

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 20, 2000

The Anchorage School Board met in Special Session on Monday, March 20, 2000 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President Peggy Robinson presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE

Board Members Present: Peggy Robinson, Dave Werdal, Rita Holthouse, Bettye Davis, Harriet Drummond, Kathi Gillespie and Debbie Ossiander.

Others Present: Bob Christal, Carol Comeau, Janet Stokesbary, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Pat McDowell, Fred Stofflet, Robyn Rehmann, Norm Holthouse, Heather Wagner, Ed Conyers, Steve Kalmes, Ed Blahous, Bill Mikawa, Lee Wilson, Teresa Johnson, Ellen Montague, Marie Laule, John Alexander, Larry Wiget, Ray Amsden, Bob Price, Hans Bernard, Patrick Butler, Joy Green-Armstrong, Mary Tanghe, the press and other interested people.

The School Board opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggy Robinson announced the scheduled up-coming meetings.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved by unanimous consent noting that an addendum has been added to the Personnel Report and a revision has been made to Memorandum #254 (Ratification of 2000-2003 Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Anchorage School District and the Anchorage Principals' Association).

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. ASD Memorandum #229 – Alaska's 1999 Spirit Of Youth Awards

The Spirit of Youth Campaign was created to recognize Alaska teens for their dedication to positive community service projects. Each year middle and senior high students are awarded for finding creative ways to impact the lives of others in their community.

This year students from Anchorage School District took top honors in four categories.

Chesaney Adams and Christina Vitale, from Dimond High School, received the Service to Young Children Award. This duo, also known as "Sarah's Team," spends many hours each week helping an autistic girl named Sarah. Working through UAA's Early Intervention Autism Project, they have helped Sarah learn to speak and play and do many of the same things as other children her age.

Members of the Anchorage Youth Action Group received the Science, Technology and Invention Award for their Computer Literacy Project. This program, founded two years ago by Polaris student Chris Hoffmeyer, allows teens to rebuild donated computers and create working systems which are loaned to needy families.

The Participation in Government Award was presented to Hans Bernard of Chugiak High School. Hans is the current co-chair for the state's Adolescent Health Advisory Committee, he is also one of Chugiak's representatives to the district's student advisory board, and for the last two years has served as School Board liaison.

Alaska Youth for Environmental Action Group took first place in the Environmental Award category. This group was formed by youth who want to make a difference in the community by helping the environment. They were instrumental in securing public notification prior to pesticide application within the District, they have sponsored youth training to take action against environmental problems and have volunteered at health fairs.

The School Board recognized these 1999 Spirit of Youth Award winners whose innovation, compassion, and dedication to others led to this recognition.

2. ASD Memorandum #244 – Teacher Receives \$10,000 Toyota TIME Grant

Bobbi Jo Erb wanted to show Mirror Lake Middle School students that math really *is* useful outside the classroom. So, she devised the Math Career Video Project to help kids become excited and motivated students of mathematics.

Approximately 120 eighth-grade students will research, write, produce and edit video commercials that demonstrate the ways math is used everyday in various careers. Their creative efforts will be shown to all Mirror Lake students through the school news program. The best commercials will be posted on the school web site and shared with the other middle schools in the district.

This innovative idea, designed to capture the attention of middle school students, also captured the attention of the selection committee for the Toyota Investment in Mathematics Excellence (TIME) grant. This grant is open to any K-12 classroom teacher with three years of experience teaching math.

The School Board recognized Bobbi Jo Erb on her selection as a Toyota TIME \$10,000 grant recipient.

Kathi Gillespie requested that the students' commercials be broadcast on Channel 43.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory

Hans Bernard reminded the audience that the District's budget will be discussed at the Assembly meeting tomorrow night and that the school bond package will be on the April 4th ballot. Mr. Bernard encouraged everyone to participate in both of these events.

2. Military Delegate

No report.

