

CORDOVA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING: October 12, 2011
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CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Hoepfner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Cordova Jr/Sr High School Library. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

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

Members Absent: None

Quorum: Established

Special Note: Mr. Hoepfner noted Ms. Alexander would be taking notes throughout the meeting due to both Jeannie Blake and Verna Reedy being absent.

Staff Present: Superintendent Jim Nygaard, Principal Leif Jacobsen

Staff Absent: Frank Wicks, Keith Zamudio, Verna Reedy, Jeannie Blake

City Council Rep: Not present

Student Council Rep: Present

CEA Rep: Present

Visitors: Dawn Jewell, Barb Jewell, Sara Hottinger, Lila Koplin, Bob Griffiths, Per Nolan, Gayle Groff

Presentation of Certificates/Awards: None

Correspondence:

- Letter – Mayor Kallander: Requesting information from the school district pertinent to the Council's understanding the challenges the district is facing.
 - Discussion: Information has been compiled as per the request. Board felt additional information is important to include such as: energy costs, health insurance costs, retirement benefit costs, technology cost and the breakdown between student contribution – different amounts for special needs costs.

HEARINGS OF INDIVIDUALS/GROUPS:

- Introduction: Student teacher, Sara Hottinger will be working with Mrs. Stavig in home economics.
- Introduction: Police Chief, Bob Griffith started his position October 3. He has children that will move to Cordova next year.

APPROVAL OR AMEND REGULAR AGENDA:

Mr. Gilman moved to approve the October 12, 2011 agenda as presented with the one addition of Minolta Copiers under New/Unfinished Business. / Mr. Nichols seconded.

Motion PASSED

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

AUDIENCE COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS:

- Dawn Jewell - NWQG: Thank you to Jim and the Facility Committee. The letter directed to the City Council was from a NWQG member but not from the North Wind Quilters Guild.
- Valerie Covell – NWQG: Thank you Jim. A lot of people do not understand the process and Jim reached out via a committee process. Apologize for the letter and it is not what the North Wind Quilters Guild feels.
- Pam Moe – CEA: After seeing the data the district put together for Mayor Kallander, more information should be included to make it less biased and more balanced. The administrator numbers are confusing, clarification of administrators is important. Average salaries should include average administrator, average teacher and the average classified employee. Health insurance is included in the negotiated agreement with the teachers.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Nichols moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 14, 2011. / Mr. Gilman seconded.
Motion PASSED

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

CONSENT AGENDA: None

REPORTS:

Student Council:

- Four students from CHS will be attending the ASAG conference.
- Suicide prevention student speaker will be coming to Cordova November 14-15.

City Council: (Keith van den Broek): Not Present

Cordova Education Assoc (Pam Moe): Nothing additional.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - Elementary School (Mr. Wicks):

- Enrollment K-6: 166
- Music Program: Thursdays and Fridays 8:00-8:35 a.m. Volunteers organize and run this program. Current volunteers are Belle Mickelson, Sam O'Toole, Ann Marie Carlson, Kevin and Chelsea Haisman.
- Monday Assemblies: Several guest speakers have visited Mt. Eccles. The "Magic Man" wowed the students, Officer Kasch, from our police department, spoke about bicycle safety, Kathy Zamudio provided updates regarding the annual Walk and Bike to School Day.
- Safe Routes to School: October 5 was International Walk to School Day. The PTA sponsored a hot chocolate and pancake breakfast for all the students and provided door prizes.
- First Quarter Mid-Term: September 23, parents received an update on their child's academic performance.
- Salmon Tank: Mt. Eccles will be housing a salmon tank this school year. Anticipated egg-take field trip in October and a fry release in the spring. Kate Alexander, Project and Membership Coordinator, Copper River Watershed Project, will be supervising this project.
- Travel: October 16-18, participating in the 45th Annual Fall Principal's Conference in Anchorage.
- Art Projects: Three of the five contracted art projects are now completed. Mike Anderson's ceramic art, "Anadromous" has been mounted above the ramp in the cafeteria.
- First Quarter: First Quarter ends, October 21
- Site Based Council Meeting: October 25 at 4:00 p.m. in the Mango Room.

