

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2000

The Anchorage School Board met in Special Session on Monday, November 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, Tom Anderson, Harriet Drummond and Debbie Ossiander.

Excused Absence: Bettye Davis

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Janet Stokesbary, George Vakalis, Pat McDowell, Jim Taylor, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Robyn Rehmann, Norm Holthouse, Ed Conyers, Lee Wilson, Ellen Montague, Michelle Egan, Stan Syta, Larry Wiget, Bob Henry, Bill Mikawa, Marie Laule, Ray Amsden, Steve Kalmes, Brent Rock, Hans Bernard, 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.

Peggy Robinson announced that in order to move through the meeting agendas at a reasonable hour, beginning with the December 11, 2000 School Board Meeting, testimony on non-agenda items will be taken at the end of the meeting (after the Superintendent's Report). Ms. Robinson encouraged members of the public to contact Board members through their published contact information, phone, fax or e-mail. Ms. Robinson also encouraged members of the public to work through the "chain of command" to try to solve problems at the level closest to the problem as possible. Ms. Robinson further stated that slanderous comments about other people are not appropriate and will not be condoned; speakers need to stay on a specific topic or issue.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved by unanimous consent noting that revisions have been made to the Minutes of the October 9, 2000 and the October 12, 2000 Special Meetings and that an addendum has been added to the Personnel Report.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONSASD Memorandum #114 – Crayola Dream-Makers Award

The Crayola Dream-Makers Award program was introduced in 1984 to encourage the creativity and the conceptual development of kindergarten through sixth-grade children through art activities; to emphasize the value of visual learning; and to call attention to the creative work of children through exhibitions of student artwork.

Four elementary students from the Anchorage School District were among the 80 selected from the Western Region to receive awards. The winning students include: Connor McKenzie from Rabbit Creek; and Aaron Atkins, Cambrai Berezo and Ashley Chapman representing Orion Elementary. These creative students received valuable guidance and support from art teachers Hollis Mitchell of Rabbit Creek and Sue Gilleland from Orion.

The School Board recognized these award-winning students for their artistic achievements.

ASD Memorandum #106 – Donations For Homeless Students

The District motto, Educating Students for Success in Life, is achieved by the dedication of employees, as well as the invaluable contributions of community members. The District's interaction with Dimond Costco is a perfect example.

Two years ago staff members from Anchorage School District's Child in Transition/Homeless Project contacted Costco for assistance with school supplies for students in need. Dimond Costco's marketing and business development representative, Gene Shedlock, recognized the need and graciously agreed to donate backpacks and school supplies.

This donation started out as a one-time good deal, but has since developed into an ongoing relationship. Thanks to Gene Shedlock's enthusiastic support and Costco's generosity, hundreds of disadvantaged kids have received valuable school supplies.

The School Board recognized Dimond Costco and Gene Shedlock for making a difference in the lives of many homeless students in the Anchorage School District.

ASD Memorandum #131 – BLM Partnership Recognition

Ron Biggs and Robin Wellhouse, from the Bureau of Land Management, are two adults who exemplify the important role that adults play in helping students gain the skills and knowledge they will need in the job market and in their lives. As Section Chief of the Title and Land Status Section, Ron has worked with the partnership between BLM and the School District since its beginning in 1995.

Students working with Ron and Robin undergo intensive training in the art of drafting. They learn to create master title maps for land all across the state of Alaska, and learn to work with the historical index of lands. The students must interpret data, make changes, review the documents for accuracy, post surveys, and use a computerized microfilming camera system to make aperture cards. It is a skilled position taking hours of careful study. So far, Ron and Robin have trained 21 students; more than any other BLM partnership.

The School Board recognized Ron Biggs and Robin Wellhouse for their dedicated work with the students of the Anchorage School District.

