the minutes from the special meetings on August 11 & 21; the work session on August 4; and the regular meeting on August 5, 2014, as submitted.

approved Budget Transfer 2015-001: CTE Director in the amount of \$116,159.

approved Budget Transfer 2015-002: Options Program in the amount of \$272,537.

approved Budget Transfer 2015-003: Human Resources Exempt Secretary in the amount of \$78,615.

approved Budget Transfer 2015-004: Chinook Teacher Assistant in the amount of \$45,793.

approved submission of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (was NCLB) Consolidated Application in the amount of \$5,146,260.

approved submission of the School Climate Transformation grant application in the amount of \$204,964.62.

approved Pearl Creek Elementary School's request to raise funds to send students to Denali National Park, September 15-17, 2014, where students will participate in the School Science Program, at no cost to the district.

approved Woodriver Elementary School's request to raise funds to send students to Denali National Park, September 8-10, 2014, where students will gain knowledge of Denali and the state, at no cost to the district.

approved Tanana Middle School's request to send students to Washington, D.C., September 15-18, 2014, to participate in the National Project Citizen Constitution Day Program, with the district paying for substitute costs.

approved North Pole High School's request to send its Future Farmers of America (FFA) student group to Louisville, Kentucky, October 28-November 1, 2014, to attend the FFA National Convention, at no cost to the district.

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

approved the Personnel Action Report for the period July 25-August 22, 2014.

acknowledged the Personnel Information Report for the period July 26-August 22, 2014.

acknowledged the Expulsions for the 2013-2014 school year, as of July 29, 2014.

Consent Agenda (continued)

acknowledged the Board's Reading File.

acknowledged the Coming Events and Meeting Announcements.

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (L. RICE, ZEMP, HOYES)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES
(S. RICE, HULL, THIES, DOMINIQUE, HAAS) (LAMBERT AWAY FROM DESK)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONAGENDA ITEMS [43:31]

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

OLD BUSINESS

Policy 263: Teleconference Participation in Meetings (Second Reading) [44:25]

The school board requested a policy allowing a board member to participate remotely in regular meetings using communication technology. The borough legal department presented a draft for the board's consideration. There were no changes from first reading.

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

None

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (ZEMP, HOYES, L. RICE)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES
(THIES, DOMINIQUE, S. RICE, HULL, LAMBERT, HAAS)

Policy 1046.7: Harassment (Second Reading) [45:51]

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. There were no changes from first reading.

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

HULL MOVED, THIES SECONDED, TO APPROVE SECOND READING,
PUBLIC HEARING, AND ADOPTION OF POLICY 1046.7: HARASSMENT.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

None

Policy 1046.7: Harassment (Second Reading) (continued)

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (L. RICE, ZEMP, HOYES)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES
(LAMBERT, THIES, DOMINIQUE, S. RICE, HULL, HAAS)

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2015-03: Approving and Supporting the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly's Adoption of Ordinance No. 2014-28 Concerning Compulsory School Attendance [47:57]

Resolution 2015-03 approving and supporting Borough Ordinance 2014-28 concerning compulsory school attendance was before the board for action.

Board Priority: High achievement evolves from high expectations and educational opportunities.

THIES MOVED, DOMINIQUE SECONDED, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-03: APPROVING AND SUPPORTING THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH ASSEMBLY'S ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2014-28 CONCERNING COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Discussion ensued between board members, district administration, and Rene Broker, borough attorney.

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (HOYES, L. RICE, ZEMP)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES
(LAMBERT, THIES, DOMINIQUE, S. RICE, HULL, HAAS)

Resolution 2015-04: Attendance Awareness Month [1:12:19]

In recognition of September as "Attendance Awareness Month" the school board considered a resolution focusing on the reduction of chronic student absenteeism.

Board Priority: High achievement evolves from high expectations and educational opportunities.

THIES MOVED, RICE SECONDED, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-04: ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH.

Mr. Thies read the resolution for the public record.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Discussion ensued.

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (ZEMP, HOYES, L. RICE)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES
(HULL, LAMBERT, THIES, DOMINIQUE, S. RICE, HAAS)

Resolution 2015-05: Honoring Hispanic Heritage Month [1:17:09]

School Board Resolution 2015-05 honored Hispanic Heritage Month and proclaimed the month of September 15, 2014, through October 15, 2014, for Hispanic cultural activities throughout the district.

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

RICE MOVED, HULL SECONDED, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-05:
HONORING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH.

Mr. Rice read the resolution for the public record.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

JoAnn Borges, 1130 Vicki Lane, spoke in support of the resolution. Ms. Borges reported the district's student Hispanic population had grown at a fast rate over the past ten years. She thanked the board for the resolution and honoring Hispanic heritage; it was important.

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Discussion ensued.

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (L. RICE, ZEMP, HOYES)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES
(S. RICE, HULL, LAMBERT, THIES, DOMINIQUE, HAAS)

Interim Superintendent Contract Approval [1:25:01]

The school board considered a contract for Interim Superintendent Dr. Karen Gaborik from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, at a rate equal to an annual salary of \$157,817, payable biweekly.

Board Priority: Quality education requires highly motivated, skilled, supportive teachers, administrators, and support staff.

LAMBERT MOVED, RICE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT DR. KAREN GABORIK FROM JULY 1, 2014
THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015, AT A RATE EQUAL TO AN ANNUAL SALARY OF
\$157,817, PAYABLE BIWEEKLY.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Discussion ensued.

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (HOYES, L. RICE, ZEMP)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 6 AYES
(DOMINIQUE, S. RICE, HULL, LAMBERT, THIES, HAAS)

Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) Board of Directors Nomination [1:29:42]

The school board endorsed the nomination of Fairbanks School Board Member Sue Hull as a nominee to the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) Board of Directors for 2014-2017.

