

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Seward High School
Seward, AK 99664

May 7, 2001

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

Ms. Deborah Germano, President
Mrs. Sammy Crawford, Vice President
Mrs. Debra Mullins, Clerk
Mr. Joe Arness, Treasurer
Dr. Nels Anderson, Member
Mrs. Sandra Wassilie, Member
Mr. Al Poindexter, Member
Miss Sara Hart, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Donna Peterson, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Patrick Hickey, Assistant Superintendent, Operations and Business Management
Dr. Ed McLain, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
Mr. Todd Syverson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Tim Peterson	Mr. Lary Kuhns
Mr. John Andrews	Ms. Lynne Hohll
Ms. Melody Douglas	Mr. Jerry Olive
Mr. Mark Leal	Mr. Skip Reiersen
Mr. Jim White	Ms. Rhonda Anderson Hubbard
Mr. Malcolm Fleming	Mr. Dick Dieckgraff
Mr. Rick Matiya	

Others present not identified.

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Germano called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Ms. Germano invited those present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Deborah Germano	Present
Mrs. Sammy Crawford	Present
Mrs. Debra Mullins	Present
Mr. Joe Arness	Present
Dr. Nels Anderson	Present
Mrs. Sandra Wassilie	Present
Mr. Al Poindexter	Present
Miss Sara Hart	Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved with the removal of item Number 10h., Approval of Seldovia Boys and Girls Club Recommendation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The School Board Minutes of April 16, 2001, were approved with corrections on page 253. The word "includes" was inserted in place of the word "is" in the second sentence of paragraph two. The word "two" was inserted in place of the word "three" and the word "onsite" was inserted after the word "program" in the third sentence of paragraph two.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Ms. Rhonda Anderson Hubbard, requested that the Kenai Peninsula Student Activities Association (KPSAA) raise the student eligibility requirements from a “D” to a “C.” She stated that there are 10 different sports available in the Seward community for approximately 245 students throughout the school year. She noted that scheduling sporting events is consuming to the point that most other cocurricular activities revolve around the sports schedule. She noted that when teams leave school on Friday other students who are not in sports feel disenfranchised because they are left with a substitute teacher and substantially fewer classmates. She reported that maintaining a “C” average is attainable because block scheduling at Seward Middle/High School allows 10 extra periods as well as a tutor program and a mentor program. She suggested that study time be mandatory on overnight trips. She recommended that participating teams who have above-average GPAs be recognized, and students who are not involved in sports be encouraged to raise their grades. She suggested that special conditions be given for special education students. She requested that the Board, KPSAA, administration, teachers, coaches, students and parents work together to raise student academic expectations.

Mr. Jerry Olive, Seward Elementary special education teacher, commented that he was pleased that a Seward resident is now serving on the Board of Education. He stated that young children who are in grave danger need counselors in schools. He said that counselors are necessary to educate children in the area of social skills. He noted that next year, Seward Elementary will have two, fourth grade classes with 30 students in each class and asked the Board when it will change. He stated that the District needs money for more teachers. He stated that he is a resource teacher and has 31 students to manage. He suggested that a publicity campaign be put into action to educate the public about the lack of adequate funding for education.

Mr. Skip Reiersen, Seward parent, thanked the Board for coming to Seward. He stated that after many years of being involved in the local schools, it is apparent that the Seward Middle/High School has major safety issues that need to be addressed. He encouraged the Board to support future development of the Seward schools.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Dr. Peterson noted that the School Climate Report, which is an update of the Aspirations Program, is included in the Board information packet. She called the Board’s attention to a picture of Dr. Don Boehmer, Special Education director, on page 30 of the Education Summit 2000 Report. She thanked Laidlaw Services for providing the District with a \$500 check to be awarded to a graduate from Nikolaevsk High, Niniichik High or Susan B. English High Schools.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SITE COUNCIL, AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A.:

Mr. Tim Peterson, KPESA president, stated that the Homer News reported that outsourcing of student activities was a “done deal.” He stated that the article was published well before the Board meeting. He reported that KPSAA sent a letter to the Board dated April 27 stating that they are looking forward to receiving and reviewing a proposal from the Outsource Committee. He stated that KPSAA still has not seen the proposal. He reported that KPSAA and Dr. Peterson, superintendent, recommend that the District not pursue outsourcing of student activities. He noted that the attorney for the District advised the Board that there are questions that need to be answered before the District moves forward with outsourcing. He stated that KPAA, KPESA and KPEA are against the proposal to outsource student activities without studying all of the components of the issue.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SITE
COUNCIL, AND/OR P.T.A., K.P.A.A., K.
P.E.A., K.P.E.S.A. (continued):

Ms. Cindy Ecklund, site council president, thanked the Board for coming to Seward and for the administration's assistance with hiring. She stated that she is looking forward to a good transition. She reminded those present that the next council meeting is Thursday, May 10, at 7:00 p.m.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS:

The Board presented a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Malcolm Fleming for being chosen as the 2001 Secondary Principal of the Year. Mr. Hemstock was not able to attend and will be honored at a later time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Peterson announced that over 100 District teachers are registered to attend the Quality Schools Institute at Skyview High School on August 6 through 10. She invited the Board to attend the Institute. She noted that she has had a frustrating week with the legislature and that, even with the intense District lobbying efforts for additional educational funding, it appears the increase will amount only to approximately \$70 additional per student. She stated that the additional funding is appreciated, but the District will still have a shortfall of over \$600,000 for the coming year.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mrs. Wassilie reported that she attended the AASB Spring Boardsmanship and Fly-in. She noted that the Academy focused on roles of the superintendent and school board and how they are different. The Academy also provided updates on special education legislation. She reported that time was also spent strategizing with each other and visiting with local and key legislators. She reported that the group stood united across the state to deliver the message to increase the foundation formula funding base, allow diplomas for special education students who take the high school graduation qualifying exam and provide for the need for major maintenance and capital funding. She reported that the Board members were well received and added that she appreciated getting to know her colleagues better. She noted that Mrs. Mari-Anne Gross also attended and lobbied for additional educational funding. She extended her appreciation to the Board for allowing her to attend.

Mrs. Mullins reported that she, Mrs. Wassilie and Ms. Germano attended the AASB Legislative Fly-In in Juneau. She noted that the Board met with approximately 30 legislators in a two-day period. She stated that the prospect of additional funding for education looked promising two weeks ago but has since deteriorated. She reported that she attended the KPSAA meeting last week and referred the Board to a letter in the information packet from the KPSAA Board regarding their position on outsourcing. She reported that KPSAA's position is not to outsource student activities at this time. Mrs. Mullins reported that she attended the Borough Space Allocation Committee meeting and that the Committee was informed that the Kenai Courthouse will not be surplus and is not an option for use by the District. She stated that Committee discussions have centered around leasing space while a building is constructed to house District staff. She stated that she will apprise the Board as more information is available.

BOARD REPORTS (continued):

Ms. Germano reported that Board members left Juneau at the conclusion of the AASB Fly-In feeling as if there was hope for additional educational funding. She provided an update on legislation and stated that public process was ignored. She stated that she is frustrated and encouraged those present to send a message to legislators informing them that the proposed educational funding increase is not enough. She acknowledged District legislators who have been working hard and expressed special appreciation for Representative Lancaster who is under an incredible amount of pressure. She thanked Representatives Scalzi and Chenault and Senator Torgerson for their hard work. Ms. Germano reported that Alaskans United is reorganizing and will conduct meetings throughout Alaska to promote a long-range fiscal plan. She encouraged those present to attend the meetings, share ideas and provide input.

Technology Report:

Dr. Peterson presented the Technology Report, which included minutes from the October 2000 and April 2001 meetings as well as a revised plan to compress the six-year plan to four years. She expressed her appreciation to the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly for their assistance in making the Technology Plan possible.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Items presented on the Consent Agenda were Approval of Resignations; Certified Leave of Absence Request – Certified; Long-Term Substitute Teacher Contract; 2001-2002 Teacher Assignments; and Budget Transfer Numbers 355, 356, and 357.