ASD Memorandum #132 – School Business Partnership Recognition

Initiated in 1996 as a way to recognize outstanding School Business Partnerships in the Anchorage School District, the STAR Award program has become synonymous with excellence in service. Those who have been honored with this award have met a rigorous set of criteria for membership in the family of STAR Award recipients. Each of the STAR partnerships between businesses and schools have demonstrated their commitment through:

- enthusiastic support of School Business Partnerships and the school or schools to which they are partnered;
- commitment to educational enhancement of the ongoing program;
- excellence in what is offered through their partnership;
- dedication to the continuation and success of the program;
- participation on a regular, dependable, scheduled basis; and
- willingness to be flexible and creative in providing necessary support to assure success.

Partnerships who receive STAR Awards are nominated and chosen by a group of their business and education peers. This year, the following five partnerships were recognized:

Central Middle School of Science and Key Bank

Polaris K-12 and Frigid North

Kincaid, Ocean View and Klatt elementary schools and Anchorage Sand and Gravel

Anchorage School District and Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau

Kasuun Elementary and the Alaska Zoo

The School Board recognized the STAR award winners for their outstanding work with School Business Partnerships.

National Science Foundation - Teachers Experiencing Antarctica Program (Presentation)

Joanna Hubbard, Hanshew Middle School science teacher, gave a brief presentation on her recent trip to Antarctica as part of the Teachers Experiencing Antarctica and the Arctic Program. Ms. Hubbard explained that the purpose of this program is to connect educators with research scientists, and to bring back and share their experiences in their classrooms. Ms. Hubbard thanked the School District for all their support in allowing her to participate in this very worthwhile program.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

Student Advisory:

Hans Bernard announced that the next meeting of the Student Advisory Board will be November 27, 2000 at Bartlett High School noting that the advisory board is working on resolutions that will be brought before the School Board in the near future.

Military Delegate:

No report.

M.E.C.C.:

Mary Marks, M.E.C.C. representative, noted that M.E.C.C. members are currently visiting various schools and speaking with principals to find out about their minority community, how the kids are doing and if there are any concerns.

F. PRESENTATION

G. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Doug Lefler, parent of four children, commented on the reading program in the Anchorage School District and suggested that new programs should be considered for students with reading disabilities and to not concentrate on the disability but to focus on a positive reading teaching process.

Herb Berkowitz commented on the Benchmark exams of last spring and noted that the bookmarks are set much too low. Mr. Berkowitz suggested that the results of this exam should be taken with a grain of salt and to ask the State Board of Education and Early Development to justify this state mandated test.

Carol Comeau encouraged Mr. Berkowitz to contact the State Board of Education and Early Development of his concerns with the Benchmark exams. Ms. Comeau stated that a meeting has been scheduled next week with a representative of the Lindamood-Bell reading program and encouraged Board members, administrators and teachers to attend this meeting which will offer an opportunity to learn more about this program. Ms. Comeau further noted that training in the Lindamood-Bell methodology can be very expensive.

Rocky Latta explained that his 23 year-old son is a product of the Anchorage School District and while he was a student at Wendler he was caught up in the inclusion program. He eventually ended up being warehoused at the Whaley Center where his reading level remained at a primary grade level. Mr. Latta encouraged the Board to look seriously at the District's reading curriculum and to not use inclusion at the expense of learning and to not put children in the position of not being successful.

Dianne Kiana, parent of three learning disabled children, commented that her children continue to advance from grade to grade but retain a low reading level. Ms. Kiana further explained that her children qualify and utilize the migrant education programs and suggested that migrant education teachers be given research-based training as part of their reading curriculum and to make this a Districtwide priority.

Carol Comeau explained that the District does have Board adopted state and local reading standards. Ms. Comeau further explained that the District's reading standards incorporate different approaches and different materials noting that there is not one individual program that all schools must follow.

Neal Lefler commented that six months ago he could not read a menu and that since he has been going to a reading clinic, he is finally learning how to read. Mr. Lefler urged the Board to use whatever program is necessary to help all kids learn how to read so they can graduate from high school.

