

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

Work Session

MINUTES

October 11, 2014

The work session began at 9:09 a.m. in the board room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue. The work session was called to work with the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) on board-superintendent roles, responsibilities, priorities, and communication.

Present:

Heidi Haas, President  
Wendy Dominique, Vice President  
Allyson Lambert, Clerk  
Sue Hull, Member

Absent:

John Thies, Treasurer  
Lisa Gentry, Member  
Sean Rice, Member

Staff Present:

Dr. Karen Gaborik, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

**Board-Superintendent Roles-Responsibilities**

Timi Tullis, Association of Alaska School Boards director of membership services, facilitated the school board through the board and superintendent roles and responsibilities including some written exercises and extensive discussion on:

- Individual board member expectations
  - Individual strengths contributed to the board
  - Representative for community voice not individual voice
- Board and superintendent roles and responsibilities
  - Trusting relationships
  - What makes an effective governance team
  - Effective board and superintendent decision-making
  - Regular superintendent evaluation check-in with annual or bi-annual evaluation
- Board self evaluation
  - Aware of board comments and board influence
  - Annual board workshops on goals/priorities/roles/strategy
- Communication-information flow
  - Increased information for both board members and superintendent
    - no surprises for board members or superintendent
  - Respectful discussions and acceptance of differing views
  - Focused listening
  - Open to change
  - Streamlined communication between individual board members and superintendent
  - Adding the objectives or questions expected from a work session to the agendas to help focus discussion
  - Board member and administration sitting intermingled at work sessions
  - Clear consensus at the end of each work session from the president
  - Recap from superintendent of work session direction/take-aways
  - Superintendent direction would come from the president as a consensus of the board

### **Priorities & Goals**

Ms. Tullis guided the board through discussion on the district's priorities for the 2014-15 school year, including:

- Review of past goals
- Setting board priorities
  - Reviewing board goal history
  - Evaluating and examining past goals and status
- Superintendent Search

Dr. Gaborik presented the administration's proposed performance goals for the priorities.

After board discussion, there was consensus from the board to eliminate the indicators from the performance goals; add "adopt and implement a Diversity Action Plan"; and add "explore the expansion of student learning opportunities" which could encompass the exploration of full day kindergarten and/or K-3 technology, if the board determined either of the subjects as a priority. There was also consensus from the board to research the process to appoint Dr. Gaborik as superintendent. President Haas would consult with legal counsel.

### **Board Comments/Announcements**

None

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

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