

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

Work Session

MINUTES

February 2, 2015

President Haas called the work session to order at 6:55 p.m. in the board room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue. The work session was called to discuss and review school board committees.

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
Allyson Lambert, Treasurer
Lisa Gentry, Clerk
Sue Hull, Member
Michael O'Brien, Member
Sean Rice, Member

Absent:

Wendy Dominique, Vice President

Staff Present:

Dr. Karen Gaborik, Superintendent
Lisa Pearce, Chief Financial Officer
Peggy Carlson, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Johanna Carson, Director of Community and Public Relations
Elizabeth Schaffhauser, Director of Employment and Educational Opportunity
Daniel Domke, Director of Career and Technical Education
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

Board Committees [0:00:44]

The board and administration reviewed the board's standing committees: Board Curriculum Advisory Committee (BCAC), Board Diversity Committee (BDC), Citizen Budget Review Committee (CBRC), and the Policy Review Committee (PRC). The Career Technical Education Advisory Committee (CTEAC) was an administrative committee, with a board member serving as a representative. The board treasurer attended audit meetings with the district's administrative services staff and represented the school board on the borough's audit committee.

The intent of the work session was to align committees to the extent possible and to be certain all board committees were adherent to the Open Meetings Act and operating under the basic guidelines of Roberts Rules of Order. Board discussions included the need for quorums, district staff serving on board committees, and board members having a voice on the committee. Superintendent Dr. Gaborik shared the many options available to staff, outside of committees, to provide input on district operations, curriculum, evaluations, negotiations, etc.

After some discussion, the board reached consensus to have the administration develop basic and somewhat standardized operating procedures for each committee, through administrative regulations, by utilizing a similar outline that already existed for the BDC and BCAC.

Board Committees (continued)

Board members also agreed to add language to Policy 236: Board Committees:

- stating board members could appoint staff members to committees, but the staff members would be a minority on any committee, similar to language already in Policy 274: Ad Hoc Advisory Committees;
- allowing the board president discretion to designate a committee as a “committee of the whole”; and
- clarifying board members appointed committee representatives who represented their interest at the table.

The board thought it would be a good idea to be clear committees were not necessarily a venue for public input, but rather an avenue to complete the board’s work.

Board members discussed the possibility of defining the specific membership for ad-hoc committees in policy. A majority of the board agreed not to change the ad-hoc committee policy language, leaving the membership to the discretion of the board as warranted by the task of the ad-hoc committee. Board members suggested providing some general and basic guidelines for ad-hoc committee operations in administrative regulations.

President Haas spoke to the Parent Engagement Task Force and their expected recommendations regarding parent engagement. After a brief discussion, it was determined that once the Parent Engagement Task Force presented their recommendations, President Haas would determine whether to ask the Policy Review Committee to review the district’s existing parent engagement policies.

Board Comments/Announcements [0:39:08]

None

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

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