Resignations:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve resignations effective the end of the 2000-2001 school year for Robert Thompson, school psychologist, districtwide special services; Robert Barnwell, Grade 3/4, Seward Elementary; Mark Burgener, art/photography, Kenai Central High; Diana Marsh, speech pathologist, districtwide special services; Josanne Breeding, school psychologist, districtwide special services; Carlton Kuhns, principal, Nikolaevsk Elementary/High School; and Mike Stockburger, math/science/vocational education, Voznesenka School.

Leave of Absence Request – Certified:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence request (certified) for Robert Summer, Grade 8, Kenai Middle; Bradley Kloeckl, English, Homer High; Theo Lexmond, school psychologist, districtwide special services; and Mary Roed, special education/resource, K-Beach Elementary.

Long-Term Substitute Teacher Contract:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a long-term substitute teacher contract for George Harbeson, QUEST/language arts, Chapman School and for Joanne McClain, Special Ed/Severe, Seward Middle/High.

2001-2002 Teacher Assignments:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve teaching appointments for the 2001-2002 school year for Linda Sam Adams, home economics, Skyview High and for Belinda Drake, Grades K-2, Tebughna School.

Budget Transfer Numbers 355, 356, and 357:

Mr. Hickey recommended the Board approve budget transfer Numbers 355 and 357 which respectively transfer \$11,840 and \$18,197 to cover the purchase of computers per the District Technology Plan and budget transfer Number 356 which transfers \$18,150, \$16,500, \$17,250 and \$20,100 to purchase software for computers per the District Technology Plan.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve Consent Agenda Items Numbers 1 through 5. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Nontenure Teachers for Tenure, 2001-2002: Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a list of nontenure teachers for tenure for the 2001-2002 school year.

ACTION Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve a list of nontenure teachers for tenure for the 2001-2002 school year. Mr. Poindexter seconded.

Ms. Germano expressed concern that the District is placing nontenured teachers in tenured positions where they are not certificated and when there are certificated teachers available. She stated she does not fault the administration but does not support the recommendation.

Mr. Syverson noted that on some of the certifications can be deceiving and cited examples of teachers with assignments that were closely related to their certification.

VOTE:

YES – Anderson, Arness, Mullins, Poindexter, Wassilie
NO – Crawford, Germano
Advisory Vote: ABSTAIN

Motion carried.

Tentative Nontenure Teacher Assignments, 2001-2002: Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve a list of tentative nontenure teacher assignments beginning the 2001-2002 school year.

ACTION Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve a list of tentative nontenure teacher assignments beginning the 2001-2002 school year. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Mrs. Crawford asked how the \$600,000 shortfall will impact the approval of nontenure teachers. Mr. Hickey replied that the goal of the administration is to keep teachers in classrooms and noted that the District is considering a number of possibilities to prevent teacher lay offs.

Motion carried unanimously.

BP 4111.2, 4211.2 and 4311.2, Legal Status Requirement: Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve revisions to BP4111.2, 4211.2 and 4311.2, Legal Status Requirement.

ACTION Mr. Arness moved the Board approve revisions to BP4111.2, 4211.2 and 4311.2, Legal Status Requirement. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BP 4115, Evaluation/ Supervision: Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve revisions to BP 4115, Evaluation/ Supervision.

ACTION Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve revisions to BP 4115, Evaluation/ Supervision. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BP 4119.12, Harassment: Mr. Syverson recommended the Board adopt BP 4119.12, Harassment. He explained that harassment is mentioned in the student section of the Policy Manual but not in the employee section. He noted that legal council has reviewed the proposed policy.

ACTION Mrs. Mullins moved the Board adopt BP 4119.12, Harassment. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

BP 4300, Management and Supervisory Personnel – Definitions:

Mr. Syverson recommended the Board approve revisions to BP 4300, Management and Supervisory Personnel – Definitions.

ACTIoN Mrs. Mullins moved the Board approve revisions to BP 4300, Management and Supervisory Personnel: Definitions. Mrs. Crawford seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Appointments:

Dr. Peterson recommended the Board approve Christine Ermold as principal/teacher of Cooper Landing Elementary; John Cote as assistant principal, Seward Middle/High; Erling Hofseth, as principal/teacher of Connections; Glenn Haupt as assistant director of Pupil Services; and Berry Swenson as principal of Kenai Central High.