Kit Roberts, speech language pathologist on delayed reading development, commented that many of her students attend schools in the Anchorage School District and continue to fail. Parents continue to look for answers knowing that the same method of teaching doesn't help. Ms. Roberts noted that the reading programs in the Anchorage School District do not stimulate the cognitive processes and that research shows that 30 percent of the population has weak

cognitive processing; however, with stimulation their literacy skills improve. Ms. Roberts urged the Board to encourage the Administration to offer sensory cognitive skills as they relate to literacy training of teachers. Ms. Roberts noted that reaching students in kindergarten, first and second grades to prevent reading disorders would help tremendously to reduce the number of children falsely identified as being learning disabled when in fact they're not.

Launa Burke, parent of a third-grader who is having difficulty in reading, commented that he has fallen two years behind his peers in reading. Ms. Burke further commented that there is a large gap of recommended research and actual classroom practice and strongly urged the Board to incorporate a phonemic awareness reading program in the District's reading curriculum. Barbara Lefler encouraged the Board to cause a change in the District's reading curriculum noting that there are many students, like her son, who have not been taught to read proficiently because they learn differently. These students will not pass the High School Qualifying Exam because they cannot read. It is time to review the District's reading curriculum and to promote a reading program that will work for students having serious problems in this area. Ms. Lefler strongly encouraged the Board to read the book *Straight Talk About Reading* and to attend Mr. Worthington's November 28th lecture on the Lindamood-Bell reading program.

H. 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 - October 9, 2000
 - b. Regular Meeting - October 9, 2000
 - c. Special Meeting - October 12, 2000
 - d. Special Meeting - October 23, 2000
 - e. Regular Meeting - October 23, 2000

2. ASD Memorandum #113 - Policy Revision: Filling Of School Board Vacancies, Policy 122.1 (Revised) (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on Second Reading, the proposed revisions to School Board Policy 122.1, Filling of School Board Vacancies, as shown on Attachment A.

3. ASD Memorandum #115 - Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year 1999-2000

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000 and authorize the Superintendent to forward this report to the Commissioner of Education, State of Alaska, and the Anchorage Assembly.

4. ASD Memorandum #116 – FY 2001-2001 Financial Planning

It is the Administration’s recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to prepare the Anchorage School District’s FY 2001-2002 Preliminary Financial Plan in accordance with the financial projections set forth in this memorandum. Specifically, the budget for FY 2001-2002 is to be established for planning purposes with projected revenue not-to exceed \$422,124,236. This includes individual fund budgets currently projected as follows:

	<u>FY 2001-2002 Financial Plan</u>
General Fund	\$ 336,322,258
Food Service Fund	11,050,000
Debt Service Fund	47,751,978
Local/State/Federal Projects Fund	<u>27,000,000</u>
Total – All Funds	<u>\$ 422,124,236</u>

It is further recommended that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to adjust the budget expenditure ceiling indicated above in accordance with any negotiated contract adjustments and other associated costs increases, School Board requests, Administration/Budget Review Team recommendations as implemented by the Superintendent, and results of further study of the correspondence program. In addition, flexibility must be allowed for adjustments based on updated demographic and/or economic information, as well as staffing based on review of student enrollment projections.

5. ASD Memorandum #117 – Adoption Of Content And Performance Standards For School Counselors

It is the Administration’s recommendation that the School Board adopt the attached content and performance standards for school counselors. They will form the basis for performance evaluations beginning this school year.

6. ASD Memorandum #121 – Award Of Contract: Frozen Potato Products

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the award of contracts to the low responsive bidder as shown on the Recommended Awards by Vendor for Frozen Potato Products (Attachment B) in the estimated total amount of \$108,135.

7. ASD Memorandum #93 – Approval Of Revised Elementary Educational Specifications (Revised)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Revised Elementary Educational Specifications for use in planning new schools and renovations and upgrades to existing elementary schools.

8. ASD Memorandum #122 – Approval Of Sitework Schematic Design And Supplement To The Districtwide Middle School Educational Specifications For Wendler Middle School

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Sitework Schematic Design and Supplement to the Districtwide Middle School Educational Specifications for Wendler Middle School and authorize the Superintendent to proceed with construction documents pending Municipal Assembly approval of the preliminary Sitework Schematic Design.

