

**CORDOVA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING: September 14, 2011**

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CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Hoepfner called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the District Office conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Members Present: Pete Hoepfner, Dixon Sherman, Kate Alexander, Shawn Gilman, Jon Nichols

Members Absent: None

Quorum: Established

Staff Present: Superintendent Jim Nygaard, Principal Frank Wicks, Technology Director Keith Zamudio,
Board Secretary Jeannie Blake

Staff Absent: Leif Jacobsen, Verna Reedy

City Council Rep: Present

Student Council Rep: Present

CEA Rep: Present

Visitors: Diane Wiese, Barb Hanson, Angela Arnold, Cece Wiese, Briana Griffith, Peter Griffith, Lila Koplin, Kay Jones, RJ Kopchak, Cara Heitz, Kay Adams, Kathleen Kritchen, Jacque Rose, Diane Ujioka, Julie Farnes, Dawn Jewell, Valerie Covell, Dana Smyke, Samantha Greenwood, Gayle Groff, Kara Johnson, Audrey Burton, Per Nolan, Neva Nolan, and NWQG members not signed in.

Presentation of Certificates/Awards:

- Congratulations Alaska Superintendent of the Year Jim Nygaard.
- Congratulations to Cara Heitz who is one of the four finalists for Alaska Teacher of the Year.

Correspondence:

- Facility Use Letter – Valerie Covell
- Facility Use Letter - North Wind Quilters Guild

HEARINGS OF INDIVIDUALS/GROUPS: (Audience Comments Regarding the Agenda at this time)

- Dana Smyke: School laptop program is great. Addressed the possibility of the school district looking into purchasing insurance for the laptop computers. Repairs are costly to parent, accidents happen.
- Diane Wiese: Speaking for the North Wind Quilters Guild addressed concerns regarding facility use fees. Explained the guild involvement with local community, charitable, and educational needs and volunteerism. The new fee schedule is costly for the group and to continue services the guild would appreciate reconsideration of the new fees.
- Angela Arnold: Speaking for the Native Village of Eyak and also a Northwind Quilters Guild member addressed concerns regarding facility use fees. Explained the Native Village of Eyak commitment to the schools and the monetary donations gladly provided when able to do so. With the new higher costs using the school for the Sobriety Celebration is not economically feasible. NVE would also appreciate reconsideration of the new fees.
- Brianna Griffith: Expressed concern regarding the issue of bullying in Cordova schools, sharing a personal experience that has affected her family. At the elementary school the TRIBES program is used to deal with the bullying issue. The junior-senior high school does not appear to have a similar program in place. Having the board address this issue would be greatly appreciated. Bullying is not right and it does harm to the victim.

APPROVAL OR AMEND REGULAR AGENDA:

Mr. Sherman moved to approve the September 14, 2011 agenda as presented. / Ms. Alexander seconded.

Motion PASSED 5-0

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AUDIENCE COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS:

Addressed during Hearings of Individuals no further comments were shared at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Nichols moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 3, 2011. / Ms. Alexander seconded.

Discussion: Mr. Gilman noted Contracts discussion did not include Mr. Nygaard accepting responsibility for not giving Molly written notice by the end of the school year. Mr. Gilman wanted to have this included in the August minutes since it was part of the discussion.

Motion PASSED 5-0

CONSENT AGENDA: None

REPORTS:

Student Council:

- There will be two AASG conferences this fall.
- Planning new things.
- New advisor.
- Discussing having Tessa Baldwin visit regarding Suicide prevention.
- Election of officers will be in January.

City Council: (Keith van den Broek): Nothing to report.

Cordova Education Assoc (Pam Moe):

- Urge Board to have meetings at the high school in the library.
- CEA conducted first meeting to night – the election of officers and committee members.
Ms. Moe distributed a document to the Board noting CEA Officers, building representatives, and committee members.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - Elementary School (Mr. Wicks):