ACTION Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve the administrator appointments as presented. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Outsource of Student Activities
Administrative Recommendation:

Dr. Peterson recommended the District not pursue the outsourcing of student activities at this time.

Mr. John Andrews, Skyview High School activities director, asked who will be responsible if outsourcing means that all costs will be absorbed by agencies outside the school. He asked who will supervise the student activities, who will hire and fire coaches, who will pay coaches and how much, who will be responsible for student eligibility, who will be responsible for transportation to activities, and who will be responsible for scheduling, equipment, uniforms, and facilities. He stated that in the past the District outsourced soccer for one year and subsequently adopted the soccer program because there were too many difficulties with the previously mentioned responsibilities. He asked the Board if they were prepared to start adopting all activities that could become outsourced. He stated that Juneau and Ketchikan have recently outsourced football, and both programs are having financial difficulties. He noted that the Anchorage School District outsources baseball and softball and that the Anchorage activities directors do not recommend this method because their district does not have control over the two activities. He asked whether outsourcing would allow schools to start any program such as golf or tennis. He asked how much power booster clubs would have over student activities. He stated that the outsourcing issue should be studied thoroughly before a decision is made. He reported that the KPSAA decision has been sent to the Board and encouraged members to listen to their position on the issue.

Outsource of Student Activities
 Administrative Recommendation
 (continued):

Mr. Lary Kuhns, Homer baseball coach, stated that he has not spoken with all of the Board members and that representatives from his organization may have been misquoted or made misstatements. He stated that he has spoken to the Outsource Committee Task Force members and that his club has been working through the sanction process for eight months. He stated that Mr. Andrews made some good points but that in the Outsource Task Force contract they are addressed. He stated that over the past weekend the Homer Baseball Club traveled to the Matanuska Valley to play Colony and Houston and the expenses for the trip were paid. He reported that last year the Homer Baseball Club played a full schedule at no cost to Homer High School and that the Club is offering supervision of 30-50 students for three months, five days each week. Mr. Kuhns stated that his club will handle the scheduling and insurance. He stated that his club does not want to be a part of the District budget process because they wish to eventually include little league and do not want to risk having their budget reduced. He encouraged the Board to vote with their hearts.

ACTION

Mrs. Crawford moved the Board approve the outsource of student activities administrative recommendation. Mrs. Mullins seconded.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve an amendment as follows: "However, it is the sense of the Board that students involved in an ongoing baseball program in Homer be allowed the opportunity to complete this season. The superintendent is hereby authorized to enter into a discussion with ASAA with the goal of sanctioning either the boy's or girls' teams from Homer, should either qualify for the state tournament. The authorization is specifically limited to Homer baseball and only for the term of this years' state tournament. It is the intent of the Board to continue to develop a functional outsource program to be in place for future requests of this nature." Dr. Anderson seconded.

Mr. Arness noted that the question of outsourcing came up two years ago when soccer was discussed and subsequently added to the activities program. He stated that he did not want to see the addition of new program occur like that again. He stated that the purpose for establishing the Outsource Task Force was to solve some of the questions presented by Mr. Andrews. He stated that unfortunately, not all of the decision-makers were headed in the same direction. He stated that the Outsource Contract came in the Board packet and was to be reviewed by KPSAA and the administration before it came to the Board but it arrived too late. He stated that he was offended by the Homer News article and was struck by the observations made by various groups. He stated that Mr. Andrews and Mr. Peterson both made valid points. He stated that he believes that everyone at the meeting wants what is best for the children. He stated that the idea of his amendment is to allow the Homer baseball and softball teams to complete their season and then the Board and administration can continue to solve problem.

Mrs. Crawford expressed concern about the precedent that the amendment would set. She added that she believes the Board should consider outsourcing but not be pushed into a hasty decision.