9. ASD Memorandum #123 – Acceptance Of Continuation Grant Award: Title I Delinquent And At-Risk Youth Grant

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education, Title I Program, for a total amount of \$94,645.

10. ASD Memorandum #128 – Acceptance Of Grant Award: Wendler Middle School Youth Serve Program

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Alaska State Community Service Commission, in the amount of \$12,050.

11. ASD Memorandum #129 – Contract With AASB For Superintendent Search Consultant Services

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the attached Professional Services Contract with the Association of Alaska School Boards for Superintendent Search Services for \$12,000 plus expenses.

12. ASD Memorandum #130 – Waiver To School Board Policy 333.3(h): Village Charter School Enrollment Increase For FY 2001-2002

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the request of the Village Charter School to increase their enrollment in grades K-8 from 120 students to 144 students for the FY 2001-2002 school year.

13. ASD Memorandum #135 – Renewal Of Contract: Collect And Remove Trash From 64 Existing Schools

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and exercise the second one year option for renewal of a contract for Districtwide refuse hauling to Alaska Waste Transfer, Inc. in the estimated amount of \$248,121.82 plus pass-through tonnage charges from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001.

14. ASD Memorandum #118 – Personnel Report

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

The following items were removed from the Consent Agenda: ASD Memoranda #113, #115, #116, #93, and #129.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Harriet Drummond

to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 9, 2000 (Revised); the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 9, 2000; the Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 12, 2000 (Revised); the Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 23, 2000; the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 23, 2000; Memorandum #127; Memorandum #121; Memorandum #122;

Memorandum #123;
 Memorandum #128;
 Memorandum #130;
 Memorandum #135; and
 Memorandum #118 with
 addendum.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
 Robinson, Anderson, Holthouse

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #113 – Policy Revision: Filling Of School Board Vacancies,
 Policy 122.1 (Revised) (Second Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on Second Reading, the proposed revisions to School Board Policy 122.1, Filling of School Board Vacancies, as shown on Attachment A.

ACTION:

Moved by Dave Werdal to approve Memorandum #113.
 seconded by Tom Anderson

Robert Hayes, parent of two elementary school children at Inlet View Elementary School, commented that he hopes that the Board can find qualified persons to fill any Board vacancies and that they will all follow the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Hayes further commented that it's nice to have School Board members who listen to the public.

Theresa Obermeyer commented that she believes in public office and suggested that the School Board coordinate more effectively with the Municipal attorney's office. Dr. Obermeyer expressed concern that persons to be heard under non-agenda items will be moved to the end of the agenda and suggested that a memorandum on this change be voted on in public before this goes into effect.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Dave Werdal that Policy 122.1.e. wording be
 seconded by Rita Holthouse changed to read: After discussion
 by the Board, the Board will vote
 on each candidate. Board
 members may vote for as many
 candidates as they like.

Dave Werdal explained that he didn't hear any complaints about the process used during the last Board member appointment and does not see any reason to change this part of the process. Mr. Werdal commented that people are aware that not everyone will get voted for and he would rather vote openly noting that nothing is served by secrecy.

Rita Holthouse stated that she supports this amendment noting the Board needs to be very open in its processes and urged the Board to support this amendment.

Debbie Ossiander explained that the suggested change in this policy would bring the Board in line with how the Municipality does their appointment process; this would mirror the process accepted at the Assembly level. Ms. Ossiander stated that she continues to be supportive of the memorandum as written.

Tom Anderson stated that he supports the amendment noting that keeping the appointment process open is best all the way around.

Peggy Robinson commented that there are some advantages to voting openly noting that the entire process does go faster.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Peggy Robinson
seconded by Tom Anderson

to add to the end of Policy
22.1.b. 5. the following
regulation reference for moral
turpitude: (PTPC Regulation 10
AAC 10.030)

Peggy Robinson explained that this would clarify to prospective Board members what is included in the definition of moral turpitude. This reference will allow people to go to the PTPC regulation for clarification.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

Absent: Davis
AMENDMENT PASSED.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

MAIN MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED.