- Enrollment K-6: 171
- Music Program: Beginning tomorrow and will be Thursdays and Fridays 8:00 a.m.-8:40 a.m. Volunteers organize and run this program. Current volunteers are Belle Mickelson, Sam O'Toole, Ann Marie Carlson, Kevin and Chelsea Haisman.
- Cross Country: Traveled recently with the Cross Country team. This was a great group of student athletes and it was a privilege to travel with them. It would be nice to have this event hosted in Cordova.
- Open House: Mt. Eccles Open House was August 30. The PTA set up a table encouraging parents to sign up for PTA this school year.
- Homework Club/Homework Lab: Monday through Thursday for students in grades 2 - 6 throughout the school year. Supervised by a teacher or aide and funded through the Indian Education Program.
- Inservice: One day teacher training for MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) from Northwest Evaluation Association, training was presented August 23 to both Mt. Eccles and CHS. Teachers learned how adaptive testing provided through NWEA would be used to measure student progress and identify instructional needs. Follow-up inservice is scheduled for January 6.
- Bullying: The Tribes program will be used at Mt. Eccles to instill proper social behavior and curb bullying. Nicole Songer and Officer Zack Johns will be addressing bullying during the course of the year, and Kathy Zamudio will also tie bullying in with her Safe Routes to School program and QS2 video club.
- Guest Speaker: Kate Mohatt, a botanist from the Forest Service, spoke to fourth and sixth grade classes on local fungus.
- Summer School: 35 students, grades second through sixth, participated in summer school from July 25 through August 12.
- Site-Based Council: September 20 at 4:00 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - Jr/Sr High School (Mr. Jacobsen):

- Enrollment 7-12: 171
- Site-Based Council: September 28 at 5:00 p.m. in the library.
- First Days: Schedule change at the high school, school starts at 8:45 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. Open House was August 22. Some teachers voiced having at least one week of school before Open House next year. We are encouraging parents to become more familiar with PowerSchool by having student schedules available online.
- School Photographs: September 20
- Volleyball Tournament: Eight teams participated in the Cordova Invitational Tournament. Lots of great volleyball, the athletes did a great job. The ambulance was called twice; both were for minor incidents (dehydration and possible concussion) both students were released later in the day. Varsity girls took second place.
- Activities: Team travel is busy with Cross-Country, Volleyball and Swimming. Basketball started September 13 and Wrestling begins September 26.
- Computers: Students who have outstanding fees are on a check-in/check-out system allowing use for the instructional day.
- Bullying: This past spring the staff had a meeting regarding bullying and cyber bullying. Both issues have been included in the student handbook.
- AAPS Testing: The school is looking into MAPS testing for the district. The high school will test grades 7 - 12 and those who have not passed the HSGQE state tests.
- ILP Building: Great job by the construction crew with all of the set up. Last week they dug a trench to the school for heating and poured the slab for the building.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - Technology (Mr. Zamudio):

- Student Laptop Update: July 25, began work to have all laptops ready for deployment of the first day of school. CSD is currently supporting 1 to 1 laptop learning environments grades 3-12. All CSD staff, classified and certified, has a laptop to administrate their duties.
- July 27-29: Apple Professional Services Technical Services Consultant, Ken Johnson worked with us to set up the student laptops, refine our deployment strategies and upgrade our server that manages student laptops. Each laptop was re-imaged with updated operating system, software and additional resources as requested by our staff.
- CSD 2011 Spring Technology Workshop: This year's workshop had 40 participants including certified and classified staff, students and community members. Presenters provided training on a variety of topics.
- Community Technology Survey: The NGA (Next Generation Assessments) School Board, Parents, and Community survey made available to CSD stakeholders did not have a high participation level. There were only 16 respondents. This did not provide a very good data set. It is our intention to reopen this survey during the fall Parent Teacher Conferences in October. Ultimately, aggregated results will be used by the district for staff development planning, and will be used to help create/prioritize the goals and objectives for the District's three-year Technology Plan.
- Travel: October 13-15 - Invited to present workshops on Cyber bullying at the Alaska Association of Student Government's (AASG) Fall Conference in Anchorage. Costs will be paid by ASTE. Cordova School District's support for this conference and participation as an ASTE board member is greatly appreciated.