Outsource of Student Activities
Administrative Recommendation
(continued):

Dr. Anderson stated that he was furious about the outsourcing article in the Homer News that suggested the Board had agreed to the proposed waiver. He stated that he does not interpret Mr. Arness' amendment as being in agreement for an outsource program but as an opportunity for a single exception to allow the children to play in a state tournament. He stated that he also wants to go through the process with KPSAA, the administration and legal council. He stated that he participated on the Student Activities Task Force over the past year and felt that some sort of an outsource program will be necessary because of the funding shortfall and that the Board will put teachers in the classrooms before putting teams on the athletic fields. He stated that he will vote for Mr. Arness' amendment but by doing so is not in disagreement with District unions or KPSAA. He stated that he would like to allow the Homer children to play and have the adults sort out the outsource decision at a later date.

Mr. Poindexter stated that he feels academics are more important than athletics and yet the Board spends more time discussing athletics. He stated that schools do not have to be experts in athletic competition and that other people and organizations can do just as good a job. He stated that he hasn't heard a compelling reason not to allow the Homer children to play when they have worked hard. He explained that competition is all about participating in a sport in order to win the opportunity to compete at the state level. He noted that with the Homer Baseball Club there is no monetary obligation, facility problems, equipment problems, transportation problems, coaching problems, or salary problems and therefore doesn't see why the Board can't allow the children to complete the season. He stated that in 1974 when he began coaching cross-country running and track, he did not get paid for it and he transported the students to the events. He stated that his former students remember their experiences, and he would hate to think that they would have missed out on the opportunity. He encouraged the Board to vote for Mr. Arness' amendment.

Mrs. Mullins stated that she will vote against Mr. Arness' amendment. She stated that the amendment is unwise, not prudent, and that the Board is headed for trouble if they go against the advice of the attorney and administration. She recommended that the Board carefully review the issue of outsourcing. She stated that if the Board is cautious, it will not be harmful to children. She stated that approving the Homer Baseball Club request will open the door to other situations not only in sports activities.

Mrs. Wassilie stated that she will also vote against Mr. Arness' amendment. She stated that the Board should review the possibility of outsourcing activities and that there are too many questions that haven't been answered such as administration and liability. She stated that the liabilities schools now face are far greater than in the past. She stated that she participated in one of the state's first cross-country skiing teams and was transported to events by parents. She asked what kind of message the Board is sending to juniors and sophomores this year if an exception is made for the Homer Baseball Club and it doesn't work out. She stated that those students will feel cheated. She said that it is not an easy decision to make but, under the circumstances, it is the wisest.

Ms. Germano clarified with Mr. Arness that the amendment states, "if the groups qualify," and noted that the wording puts the administration in another difficult spot because in order to qualify they have to play a certain number of sanctioned games. She noted that if they are not sanctioned by ASAA other teams do not have to play them.

Outsource of Student Activities
Administrative Recommendation
(continued):

Mr. Arness stated that the goal of his amendment is to authorize Dr. Peterson to enter into a conversation with ASAA so that if the Homer teams qualify for the state tournament, they will have permission from the Board to be sanctioned by the District to represent Homer High.

Mr. Syverson explained that for the Homer Baseball Club to be eligible for the state tournament, the games they are currently playing must be recognized by ASAA.

Ms. Germano stated that she understood that the home team must apply for a waiver to play a team that is not sanctioned. Mr. Syverson explained that those games are considered exhibition games and do not count.

Mrs. Mullins pointed out that the original motion before the Board concerned outsourcing of student activities and an agreement was presented. She reviewed the appeal process made by the Homer Baseball Club and noted that both the Board and KPSAA denied the Club's request and yet the Board is considering the Club's request again. She stated that the Board is discussing baseball and softball when they should be discussing outsourcing of all student activities.

Dr. Peterson suggested that the administration would need input from the two parties involved. She requested that the Board make a final decision regarding the baseball and softball request.

Mr. Andrews explained that the waiver that the Homer Baseball Club has received this year has allowed them to play ASAA member schools. He stated that those games are exhibition games and cannot count as part of their record. He explained that the Board must approve Homer High School as an authorized baseball and softball team for them to count their games. He stated he was not sure whether games played can be retroactively counted.

Mr. Kuhns stated that Mr. Gary Matthews, ASAA executive director, told him that it is contingent upon School Board decision as to whether Homer Baseball Club's games can be counted. He stated that Mr. Matthews told him that their games can be retroactive.

