

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

Special Meeting

MINUTES

February 27, 2015

Vice President Dominique called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. in the board room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue. The special meeting was called for an update regarding the former superintendent's employment termination action, to include a possible executive session with the borough attorney's office and outside counsel to discuss matters within the attorney client privilege, including to provide direction to the attorney in the handling of the litigation; and an executive session with the borough attorney's office to seek legal advice regarding ESSA negotiations and to provide direction to the negotiator

Vice President Dominique 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 (By Phone)  
Wendy Dominique, Vice President  
Allyson Lambert, Treasurer  
Lisa Gentry, Clerk  
Sue Hull, Member (By Phone)  
Michael O'Brien, Member  
Sean Rice, Member

Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Dr. Karen Gaborik, Superintendent (By Phone)  
Lisa Pearce, Chief Financial Officer  
Traci Gatewood, Executive Director of Human Resources/Chief Negotiator  
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

Others:

Jill Dolan, Assistant Borough Attorney  
Brewster Jamieson, Attorney, Lane Powell PC (By Phone)

**Public Testimony** – *limited to items on the agenda only* [0:01:33]

Vice President Dominique called for public testimony. Hearing none, testimony was closed.

**Discussion regarding former superintendent's employment termination action** [0:01:40]

Jill Dolan, assistant borough attorney, stated arbitration in the matter of the former superintendent's termination was scheduled for mid-May. Outside counsel, Brewster Jamieson, with Lane Powell LLC, was hired by the district's insurance provider. Mr. Jamieson wanted to update the board on his strategy and seek the board's direction on how to handle certain aspects of the matter. Ms. Dolan suggested the board meet in executive session, as Mr. Jamieson's update was within the attorney client privilege.

**Executive Session** [0:02:37]

O'BRIEN MOVED, RICE SECONDED, TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH THE BOROUGH ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, TO INCLUDE OUTSIDE COUNSEL AND BOARD MEMBERS HAAS AND HULL IN THE DISCUSSION VIA TELEPHONIC MEANS, TO DISCUSS MATTERS WITHIN THE ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE REGARDING THE FORMER SUPERINTENDENT'S EMPLOYMENT TERMINATION ACTION, INCLUDING TO PROVIDE DIRECTION TO THE ATTORNEY IN THE HANDLING OF THE LITIGATION.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE CONSENT OF FOUR MEMBERS (RICE, O'BRIEN, LAMBERT, DOMINIQUE)

The board convened to executive session at 1:04 p.m.

Mrs. Gentry arrived at 1:06 p.m.

The executive session recessed at 2:22 p.m. [0:02:58]

**ESSA Negotiations** [0:03:25]

Due to Mrs. Dominique's son's affiliation with ESSA, she recused herself from the matter and handed the gavel to Mrs. Lambert, board treasurer.

**Executive Session** [0:03:33]

An executive session was called to discuss ESSA negotiation matters.

GENTRY MOVED, RICE SECONDED, TO RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH THE BOROUGH ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND THE CHIEF NEGOTIATOR, TO INCLUDE BOARD MEMBERS HAAS AND HULL AND SUPERINTENDENT DR. GABORIK IN THE DISCUSSION VIA TELEPHONIC MEANS TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE REGARDING ESSA NEGOTIATIONS AND TO PROVIDE DIRECTION TO THE NEGOTIATOR.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE CONSENT OF FOUR MEMBERS (RICE, O'BRIEN, GENTRY, LAMBERT)

The board reconvened to executive session at 2:23 p.m.

Mrs. Dominique left the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

The executive session adjourned at 3:13 p.m. [0:04:01]

**Board Comments/Discussion** [0:04:12]

None

The meeting adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

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