ASD Memorandum #115 – Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year 1999-2000

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000 and authorize the Superintendent to forward this report to the Commissioner of Education, State of Alaska, and the Anchorage Assembly.

ACTION:

Moved by Dave Werdal to approve Memorandum #115.
seconded by Tom Anderson

Bill Mikawa gave a brief presentation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 1999-2000.

Debbie Ossiander commented that this document is rather hard to follow and suggested that it would be more user friendly if it were formatted similar to the District's budget document.

Glenda Rhoades of DeLoitte and Touche stated that this was a very clean audit noting that the audit opinion was issued a month earlier this year. The financial staff did a very good job and everything went very well.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #116 – FY 2001-2001 Financial Planning

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to prepare the Anchorage School District's FY 2001-

2002 Preliminary Financial Plan in accordance with the financial projections set forth in this memorandum. Specifically, the budget for FY 2001-2002 is to be established for planning purposes with projected revenue not-to exceed \$422,124,236. This includes individual fund budgets currently projected as follows:

	<u>FY 2001-2002 Financial Plan</u>
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Debt Service Fund	47,751,978
Local/State/Federal Projects Fund	<u>27,000,000</u>
Total – All Funds	<u>\$ 422,124,236</u>

It is further recommended that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to adjust the budget expenditure ceiling indicated above in accordance with any negotiated contract adjustments and other associated costs increases, School Board requests, Administration/Budget Review Team recommendations as implemented by the Superintendent, and results of further study of the correspondence program. In addition, flexibility must be allowed for adjustments based on updated demographic and/or economic information, as well as staffing based on review of student enrollment projections.

ACTION:

Moved by Dave Werdal to approve Memorandum #116.
seconded by Rita Holthouse

Janet Stokesbary gave a detailed presentation of the financial plan for FY 2001-2002 explaining that this is the next step in the preparation for the FY 2001-2002 budget. Along with this presentation, Ms. Stokesbary reviewed the October 23, 2000 Work Session with the Board and covered the parameters suggested by the Board at that meeting.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

MOTION PASSED.

ASD Memorandum #93 – Approval Of Revised Elementary Educational Specifications (Revised)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the Revised Elementary Educational Specifications for use in planning new schools and renovations and upgrades to existing elementary schools.

ACTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to approve Memorandum #93.
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Debbie Ossiander thanked the Administration and the Facilities Department for all their hard work in completing this document noting that a lot of changes had to be made.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Peggy Robinson to revise 8.2.15 (#1) on Page 80 to
seconded by Rita Holthouse read: Option to locate shower with OTPT will require utilities adjustment.

Peggy Robinson noted that it states there is a possibility that a shower could be located at OTPT but there is no reference to it.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Peggy Robinson to revise 6.1.13 (#16) on Page 61
seconded by Tom Anderson to read: Kitchenette to provide a range, range hood and refrigerator in addition to the classroom sink.

Peggy Robinson explained that there is no definition as to what a kitchenette includes and this would address that need.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal,
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

Absent: Davis

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Peggy Robinson
seconded by Rita Holthouse

to add the following wording to
11.1.13.a. (#3): Kitchenette to
provide a refrigerator, sink and
microwave.

Debbie Ossiander inquired if this was an option.

Ray Amsden responded that this is not considered an option.

Carol Comeau explained that programs using the District's facilities often request the use of a kitchenette and that these items also keep things in a sanitary condition.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Werdal, Robinson,
Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: Ossiander

Absent: Davis

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander
seconded by Dave Werdal

to have kitchenettes optional in
kindergartens and multi-purpose
rooms (to be decided by
individual site committees).

Patricia McRae commented that she believes a kitchenette in every kindergarten classroom is essential and very important to the kindergarten curriculum.

Debbie Ossiander expressed concern that a kitchenette in all kindergarten classrooms would be required noting that she would like to see this as an option and not a requirement. Ms. Ossiander stated that it is imperative to keep all construction costs as low as possible and not add things unnecessarily.

Carol Comeau noted that the downside of a group of people designing a building is that they move on and are replaced with a new group with new perspectives. Ms. Comeau further noted that it's important to become more standardized.