Mr. Arness clarified with Mr. Kuhns that the Homer Baseball Club could have participated in the state tournament last year but were not sanctioned. Mr. Kuhns stated that the Homer team missed participating in the tournament by one game and that Colony went to the tournament instead.

Ms. Germano stated that the Outsource Student Activities Task Force was established to consider outsourcing of all student activities because they are not being adequately funded. She stated that the Board will need to discuss the topic further and that KPSAA and the Outsource Task Force should have reviewed the proposed agreement. She stated that there is more work to do on the issue and she does not want to establish a practice that the Board can't retract. She stated the Homer Baseball Club provides an opportunity for the Board to observe outsourcing with a program that has money. She stated that she hates to have children miss opportunities to participate in school activities.

Outsource of Student Activities
Administrative Recommendation
(continued):

Mr. Arness stated that he does not want to place the superintendent in an awkward position. He stated that he will continue to support his amendment with the hope that it will be interpreted administratively that if it passes it is to provide the absolute least exposure to the District and the most opportunity for the Homer baseball and softball teams to continue through their season. He stated that the Board does not have the opportunity to establish an outsource agreement prior to the Homer Baseball Club's request and it is not the children's fault.

Mr. Arness reread the amendment. Dr. Anderson clarified that the Arness amendment includes baseball and softball.

Mrs. Mullins asked for the administration's opinion on the amendment because it substantially changes the main motion.

recess:

At 9:11 p.m., Ms. Germano called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER RECESS:

At 9:19 p.m. the Board reconvened in regular session.

Dr. Peterson stated that Item 10j concern outsourcing of student activities and the Arness amendment concerns Homer Baseball. She stated that the administration believes that no matter the verbiage, the Board's intent with the amendment is to pursue a sanctioned season for boy's baseball and girl's softball for Homer High. She stated that the administration continues to support its earlier recommendation not to pilot softball or baseball at Homer High.

Ms. Germano asked Mr. Arness whether the first part of his amendment addressed outsourcing specifically. He replied that the first part of the amendment addressed the administrative recommendation. Mr. Arness read his amendment again adding the word "softball" after the word "baseball" in the third sentence.

Mrs. Mullins asked where the amendment language fits into the main motion. Mr. Arness replied that the amendment language should come after the administrative recommendation as a new paragraph. Mrs. Mullins stated that she does not believe that the amendment is in order because it substantially changes the recommendation. Mr. Arness read the amendment again.

Mrs. Mullins stated that the amendment substantially changes the original motion and that by voting on the amendment, members would be dismissing the original motion. She stated that the amendment is not in order.

ACTION

Mr. Arness moved the Board approve the substitution of his amendment for the main motion. Dr. Anderson second.

Mrs. Wassilie clarified that baseball and softball teams must play in sanctioned games to qualify to play in the state tournament. Mr. Arness replied that at this moment he cannot support outsourcing as it is proposed in the Board packet. He stated that based upon what he has heard, ASAA is fairly negotiable regarding what constitutes a qualified participant. He stated that if ASAA will not accept the baseball and softball games as sanctioned activities, then his amendment is moot since the District does not offer outsourced activities. He stated that he is not trying to put the administration in a tough spot. He stated that his amendment is only an alternative to allow the Homer teams the opportunity to play in the state tournament if they should qualify.

Outsource of Student Activities
 Administrative Recommendation
 (continued):

Ms. Germano stated that the amendment does place the administration in a difficult situation. She stated that she foresees an incredible amount of time being spent on the waiver by the administration. She expressed concern about the time the administration would be spending negotiating with ASAA. She stated that she would be more comfortable if the administration could discuss the waiver issue with Homer High. She stated that she is concerned that the Board is creating a bigger problem.

VOTE ON ARNESS SUBSTITUTION:

YES – Anderson, Arness, Poindexter
 NO – Crawford, Mullins, Wassilie, Germano
 Advisory Vote – YES

Substitute motion failed.

ACTION

Mr. Poindexter moved the Board approve a thirty-day agreement with the Homer Baseball Club as a sanctioned school sport following KPSAA and District policy. Mr. Arness seconded.