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

Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) Board of Directors Nomination (continued)

Mrs. Hull declared a conflict of interest and recused herself from the action item and moved to the audience.

LAMBERT MOVED, DOMINIQUE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE NOMINATION OF SUE HULL AS A NOMINEE TO THE ASSOCIATION OF ALASKA SCHOOL BOARDS (AASB) BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2014-2017.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Discussion ensued.

ADVISORY VOTES. 3 AYES (ZEMP, HOYES, L. RICE)
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE. 5 AYES
(THIES, DOMINIQUE, S. RICE, LAMBERT, HAAS) (HULL RECUSED)

Mrs. Hull rejoined the board.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Enrollment Update [1:31:28]

Mike Fisher, chief financial officer, provided an update on student enrollment. Earlier in the day, student enrollment was at 13,741, down 295 students from enrollment projections for 2014-15.

Board Priority: Support class sizes that are conducive to learning.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Discussion ensued.

Summer Construction and Facilities Planning Briefing [2:04:53]

Dave Norum, executive director of facilities management, provided a briefing on summer construction and facilities planning.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Discussion ensued.

Association of Alaska School Boards' (AASB) Call for Resolutions [2:26:55]

The Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) solicited resolutions from local school boards for consideration at the 2014 Annual Conference in November. School boards were asked to discuss the resolution changes and/or submit resolutions of their own. Administration reviewed all of the AASB proposed resolutions and supported the positions taken. While some resolutions did not affect the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, the administration supported AASB's efforts to positively impact education decisions and procedures statewide.

Association of Alaska School Boards' (AASB) Call for Resolutions (continued)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Discussion ensued.

The board asked for more time to review the AASB resolutions. The report would come back before the board on the September 16, 2014 agenda.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS [2:33:45]

On behalf of the entire board, President Haas thanked the Staff Jazz Combo for their performance. She congratulated Stephani Hillen as September's ESP and Heidi Imhof, as one of two Alaska state Patricia Behring Teachers of the Year. She welcomed all the new administrators to the district, as well as those who were new to different schools. President Haas thanked everyone for their work on the Borough Ordinance and attendance policies.

Colonel Zemp appreciated the parent's night at Lathrop – they did a great job. He encouraged parents to get out and take advantage of the different events at schools.

Colonel Rice expressed his concern regarding the enrollment project process, its transparency, and its affect on students, especially when staff members were moved after the beginning of the school year.

Mrs. Hull reported on several meetings and events she had attended including UAF's professional development where she was appreciative of the collaboration between the district and university, especially in regards to dual credit and teacher preparation. Mrs. Hull requested a resolution in regards to the marijuana bill and how it might affect students. She reported the Anchorage School District would be working on their budget priorities. She spoke to the growth in benefit costs and how it was hurting districts across the state, which would make it difficult to educate students going forward if they weren't able to get a handle on the growth. Anchorage was also considering some radical changes to its school calendar; it could be something Fairbanks might want to watch and perhaps consider in the future.

Mr. Thies announced the Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for September 24, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. at Lathrop High School.

Mrs. Dominique reemphasized the need to do something regarding attendance, although she did not think fines were the answer. She would look into what other districts were doing. Mrs. Dominique asked for a report on how many students would be affected by the attendance policy. She thanked Interim Superintendent Dr. Gaborik for attending the recent Women's Empowerment Luncheon at Ft. Wainwright. She did a great job; one of the best.

Mrs. Lambert appreciated the work on the attendance issue. She pointed out some of the changes in the attendance administrative regulation. She thought the ordinance was very flexible on the number of excused absences and type of absences before it triggered any action and/or fines. Mrs. Lambert encouraged parents to communicate with schools.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

Mr. Rice agreed parents communicating with schools was key regarding student attendance. He announced some board members would be attending the upcoming AASB Fall Leadership Conference being held in Fairbanks at the Westmark Hotel on September 13 and 14, 2014. Mr. Rice also announced the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration at the JP Jones Community Center on September 26 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Hoyes brought the students' dissatisfaction with the ban on yoga pants and leggings to the board's attention. Students thought it was impinging on freedom of choice. Personally, he did not think it was as big a problem as some were making it out to be. Interim Superintendent Dr. Gaborik explained the changes were made in light of the large number of comments from principals regarding tight yoga pants and leggings.

Interim Superintendent Dr. Gaborik was pleased with the great start to the new school year. Management team members visited schools across the district on the first day. She was especially impressed with the new parking and traffic flow at Weller Elementary. Dr. Gaborik said it was a privilege for her to participate in the Ft. Wainwright's Women Empowerment Conference. She announced some upcoming events coming later in the month: Teacher Advisory Council and the African American Student Leadership Conference.

At 9:57 p.m.,

THIES MOVED, DOMINIQUE SECONDED, TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO CONTINUE THE BOARD MEETING TO 10:05 P.M.

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

President Haas pointed out the board and administration both wanted what was best for students. It was a great opportunity for all entities to work together regarding enrollment numbers. She voiced concern about the impact of reduced enrollment on the district's budget.

President Haas announced the board's September 18 work session with the Borough Finance Committee on the 2015-16 budget. She was working with Interim Superintendent Dr. Gaborik on other upcoming work session topics. Dr. Gaborik would be presenting the State of the Schools to Chamber on September 16. All board members were encouraged to attend.

President Haas asked board members for input regarding meeting times for the upcoming AASB work session on October 11. Board members agreed meeting Saturday, October 11, from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. would work well.

President Haas was pleased and excited with the start of the school year. She had been able to visit several schools and there were many great things happening in schools.

President Haas announced her intent to run for school board president for the coming year. She thanked board members who had already voiced their support.

The meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

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