3. M.E.C.C.

Joy Green-Armstrong stated that several parents attended and testified at the M.E.C.C. public meeting on March 17th. Ms. Green-Armstrong further stated that there are several items that will need to be addressed at the April meeting.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Tom Obermeyer commented about student discipline in the schools noting that kids are being treated as bad kids instead of good kids. Mr. Obermeyer noted that a number of parents have called who have

had their children severely disciplined and suggested that the Board examine the student handbook and consider revising some of the discipline policies.

Robert Hayes stated that Theresa Obermeyer should be able to address the Board like everyone else. Mr. Hayes also stated that in the area of school safety, it was very fortunate that no one was injured when the Girdwood Elementary roof collapsed because of the heavy snow load.

Jennifer Goff, Chugiak High School parent, expressed concern about her daughter not being able to participate in varsity soccer. Ms. Goff has filed a Citizen's Complaint regarding this issue and asked that the District respond to her complaint in a timely manner so that this issue can be resolved prior to the soccer season coming to an end.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda attached. **All attachments referred to in memoranda recommendations are on file in the Superintendent's office.**

1. Approval Of Minutes:

- a. Special Meeting – February 23, 2000 (4:30 p.m.)
- b. Special Meeting – February 23, 2000 (6:30 p.m.)

2. ASD Memorandum #223 – Community Schools Continuation Grant Application

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to transmit the Community Schools Grant for the delivery of Community Education Services in the amount of \$145,175 to the Alaska State Department of Education and Early Development.

3. ASD Memorandum #224 – Award Of Contract: Furnish And Deliver Five (5) New, 72 Passenger, Type D Buses; Five (5) New, 84 Passenger, Type D Buses; And Three (3) New, 29 Passenger, With Lift, Type C Buses

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of contracts to the low responsive, responsible bidders as follows: Alaska Truck Center for five (5) New, 72 Passenger, Type D School Buses, Bid A, in the amount of \$374,985 and five (5) New, 84 Passenger, Type D School Buses, Bid B, in the amount of \$390,750; and to Quality Equipment Sales & Service, for three (3) New, 29 Passenger, with lift, Type C School Buses, Bid C, in the amount of \$235,527; for a total award of \$1,001,262.

4. ASD Memorandum #239 – Increase In Project Funding, Taku Elementary School Modifications

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize allocation of an additional \$225,000 from the undesignated fund balance of the Capital Projects Fund to increase the funding of the Taku Elementary School renovation project to a total of \$8,141,456. This will complete the renovation of the Taku Elementary School.

5. ASD Memorandum #241 – Award Of Contract: Homestead Elementary School Heating And Ventilation Upgrades

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Homestead Elementary School Heating and Ventilation Upgrades to the low bidder, Consolidated Contracting and Engineering, in the amount of \$1,082,222.

6. ASD Memorandum #243 – Natural Gas Supplies

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of a contract extension for Natural Gas Supplies to Aurora Power for the one-year period effective July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001 at a discounted price of 10.9 percent off the regular Enstar price.

7. ASD Memorandum #225 – Personnel Report

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached Personnel Report.

8. ASD Memorandum #242 – Future Indoor School Bus Parking

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to request management authority of the property south of Tudor Road, which until recently, housed the Municipal Public Works Department. The property will be used to construct an indoor school bus storage facility.

9. ASD Memorandum #254 – Ratification Of 2000-2003 Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The Anchorage School District And The Anchorage Principals' Association

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the collective bargaining agreement between the District and the Anchorage Principals' Association which will establish terms and conditions of employment for the period between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2003, including reopeners for salary and work year for the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 years. Health insurance contributions are also subject to renegotiation at Association discretion, under defined conditions.

10. ASD Memorandum #197 – Diversity Recruitment Plan

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the implementation of the revised Diversity Recruitment Plan.

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: ASD Memoranda #223, #224, #239, #242, #254, and #197.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 23, 2000 (4:30 p.m.); the Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 23, 2000 (6:30 p.m.); Memorandum #241; Memorandum #243; and Memorandum #225 with addendum.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #223 – Community Schools Continuation Grant Application

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to transmit the Community Schools Grant for the delivery of Community Education Services in the amount of \$145,175 to the Alaska State Department of Education and Early Development.