Mr. Poindexter pointed out that students are playing baseball and softball in Homer using Homer facilities and teachers and that the only difference is that the District does not financially support the program, otherwise they are a Homer High team. He stated that the District is currently liable for the students since they are playing on school facilities. He noted that he has seen much looser agreements with school personnel than that of the proposed outsource agreement.

Mrs. Mullins asked where the Poindexter amendment language will be inserted.

ACTION

Mr. Poindexter moved the Board approve the substitution of his amendment for the main motion and to add the words “girl’s softball.” Mr. Arness seconded.

Mr. Arness stated that he does not feel comfortable with the proposed outsource agreement as presented. He stated that the Homer Baseball Club presents a unique situation.

Mrs. Crawford stated that the Board is “beating the same dead horse” since the Homer waiver decision was made earlier by the administration. She stated that she will support the administration’s recommendation.

Ms. Germano stated that the Board agrees that the proposed outsource agreement needs work. She stated that there is some agreement about the issue of the Homer Baseball Club students playing baseball and softball this year. She stated that the Homer baseball and softball program is funded and that program officials are enforcing District eligibility requirements. She asked whether it is possible to call Homer baseball and softball a club sport and allow the students to participate for the rest of the season.

Mr. Poindexter restated the substitute motion.

Mr. Syverson stated that being designated as club sport helps the Homer Baseball Club and added that they have to be recognized as a varsity sport to be able to participate in a state tournament.

Outsource of Student Activities
Administrative Recommendation
(continued):

Mr. Andrews stated that a team must be designated as a varsity sport to be authorized to play in a state tournament and that an eligibility sheet must be submitted before the first competition of the season.

Mr. Syverson stated that Mr. Gary Mathews, ASAA executive director, said if the Board would recognize the Homer Baseball Club as a varsity team, the waiver would be in place.

Mrs. Wassilie stated that she did not see how a thirty-day contract will help the waiver request situation.

recess:

At 9:47 p.m., Ms. Germano called a recess.

RECONVENE AFTER RECESS:

At 9:53 p.m., the Board reconvened in regular session.

VOTE ON POINDEXTER SUBSTITUTION:

YES – Poindexter, Germano
NO – Anderson, Arness, Crawford, Mullins, Wassilie
Advisory Vote – YES

Substitute motion failed.

ACTION

Ms. Germano moved the Board reconsider the Arness substitute motion.
Mr. Poindexter seconded.

VOTE TO RECONSIDER:

YES – Anderson, Arness, Poindexter, Germano
NO – Crawford, Mullins, Wassilie
Advisory Vote – YES

Reconsideration carried.

VOTE ON ARNESS SUBSTITUTION:

YES – Anderson, Arness, Poindexter, Germano
NO – Crawford, Mullins, Wassilie
Advisory Vote – YES

Substitute motion carried.

Dr. Peterson stated that the wording, “at this time” are the key words in item 10j and that the pursuit of outsourcing of student activities will be a major focus for the Board, associations and administration.

FIRST READING OF POLICY
REVISIONS:

The Board heard a first reading of BP 3342, Tax Sheltered Annuity and of BP 1312.2, Reconsideration of Instructional Materials.

Mr. Arness asked why the reconsideration of instructional materials and non-required instructional materials are separated and handled differently.

FIRST READING OF POLICY
REVISIONS (continued):

Dr. McLain explained that the Reconsideration Committee felt that there was a real difference when an instructional material was part of a required assignment rather than when it was supplemental or not required. He stated that the Committee recently reviewed a reconsideration request for a book on the Battle of the Books list. He stated that the Committee felt that more consideration should be given to instructional materials that are required than to instructional materials that are not required. He stated that full consideration of non-required instructional materials is still an option if the superintendent feels it is necessary.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Lynn Hohl, State PTA Reflections Region V chair, stated that the Region V judging was held in Seward and the finalists forwarded to the state from the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District are:

Literature: Kayleen Hansen, North Star Elementary; Elizabeth Hammond, Nikiski Elementary; Mike Wicker, Nikiski Elementary; Clare Bennett, North Star Elementary; and Tom Blair, Seward High School.

Musical Competition: Elizabeth Hammond, Nikiski Elementary and Megan Hanson, North Star Elementary.