Rita Holthouse stated that she will move to table this memorandum but before doing so she would like to voice her reasoning because once there is a motion to table, discussion on the topic is closed. Dr. Holthouse stated that she has a strong preference to negotiate a contract with Carol Comeau for the position of Superintendent before the Board pursues a national search. Dr. Holthouse explained that this action alone would save anywhere from \$30,000 to \$50,000 for a national search but more importantly, there is no doubt that Ms. Comeau would be an excellent superintendent. Ms. Comeau is a known entity and has been a very highly successful teacher, principal and administrator; she relishes this work and is highly respected throughout the entire community. Ms. Comeau has reached out to all the unions and is supported by the District's employees. Dr. Holthouse further stated that appointing Ms. Comeau as superintendent will help build a more unified school district.

Debbie Ossiander stated that she has the highest regard for Carol Comeau but it is important that this should be an agenda item to allow public input in this action. Ms. Ossiander reminded the Board that the Board's very highest responsibility is appointing a superintendent; it sets the tenor of what happens in this District for a long time to come. It is imperative to have widespread involvement in a superintendent's search to include employees, business people, parents, community members and students. Ms. Ossiander stated that the Board has not had the chance yet to discuss the needs of the District or the parameters of the search noting that there is no need to rush into this and that she would not be in favor of tabling this action.

Dave Werdal commented that even if this were tabled, there would still be time to bring it forward and to vote on the recommendation. The Board would still need to come to an agreement on a contract. Mr. Werdal reminded the Board that the last superintendent was an acting superintendent at the time and a search was still conducted.

Peggy Robinson noted that in talking with Board members from Fairbanks, Mat-Su and Kenai, they have appointed internal folks who have come up through the system (they didn't do a national search).

Debbie Ossiander commented that before the Fairbanks appointment was made, there was feedback from the community.

Tom Anderson stated that the Board is the ultimate decision-maker in this appointment and that now is the time to move ahead and show the public we can work together collectively. Mr. Anderson further stated that from the public commentary received this evening, there definitely is support for Ms. Comeau and it is now time to move forward.

Harriet Drummond expressed concern about doing something like this again without adequate public notice. The Board should continue with the process and get public input from the business community and the public in general. Ms. Drummond stated that Carol Comeau would make a wonderful superintendent for the Anchorage School District but it is important to get positive feedback in a very public way. Ms. Drummond noted that she would not be supporting the motion to table this recommendation.

Peggy Robinson commented that when there is a very strong internal candidate, chances of attracting other strong candidates lessens. Ms. Robinson also expressed concern about totally changing directions and entering into negotiations at this time without proper public notice. Ms. Robinson stated that she would be more prone to table this to the December 11th School Board Meeting with the intention of letting the public know that this will be on the agenda at that time. Ms. Robinson further commented that she would rather not go through a lot of time, effort and money to get the search started and then decide at a later date to not proceed with the search.

Debbie Ossiander commented that more public input is needed in this process and that in moving in this direction will preclude going forward with someone without a Type B certificate.

Peggy Robinson stated that there is a timing concern for legislation to actually get passed that would allow the hiring of a superintendent without a Type B certificate noting that for advertising purposes, the Board would need to have the legislative decision by the end of January.

Tom Anderson explained that the legislative process can be a very long process and expressed concern about the message that would be sent to the public and inquired as to what level will be sufficient in terms of public input.

Rita Holthouse stated that she can see that she doesn't have four votes unless her motion states to table this to the December 11th meeting.

MOTION:

Moved by Rita Holthouse	to table this recommendation
seconded by Harriet Drummond	to the December 11, 2000 School Board Meeting.

As a point of order, Debbie Ossiander stated that discussion needs to be limited to the rationale of tabling the recommendation.

Peggy Robinson stated that the rationale has been discussed.