ACTION:

Moved by Peggy Robinson to approve Memorandum #223.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Peggy Robinson noted that according to a State statute, the State is to fund one-half of one percent of the District's operating budget for the community schools program (the District should be receiving \$1.8 million). The District is getting approximately eight percent of what it's entitled to and a statement needs to be made in the grant application noting this information.

Kathi Gillespie stated that a notation should be added to the grant application to remind the State that by State statute, one-half of one percent of the operating budget of the District should be allocated for the community schools program.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #224 – Award Of Contract: Furnish And Deliver Five (5) New, 72 Passenger, Type D Buses; Five (5) New, 84 Passenger, Type D Buses; And Three (3) New, 29 Passenger, With Lift, Type C Buses

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of contracts to the low responsive, responsible bidders as follows: Alaska Truck Center for five (5) New, 72 Passenger, Type D School Buses, Bid A, in the amount of \$374,985 and five (5) New, 84 Passenger, Type D School Buses, Bid B, in the amount of \$390,750; and to Quality Equipment Sales & Service, for three (3) New, 29 Passenger, with lift, Type C School Buses, Bid C, in the amount of \$235,527; for a total award of \$1,001,262.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to approve Memorandum #224.
seconded by Dave Werdal

Kathi Gillespie expressed concern about the potential budget cuts the District may be facing and if the purchase of these buses could be delayed, the District would potentially have more available money. Ms. Gillespie explained that if this memorandum were tabled until the District finds out if there will be budget cuts, this could be brought back to the table.

Bob Christal explained that action on this item could be delayed for a few weeks. If these funds are not expended, they will be reverted back to the District's undesignated fund balance.

Janet Stokesbary stated that there is not a penalty if the Board does not award this contract this evening. The District is reimbursed for these buses, except for ten percent, over a number of years.

MOTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to table Memorandum #224.
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #239 – Increase In Project Funding, Taku Elementary School Modifications

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize allocation of an additional \$225,000 from the undesignated fund balance of the Capital Projects Fund to increase the funding of the Taku Elementary School renovation project to a total of \$8,141,456. This will complete the renovation of the Taku Elementary School.

ACTION:

Moved by Dave Werdal to approve Memorandum #239.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Dave Werdal inquired as to why this is being brought to the Board to approve an increase in the funding for this project when it has already been completed.

Ray Amsden explained that the project was overspent which occurred when the money was encumbered during the transition to IFAS (the budget mistakenly showed sufficient funds).

Dave Werdal responded that it just seems odd that the Board would be asked to approve this money when the work has already been done. Mr. Werdal commented that he doesn't understand why this was not brought to the Board prior to the work being completed.

Rita Holthouse stated that she would prefer if the last sentence (This will complete the renovation of the Taku Elementary School.) of the Recommendation could be removed because it is misleading.

The Board unanimously consented to remove the last sentence of the Recommendation.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #242 – Future Indoor School Bus Parking

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to request management authority of the property south of Tudor Road, which until recently, housed the Municipal Public Works Department. The property will be used to construct an indoor school bus storage facility.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to approve Memorandum #242.
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Bob Christal explained that there has been a lot of discussion over the last few years about the school bus operation at the present site on Tudor Road. There have been numerous complaints about the fumes during the winter when buses are warming up in the mornings. The Municipality constructed a new permit building and it may be possible for the District to acquire their old site adjacent to the Transportation Department for an indoor bus garage. The District has been told to come forward and request this site since it has become available if the District is interested in it for an indoor facility. This memorandum is a means of trying to get the authority to eventually secure management responsibility of the property.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to change the word **will** to **may**
seconded by Kathi Gillespie in the last sentence of the
Recommendation to read:
The property **may** be used to
construct an indoor school bus
facility.

Debbie Ossiander commented that this type of facility has been discussed in the Six-Year CIP document but the Board has not taken action to proceed in this direction. Ms. Ossiander further commented that she would like the Board to have a discussion on this and then vote on it.

Dave Werdal inquired if any discussions have taken place to put only an indoor garage on this site.

Steve Kalmes responded that the only facility discussed for this site was a bus terminal.