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

- Enrollment 7-12: 165
- Site Council: October 27 at 5:00 p.m. in the library.
- MAPS Testing: October 18, 19, and 25
- Fire Drill: September 21
- Computers: Seventh grade students are near completion of their certification.
- Mid-Term: September 14. Senior class received an early lunch release for having the greatest number of students with C's or better. Currently working with Mrs. Moe identifying potential students in need of interventions to help get them back on track.
- Extra-Curricular Ineligibility: CHS has stricter criteria regarding student eligibility than ASAA eligibility requirements. There were 17 students who were ineligible after 4th quarter last year, not all students were necessarily in activities. Grades were not compiled prior to activities starting this year. The numbers of students participating that were ineligible are small and would make those students identifiable. As a result of this error, students participated who were ineligible, erring on the side of the students, they were allowed to participate as managers. After further research, it was determined they could not participate even as a manager as per the student activities handbook. Students, parents and coaches have been made aware of this incident. The violations are at the local level and forfeitures have been notified to which it is warranted. The eligibility issue is not an ASAA issue.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - Jr/Sr High School (Mr. Jacobsen): CON'T

- Extra-Curricular: Wrestling and Junior High basketball have both started. Volleyball and Swimming are in mid season and will come to an end at the end of October-beginning of November.
- Close-Up/Band Trip: Attending both the band trip and the Close-Up trip would cause students to miss too much academic time. One of the reasons the class day is seven periods is to increase time with the students. Both principal and staff support students choosing either the Close-Up trip or the band trip. This will affect one senior. Student and parents are currently in discussion regarding this situation with the school.
- Bullying: This past spring the staff had a meeting regarding bullying and cyber-bullying. Both of these items were added to the student handbook. Parents/guardians and students were required to return a paper signed acknowledging they had read the handbook. Staff has been encouraged to document using Log Entry through PowerSchool when observing a behavior that could be labeled as bullying so a follow up with the principal may occur. The bullying issue has also been addressed with coaches.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - Technology (Mr. Zamudio):

- Laptops: ICT Literacy Skills class has developed a certification program requiring students to pass before they have 24/7 access to their assigned laptop. Several students have completed their training.
- Travel: October 13-15, presenting workshops on Cyber bullying in Anchorage at the Alaska Association of Student Government's Fall Conference.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - Superintendent (Mr. Nygaard)

- Travel: 4th R training, AASA Annual Conference both in Anchorage in October. November extended leave for family emergency.
- ILP: Some construction delays but the completion date remains early November.
- Facility Use Recommendations: The committee has been meeting to finalize the recommendation to the board regarding capping the fees for use. This has been a great committee to be involved with. Both District members and community members have done an excellent job voicing concerns and frustrations. The work from this committee will take the district giant steps in developing consistency in enforcement of use for the buildings.
- ESA/NCLB: Elementary Secondary Education Act/No Child Left Behind reauthorization seems to be taking a new direction. Recent conversations involving Secretary Duncan and many state heads have referenced flaws in the testing spawning the need to move ahead via waivers.
- SRTS: Safe Routes to School: Kathy Zamudio has been instrumental in dogging this grant on behalf of the city, completing all necessary engineering/environmental requirements allowing the city to complete crosswalks and sidewalks without interference. It is fearful this grant has fallen from the desires of the city (\$500k), as communications appear to have fallen on deaf ears (although the council formally accepted responsibility to accomplish the goals of the grant several months ago). This grant would allow for critical sidewalk security for our youth as well as elevated crosswalks at locations where traffic is an issue. This effort is a culmination of 18 months of committee work involving local and statewide support. Cordova was the first community in the state to successfully meet all the rigorous objectives of this grant.
- Commissioner of Labor: Commissioner of Labor, "Click" Bishop visited Cordova September 28 and 29. By being a better partner in Alaska's employment challenges and working with the DOL we will all benefit. The commissioner started with a "meet & greet" at Mt. Eccles, tours of the hydro plant, city center, CTC, a cannery visit, and classroom observations at both Cordova Jr/Sr High and Mt. Eccles. It was a great day for Cordova and Cordova students.
- Mayor's Letter: Additional information will be included. A draft letter will be sent to the board and the final letter to the mayor will come from Pete.
- Audit: Reviewed preliminary audit findings and all looks good. Verna works very hard to make this happen.
- Timber Receipts: This program will sunset in September. There are multiple bills to re-initiate and it appears this will be a struggle. Updates will be provided in the coming weeks.
- Programs: As numbers decrease if there are not enough students to maintain a sport it will have to be cut. Everyone should be prepared as parents express concerns.
- Computer Insurance: Looking into this possibility, first ideas have been submitted for considerations. This is a draft. Cost would have to be covered by the parent.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - Superintendent (Mr. Nygaard): CON'T