Rita Holthouse stated that the reason for putting this forward is to save money and to bring closure to this issue noting that this doesn't need to be prolonged for another six months. Dr. Holthouse further stated that Carol Comeau is someone that we already know and have faith in, and there is no reason for doing a job search when the District already has such a qualified candidate. Dr. Holthouse urged support of tabling this recommendation to the December 11th meeting.

Peggy Robinson noted that if this does pass, she will contact AASB and cancel the December 12th meeting scheduled with them for the purpose of discussing the search process.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Werdal, Robinson,
Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: Ossiander

Absent: Davis

MOTION TO TABLE PASSED.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #124 – Treasurer's Report/Financial Recap: October 31, 2000.

The attached report consists of two parts: the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap. The Treasurer's Report and the Financial Recap are presented on a monthly basis with year-to-date information as of October 31, 2000.

ASD Memorandum #127 – Operating Budget Transfers – October Monthly Report FY 2000-2001

The attached report of budget transfers for October 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 October 2000. Abbreviations in titles represent how data is stored in IFAS; continuity in the abbreviations within IFAS is an on-going process.

The budget transfer forms and related information for all of the transfers are available in the Budgeting Department office for review by the School Board and members of the public.

ASD Memorandum #125 – End-Of-Month Membership Summary For October 2000

The end-of-month membership report for October 31, 2000 is attached. The total active enrollment at the end of October was 49,423, an increase of 395 students from the October 29, 1999 total of 49,028. Table 1 compares the membership on October 31, 2000 with the totals from October 29, 1999.

Carol Comeau noted that the waiting lists are not up-to-date and that staff will be working on them.

Rita Holthouse inquired if there were any plans to give some relief to the overcrowding at Ptarmigan and Sand Lake.

Carol Comeau responded that there really is a need for some type of addition for Ptarmigan Elementary and noted that this issue will be discussed at the upcoming CIP meeting.

ASD Memorandum #126 – Student Membership Projections For September 30, 2001

Attachment A presents the fall forecast for the September 30, 2001 Anchorage School District student membership. The following items highlight trends in the 2001-2002 student population forecast:

- The total projection for September 30, 2001 is 49,663 students. This reflects an increase of 143 students from the September 30, 2000 official membership total of 49,520.
- The September 30, 2001 projection for Kindergarten is 3,484 students. This Kindergarten projection is 45 less than the 3,529 Kindergarten students observed on September 30 of this school year. Kindergarten is the most difficult grade to project as there is no preceding grade available. The Kindergarten projection for September 30, 2000 was based in part on data obtained from the State Demographer regarding the number of four year old students in the Anchorage population as well as the number of live births in Anchorage five years ago.
- Elementary schools are projected to decline by 245 students for next year. This can be compared against the actual loss of 270 students for elementary schools from September 30, 1999 to September 30, 2000.

- Middle Schools are projected to gain 51 students next year. This can be compared against the observed gain of 170 students from September 30, 1999 to September 30, 2000.
- Senior High Schools are projected to gain 224 students. This increase can be compared against the observed gain of 412 from September 30, 1999 to September 30, 2000.
- The Other Secondary Schools and Programs (secondary students not attending a Middle School or a Senior High School) are projected to increase by 104 students.
- Pre-elementary special education students, Level 3 special education students, and Special Services Program students are projected to increase by nine students.
- Charter schools are projected for 1,313 students next year, an increase of 58 students over the 1,255 students enrolled in charter schools this year. No applications have been received for consideration by the Administration and the School Board for the 2001-2002 school year.

It should be noted that the September 30, 2001 enrollment forecast is based on the following assumptions:

- The Anchorage area economy will remain at approximately current levels during the 2001-2002 school year.
- There will be no increase in the number of elementary schools offering full-day Kindergarten for the 2001-2002 school year. Schools with full-day Kindergarten attract a greater share of the available Kindergarten age student population resulting in a larger Kindergarten Districtwide. If the School Board approves an increase in schools with full-day Kindergarten, these figures will be adjusted.
- The grade to grade survival pattern observed from September 30, 1999 to September 30, 2000 will also hold true for September 30, 2001.
- The percentage of minority students in the District will again increase by approximately one percent for the 2001-2002 school year. This was true this school year and has been the trend for the past 25 years. It should be noted that while the overall District enrollment increased by only 143 students this year, the minority student population actually increased by 1,078 students. This gain in minority students was offset by the loss of 873 students in the white category. (Note: This difference does not equal 143. This is due to the

fact that the ethnic report was run after September 30, thus resulting in slightly different figures.)