Bob Christal reminded the Board that if there would be any other use (other than a bus garage) for this site, it would need to be turned back to the Municipality and the process would have to begin again.

Bettye Davis noted that there is plenty of time to discuss and approve the actual plan when it comes before the Board at a future date.

Kathi Gillespie stated that she supports the amendment. Changing **will** to **may** is in line with what the Board will be deciding at a future date.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Gillespie, Holthouse

Nays: Werdal, Robinson, Davis

AMENDMENT PASSED.

Rita Holthouse commented that it is her understanding that the District will ask for management authority for the property and will be requesting federal money and inquired if that process has begun. Dr. Holthouse further inquired if, when the process is taken to request federal funds, that this will come before the Board.

Bob Christal responded that the process is in the initial stages. Mr. Christal explained that typically, the money goes through another agency. If the Board decides it wants to vote before moving forward, then that is what would happen. If District funds or bonds were being requested, it would definitely come back to the Board. If the District gets the management authority, Mr. Kalmes can work with the AMATS group to see where this goes and information will come back to the Board.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MAIN MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED.

ASD Memorandum #254 - Ratification Of 2000-2003 Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The Anchorage School District And The Anchorage Principals' Association

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and adopt the collective bargaining agreement between the District and the Anchorage Principals' Association which will establish terms and conditions of employment for the period between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2003, including reopeners for salary and work year for the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 years. Health insurance contributions are also subject to renegotiation at Association discretion, under defined conditions.

ACTION:

Moved by Kathi Gillespie to approve Memorandum #254.
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

Bob Christal commented that corrections have been made to the contract and the revised corrected copies are available. Mr. Christal thanked the Anchorage Principals' Association and the administrative staff for their hard work in ratifying this contract. The contract is for approximately a 5.8% contract cost increase for the first year of a three-year contract with reopeners. This amount, for a three-year contract, is approximately the same amount being offered to the teachers for a one-year contract.

Rich Kronberg, AEA President, congratulated the Board and the Anchorage Principals' Association in reaching a tentative agreement that provides an increase in compensation to attract good principals. Mr. Kronberg reminded the Board that they are not offering teachers step increases in their negotiations. A longer year is being offered which is not a pay increase. Mr. Kronberg stated that teachers are the most important ingredient in teaching the District's students and hoped that the Board will reprioritize their budget for quality education for all children. The longer bargaining goes on, the harder it will be to reach an agreement with teachers.

Kathi Gillespie asked the Superintendent to clarify the actual percentage of raises the Administrators received.

Bob Christal explained that as the District finished bargaining last year with three groups, the Board authorized a raise for Exempt employees over a three year period (equivalent to the same amount bargained with those three groups). The Board clearly agreed and those raises were authorized last spring and they covered a three-year period (97-98, 98-99, and 99-00). It was at the end of the 98-99 school year that this occurred. This group received zero increase for 97-98, 3.2 percent in 98-99 and 3.2 percent for 99-00. This was for salary and benefits and also included the medical contribution and retirement cost. The Exempt group does not have a salary schedule and they are without a collective

bargaining agreement. An across the board increase was not given; each position was looked at individually as well as job performance and position responsibility. In some instances compensation was adjusted for those individuals receiving less than the employees they supervised. It is very misleading to not have the entire picture. There has been no change in the Exempt group's medical yet for next year. Mr. Christal further explained that this District operates successfully because of a very wide range of people; not just one group.

Kathi Gillespie thanked the Anchorage Principals' Association for showing their leadership in ratifying this agreement.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #197 – Diversity Recruitment Plan

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the implementation of the revised Diversity Recruitment Plan.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #197.
seconded by Kathi Gillespie

Bob Christal explained that this document covers what the District has been able to achieve in this area over the last couple of years. Once the District receives the census information, this will be revised and will be brought back to the Board for review. The information in this document will be provided across the community.

Debbie Ossiander inquired if Mr. Morman's concerns (from a previous meeting) have been addressed in this plan.

John Alexander explained that Mr. Morman had two grievance hearings with Labor Relations and he wanted to take anyone that he would choose, to that hearing. Mr. Alexander stated that under the EEO guidelines, an individual is not entitled by law or policy to be represented by anyone but allows them to do so if they choose. If an individual is going to a grievance he or she already has a bargaining representative at their disposal.