- Governor's Scholarship: This will take affect with 2015 seniors. Prior to this date classes need to be in line, number of math, science, etc. Deadline for comments is November 10. This information may be obtained on-line through using Google or questions could be directed to the superintendent.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT - FINANCIAL REPORTS (Mrs. Reedy)

- September Financials were presented

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Information Items:

- Report Card to the Public
 - Discussion: Questioned why testing figures are not posted for the different ethnic categories. Student numbers are small and students should not be identifiable.
- AASB Proposed Changes to the AASB Constitution & Bylaws
- Minimum Driving Age
 - Discussion: Younger coaches are now transporting students. Parents have expressed safety concerns. It is a huge responsibility for anyone who is transporting students. The insurance company encourages 25 years of age for drivers. Developing a policy may be in the district's best interest.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Facility Use

Mr. Gilman moved to approve the Facility Committee's recommendation. / Mr. Nichols seconded.

Discussion: Important for the public to know the Board's role. The Board deals with policy. If there are issues with policy and people are not happy they should be talking to the Board, not the administration. Great deal of negative comments that have been spiteful and unproductive. User fees are not a new concept. Unsure as to who is on the committee and would like a report of how the recommendations came about. Confused about the sobriety celebration and where it fits in the categories. Question fees in general and how much money this brought in last year. Committee met four times. Of the four, one was poorly attended due to conflict of schedules, one was basically venting, and one resulted in a survey of various districts with their fees for their building usage. The chart came from the principals and it is simply a sample that resonated with most user groups. The recommendation seems very Cordovan and it gets the community involved with the facilities. This is not an issue of making money but about being consistent and promoting responsible use and being fair. Further discussion and meetings regarding this issue are warranted. Meeting at lunchtime or after work is a suggestion. Until a decision is made the rates from the recommendation policy will be in effect. The Board agreed to postpone this motion until the next School Board meeting.

Motion to POSTPONE PASSED

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

RFP – Roofline Extension

Ms. Alexander moved to approve the superintendent's selection of a contractor to extend the roofline of the existing maintenance shop if the bid/proposals should exceed \$10,000. / Mr. Nichols seconded.

Motion PASSED

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

Minolta Copiers

Ms. Alexander moved to accept the service agreement with Minolta. / Mr. Gilman seconded.

Motion PASSED

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

CONTRACTS-MEMORANDUMS OF AGREEMENTS: None

PERSONNEL: None

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MISCELLANEOUS:

- ILP Update:
 - Sheet rockers left, mudders coming in with artificial heat, plumber will attach to existing glycol loops, painting and flooring will follow. Everything is running on schedule. Pam Moe is actively involved in the process and continues to encourage student involvement.
- Regular Policy Review: BP5124 Communication with Parents/Guardians; BP5127.1; Class Valedictorian/Salutatorian; BP5136 Gangs; BP6142.4 Community Service
 - Discussion: Communication doesn't have current technology listed, concern regarding management of personal communication devices, AASB conference may address these areas of concern. Valedictorian/Salutatorian determined at the end of third quarter. Community Service brought up last year the possibility of finding a solution so seniors aren't scrambling to complete all of the hours in their final school year. Questioned possibility of having 10 hours per year.
- November Regular Board Meeting Date: November 9, 2011 in the high school library at 7:00 p.m.
- Budget Workshop: November 9, 2011 in the high school library at 6:30 p.m.

PENDING AGENDA:

- Monthly Policy Review
- Computer Insurance
- Adult Lunch Price Increase
- AASB Training with Timi Tullis
- Give Back to the Community Service Update
- Student Support Account Update
- Facility Use
- Driver Policy Update

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

- Pam Moe: Student Council representative is doing a fine job representing students at the board meetings. ILP program uses credit enhancement. If a course isn't offered, students can take the class online. Perhaps this may be something to consider in regards to the Governor's Scholarship program. Give Back to the Community might try to incorporate volunteer hours with citizenship.

BOARD COMMENTS:

- Mr. Gilman: Thanks for being involved in the meeting. Regarding community service and citizenship it might be easier to have 20 hours by the sophomore year and 20 more by the senior year.
- Mr. Nichols: Thanks audience for showing up and the comments. Thanks Kate for helping out.
- Mr. Sherman: Thanks for showing up. Thanks for those working on the policy issue and continuing to help with this.
- Ms. Alexander: Thanks Dixon for the late night participation.
- Mr. Hoepfner: Applaud Verna for the good audit. There's a lot of great staff working for the district. Appreciate everyone being present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Nichols moved to adjourn the meeting. / Mr. Gilman seconded.
Motion PASSED
Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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ATTEST:

President



Clerk