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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - Superintendent (Mr. Nygaard)

- Travel: September 5-6 SERRC Board Meeting in Juneau. September 28-29 EED Sped Directors Conference in Anchorage. Late October 4th R training in Anchorage.
- DARE Program: This program is entering a fourth year with the school district.
- Advisory Board Member: Asked and accepted the invitation to sit on UAA's Center for Alaska Education Policy Research Committee as an advisory board member. Intent of the committee is to establish a "research agenda" and direction for the center.
- Education Tax Credit: Met with several local businesses that can qualify for this tax credit. All have been supportive throughout conversations. Updates to each party will be provided. This is a great way that allows the state's tax dollars to remain in Cordova.
- ESEA (NCLB) Reauthorization: President Obama directed the Education Department to have the Reauthorization for ESEA on his desk by August. Per Commissioner Hanley, it will be two to three years easily before any real formal reauthorization will be seen. Secretary Duncan hopes to and has promised waivers in lieu of the reauthorization and has stated that ESEA/NCLB is "not an honest tool" to measure student growth. Alaska EED is looking at the "waiver option" in hopes of honoring continued growth models.
- Timber Receipts: Forecast for this does not look good and appears to be the tip of the iceberg regarding anticipated federal funding for schools.
- Cordova Visit: Department of Labor Commissioner Click Bishop will be visiting Cordova September 28 and September 29. There will be a brief meet & greet at Mt. Eccles commons September 28 from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- Volleyball Tournament: Coach Howard did a great job organizing this tournament. It was a nice weekend of volleyball.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - FINANCIAL REPORTS (Mrs. Reedy)

- August Financials were presented

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Information Items:

- DARE Program Update: Officer Johns will be facilitating the DARE program. Officer John's was not able to be present at this meeting to night.
- H2O Movie/Lesson plans: Cara Heitz and RJ Kopchak provided a video presentation. This is an education web portal specifically designed to help teachers deliver lessons on earth sciences based from bioregional perspective developed by the Prince William Sound Science Center. The portal will access and deliver natural systems knowledge about the bioregion from "Headwaters to Ocean (H2O).
- Facility Use Concerns: Facility committee worked on policy/fees to hopefully avoid making exceptions and keep use/charges consistent in an attempt to remain fair to all users. Gray areas have been noted concerning multi-day events. Best solution is to have another facility use committee meeting so community groups may be represented allowing concerns to be presented during the meeting. Valerie Covel asked to address the board regarding the facility use for an event that will be taking place September 23. This event has been two years in the planning and no fees were previously included when arranging for the national teacher to present. The NWQG would appreciate information as to the costs for this event as soon as possible. Mr. Hoepfner directed Mr. Nygaard regarding a fee schedule for this event and to meet with the NWQG president or person in charge. The facility committee meeting will meet as early as possible and a facility update will be included on the next agenda.
- School Climate & Connectedness Survey: Bridget Smith provided a summary of the most recent survey. Surveys are used as a tool to obtain information but they can fatigue those involved.
- AASB November Conference (Board/Youth Leadership): Board members are encouraged to take part in this opportunity. In the past Kathy Zamudio and students attended the Youth Leadership with the QS2 Grant.

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NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Nutrition Services Student Lunch Price Increase

Mr. Sherman moved to approve the \$0.25 cent lunch price increase at Mt. Eccles from the current amount of \$2.75 to \$3.00. / Ms. Alexander seconded.

Discussion: The state mandates a price increase. Board would like more information regarding lunch costs and amount of meals served. Commodities are free but there are shipping charges. With new freezers the goal is to purchase larger amounts of commodities saving on shipping costs.

Mr. Gilman moved to amend the motion and raise both schools the additional \$0.25 cents and to include an increase in adult lunch prices. /Mr. Nichols seconded.

Discussion: Focus on students now; address the adult increase on the next meeting agenda. Mr. Gilman agreed.

Mr. Gilman withdrew his motion to amend.

Mr. Sherman moved to amend the original motion to approve the \$0.25 cent lunch price increase at Mt. Eccles from \$2.75 to \$3.00 and to include a \$0.25 cent lunch price increase at Cordova Jr/Sr High School from \$3.00 to \$3.25 both school increases to be effective October 3, 2011./Mr. Nichols seconded.

Discussion: Mr. Gilman would like more information regarding the financial impact.

Motion to Amend PASSED 4-1

Hoepfner-Y; Sherman-Y; Alexander-Y, Nichols-Y; Gilman-N

Motion PASSED 4-1

Hoepfner-Y; Sherman-Y; Alexander-Y, Nichols-Y; Gilman-N

AASB Call for Resolutions

Discussion: This is a formal process that allows board voice at a higher level. No resolutions to present. No action.