Economic and demographic trends will be closely monitored during the 2000-2001 school year. A revised forecast will be issued only if there are significant changes in the observed trends.

Norm Holthouse explained that these projections are based on the population pattern of each high school for the past three years (including feeder schools). Dr. Holthouse further explained that it is important to keep in mind that these projections are for September 30, 2001.

ASD Memorandum #119 – Charter School Update For FY 2000-2001

The Administration would like to update the School Board on 1) the applications submitted for a charter school to begin in the 2001 - 2002 school year, and 2) an update of the four charter schools currently in operation during this school year.

APPLICATION UPDATE FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2001 - 2002

School Board Policy 333 on Charter Schools requires all applications to be submitted no later than October 1 of the school year prior to the school year during which the charter school is proposed to begin operation. Proposals for charter schools to begin operations during the 2001-2002 school year were to be submitted no later than October 1, 2000.

No applications have been received for consideration by the Administration and the School Board for the 2001-2002 school year.

ASD Memorandum #120 – Discussion On Potential Bond Projects

Year 2001 Bond Package:

Since 1993, the Anchorage School District has received voter approval for a total of \$580 million in school construction and renovation bonds. Various projects totaling \$350.8 million received 70 percent State reimbursement through grant funds or the debt reimbursement program. The District's student population has increased by more than 7,000 students since 1990. In the current school year, student population increased overall from the 1999-2000 levels, with increases in the secondary grades exceeding reductions in the primary grades.

Beginning last year, the District began a major undertaking of phased renovations of its older high schools. Prior to 1999, with the exception of West High School, all school construction projects in 1990's had been directed toward

elementary and middle schools. The 1999 bond issue included funding for a replacement school for Dimond High, a new high school in South Anchorage, upgrades at Chugiak High School, planning for new Eagle River secondary and Muldoon middle schools. The 2000 bond and future bond proposals include funding for additional renovations at the high schools.

The 2000 bond issue funded projects totaling \$77.9 million. After the bonds passed, the legislature passed HB 281, which provided funding for debt reimbursement of 70 percent of \$77.9 million in bond funded projects. However, this reimbursement is not currently available for these projects. This issue will be discussed in more detail in the Discussion portion of this memorandum.

After Board discussion, it was decided that consideration will be given for the following items to be included in a bond proposal:

Septic Systems and Water Pumps
Central Middle School - Planning Funds
Continuation of High School Phasing
Muldoon Area Middle School
Consult the Bond Counsel regarding the HB 281 issue.
Ptarmigan Addition
New ABC School
A One-Year, One Bond Package
(Size of bond package dependent on reimbursement from the State.)

J. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Tom Anderson expressed disappointment that Laura Willard had to wait for six and one-half hours to address the School Board.

Laura Willard explained that her daughter's clarinet was stolen from Tudor Elementary and that her claim for reimbursement for the instrument has been denied by the School District even though her daughter received permission from her teacher to leave her instrument in her classroom. Ms. Willard asked the Board for help in resolving this claim.

Carol Comeau responded that normally, students are absolutely discouraged from leaving anything of value overnight in their classrooms and that the District will look into this matter. Ms. Comeau encouraged Ms. Willard to discuss this entire matter with Patricia McRae, Executive Director of Elementary Education.

K. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Peggy Robinson commented that she has seen notices in the Sports section of the newspaper about high schools beginning bowling leagues. Ms. Robinson explained that this is not a sanctioned Anchorage School District bowling league (the teams are named for various schools and this is being managed through private organizations).

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

M. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of November 20, 2000 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 12:25 a.m. on November 21, 2000.

Peggy Robinson, President

Bettye Davis, Clerk

Date Minutes Approved