Dave Werdal commented that he would have preferred some type of summary at the beginning of the document. Mr. Werdal is also

interested in discussing the need for more male teachers and more male administrators.

Bob Christal explained that the District has worked very diligently over the last decade to achieve a balance in this area. The preference is to have a balance of male/female administrators.

Bettye Davis requested that a Work Session be scheduled to further discuss this plan in more detail.

Kathi Gillespie suggested that a Work Session be scheduled for the next calendar of Work Sessions in order to have the up-to-date census information.

Peggy Robinson brought attention to the following editorial items: Goals and objectives need to be consistent; i.e., page 12. Combine in one goal the increase of minorities and males in primary grades. The current objective doesn't address the males in elementary education. If this is mentioned in the goals, it should also be mentioned in the objective as well. This also holds true for Pupil Transportation. If there is an objective in increasing the number of minority bus drivers, it should be included in the goals. Also, the number of principals in the last two columns on page 41 does not add up.

Kathi Gillespie requested that Board members receive another copy of the Diversity Recruitment Plan when the editorial changes have been made.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Gillespie, Holthouse, Davis

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #226 – Facility Project Report And Change Order Report For The Month Of February 2000

The monthly Facility Project Report Update and Change Order Report for the month of February, 2000 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

ASD Memorandum #240 – Ocean View Elementary School Renovation And Addition One Percent For Art

Chapter 7.40 of the Anchorage Municipal Code defines the process for selection and acquisition of art to be displayed in public places, including public school buildings. This code authorizes the Municipality to select the artist and the artwork, with a review of the proposed artwork by the School District only as to its safety and maintenance factors.

The Jury established for the Ocean View Elementary School Renovation and Addition has chosen the artists to create the artwork for the school. Michael C. Anderson, from Cordova, will create the artwork for the interior front entrance. This artwork consists of a hand-built ceramic piece mounted on a board approximately 3 1/2' high x 7' wide reflecting the plants and animals living in an intertidal pool. Four small pieces approximately 17" in diameter will be placed on the walls in the kindergarten wing. The contract award amount is \$15,000.

Ken Spiering, from Valleyford, Washington, will create the artwork for the exterior courtyard at the entrance and for the interior corridor walls. The exterior artwork consists of a bronze seal sitting upright on a cast concrete bench approximately 4' high x 6' wide. The interior artwork consists of two copper enamel murals, one 5' x 12' depicting seals and a pelican, and the second 5' x 8' portraying a seal, salmon and an otter. The contract award amount is \$47,000.

ASD Memorandum #227 - Operating Budget Transfers-February Monthly Report FY 1999-2000

The attached report of budget transfers for February 2000 that were processed in the Integrated Financial Accounting System (IFAS) includes the following:

Attachment A: Report of Budget Transfers Over \$5,000—
Report for individual transfers of more than \$5,000, which includes summarized justifications.

Attachment B: Schedule of monthly budget transfers processed for the month of February 2000. Abbreviations in titles represent how data is stored in IFAS; continuity in the abbreviations within IFAS is an on-going process.

ASD Memorandum #228 - End-Of-Month Membership Summary For February 2000

The end-of-month membership report for February 29, 2000 is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of February was 49,045, a decrease of 66 students from the February 26, 1999 total of 49,111. Table

1 compares the membership on February 29, 2000 with the totals from February 26, 1999. The handwritten changes on the summary report reflect the school capacity changes shown in the current CIP.

I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Peggy Robinson informed the audience that the State Basketball Tournament begins this weekend at the Sullivan Arena. This event has outgrown the high schools and will take place at the sports arena.

Debbie Ossiander informed the audience that the State Debate Tournament is coming up and this event is always short of judges. Anyone willing to participate as a judge in this event will be greatly appreciated.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION – (PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS/LITIGATION)

L. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of March 20, 2000 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:20 p.m.

Peggy Robinson, President

Rita Holthouse, Clerk

Date Minutes Approved