Out of State Travel – V. Reedy & R. Butler: BDS Training

Ms. Alexander moved to approve the out of state travel for both Verna Reedy and Robyne Butler to attend BDS training in Minnesota this fall. / Mr. Nichols seconded.

Motion PASSED 5-0

Resolution #12-14 Premium Only Plan (POP)

Mr. Nichols moved to approve Resolution #12-14 Premium Only Plan (POP). / Mr. Gilman seconded.

Motion PASSED 5-0

CONTRACTS-MEMORANDUMS OF AGREEMENTS: None

PERSONNEL:

- Mr. Nygaard reports there has been significant staff reduction within the district. Parents are voicing concerns regarding support within the classroom for students with or without IEPs.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Mt. Eccles Update:
 - Several contractors and vendors that were involved with the construction have since gone out of business. This presents a challenge when trying to work with warranty issues.
 - Good communication with CASI and NPE.
 - Gymnasium project is pretty much completed. One issue regarding the stairs on the far outdoor side with water pooling is being addressed.
 - Daily task to review the building and discover any necessary areas requiring focus.
- ILP Update:
 - Due to the ferry cancellations the project was set back approximately one week. To help make up for time loss extra workers were added.
 - Large amounts of materials have arrived and work is progressing with the hope of a roof on by Friday.
 - Next progress meeting will be Monday, September 19 at 3:30 in the District Office Conference Room.

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MISCELLANEOUS CON'T:

- Regular Policy Review: BP4117.3 Personnel Reduction; BP4118 Suspension/Disciplinary Action; BP4119.23 Unauthorized Release of Confidential Information; BP5144 Discipline; BP5145.12 Search & Seizure; BP5145.15 Student & Family Privacy Rights
- October Regular Board Meeting Date: October 12, 2011 in the high school library at 6:00 p.m.

PENDING AGENDA:

- Monthly Policy Review
- Report Card to the Public
- DARE Program Update
- Adult Lunch Price Increase
- Facilities Use Update
- AASB Training with Timi Tullis

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

- Per Nolan: Voiced concerns regarding the Activities Director position. Submitted his resignation as the JV Basketball coach and did not receive response nor did he receive an evaluation of his coaching position. Expressed concerns regarding the Student Handbook that have portions of the handbook blacked out and the recent TAD meeting with mainly junior high attendance. Commented on the great volleyball tournament but stated an ineligible player participated. AASA rules must be followed, the mistake needs to be acknowledged and corrected. Suggested the concussion issue be addressed by all perhaps involving the PE department so more students are involved not just athletes. Shared concern regarding the lack of support regarding JV basketball travel.
- Valerie Covell: Thanked the board for listening. The guild would like to continue using the home economics classroom and the school. Noted the security issue of propping doors suggested having the correct tool to use with the push bar on the door so the door is not left open. With hopes there would be a consideration of "Grandfathering" regarding the upcoming quilting event.
- Peter Griffith: Requests a disciplinary action plan implemented with increased consequences per violation and the plan spelled out in the student planners for next year.

BOARD COMMENTS:

- Mr. Nichols: Thank you audience for opinions and apologize for the delays.
- Mr. Gilman: Thank you audience for your participation. Thank you Mr. Nolan for pointing out the blacked out areas of the handbook and the confusion with the player issue.
- Ms. Alexander: Thank you audience. Audience thoughts and input is important.
- Mr. Sherman: Thank you audience, agree with points that have been touched on regarding audience participation.
- Mr. Hoepfner: Thank you everyone for coming and the input on polices. Thank you to a great staff, our Superintendent of the Year and Cara Heitz nominated for Teacher of the year and being a finalist.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Superintendent's Quarterly Evaluation

Mr. Sherman moved the Board go into Executive Session to discuss a person, a subject that may tend to prejudice the reputation or character of a person, provided the person may request a public discussion. / Mr. Gilman seconded.

Motion PASSED 5-0

- Board Adjourned for Executive Session: 9:15 p.m.
- Board Reconvened from Executive Session: 10:00 p.m.
- No further business was discussed

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Alexander moved to adjourn the meeting. / Mr. Gilman seconded.

Motion PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

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ATTEST

President

Clerk