Photography: Elizabeth Hammond, Nikiski Elementary; Elliot Tuttle, North Star Elementary and Jack Conright, Nikiski Elementary.

Visual Arts: Kelsey Williams, Nikiski Elementary; Seven-Re Michaels, North Star Elementary; Melissa Johnson, Seward Middle School; Jessica Bishop, Seward High School; Kelly Houghton, Seward High School; and Aryn Perea, Seward High School.

She stated that Aryn Perea and Kelly Houghton received recognition at the state level of competition judged in Anchorage. She stated that Aryn Perea, grade 12, will represent Alaska in the Senior Division Visual Arts with a piece titled, "Wouldn't it be strange if...the answer to all our problems was right in front of us and we weren't looking!" She noted that Aryn's piece also received the State Outstanding Interpretation of the Theme Award for All Divisions Visual Arts.

She stated that Kelly Houghton, grade 11, received an honorable mention in the senior division visual arts for a piece titled, "Wouldn't it be strange if...mother nature was a real woman."

BOARD COMMENTS:

Miss Hart stated that this would be her last Board meeting and she will graduate in two weeks. She stated that she was fortunate to have been educated in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District and has had excellent teachers. She stated that she has learned much by serving as a student representative on the Board and added that because of her experience, she would like to be involved in education in the future.

Mrs. Wassilie pointed out that it is Teacher Appreciation Week and added that she is constantly amazed by the energy and work of so many District teachers. She stated that it takes a special spirit to teach well and because so many teachers go the extra mile makes the KPBSD an exceptional district. She thanked the parents who spoke to the Board regarding sports, facilities, counselors and safety in the schools. She extended best wishes to Miss Hart.

BOARD COMMENTS (continued):

Mr. Poindexter stated that sports are important but that students who participate miss too much school. He stated that he would like to see competitions limited to weekends. He stated that he realizes that ASAA tends to drive the scheduling issue but he would like to see the District work on controlling the amount of student absences. He reported that the Borough is in the planning stages of building greenhouses at Skyview High and K-Beach Elementary to grow trees for the Kenai Peninsula. He suggested that the District administration and Board be involved in the discussion. He reported that it is an opportunity to develop the natural resource career pathways within vocational education. He stated that there are a number of natural resource agencies that are attempting to partner with the District and he added that he hoped the District will consider the partnerships. Mr. Poindexter pointed out that a number of school libraries are closing before the end of school and stated that the closures are unacceptable. He added that even though the school libraries are closed teachers are still assigning work that students cannot accomplish without their use and asked the administration to help remedy the situation. He reported that the FFA state convention was held in Fairbanks and noted that all Homer High School students who attended qualified to compete in national competition next fall.

Mrs. Crawford thanked the Seward community for attending the open forum and for hosting the Board meeting. She stated that she appreciated the tour of the Seward Sealife Center given by Mr. Jerry Dixon and his students. She congratulated Mr. Fleming. She thanked District teachers and wished good luck to Miss Hart. She stated that in the future she would like to devote an entire meeting to discuss what goes on in classrooms and how things works and how they can be improved.

Dr. Anderson echoed the positive comments and extended best wishes to Miss Hart.

Mrs. Mullins thanked Miss Hart for her service and added that she will be an asset wherever she goes. She congratulated Mr. Fleming on his award and thanked him for the many years of service to the Seward community. She stated that she enjoyed the Sealife Center tour. She stated that the Homer News article led her to believe that the Board had been polled and gave their approval to the Homer Baseball Club waiver before the Board had the opportunity to discuss the issue. She stated that she was never polled and reminded those present not to believe everything they read. She told the Board that she holds all of them in high esteem, but she felt that they may have made a mistake and will wait for history to prove it.

Mr. Arness wished good luck to Miss Hart. He stated that he was sorry to see Mr. Fleming leave Seward Middle/High. He acknowledged that the Board may have made a mistake regarding the Homer Baseball Club waiver but added that he hopes it all works out. He stated that it was nice to be in Seward for the meeting.

Ms. Germano apologized to the Seward community for an exhausting meeting. She stated that she is looking forward to continuing the work on student activities. She wished Mrs. Tachick a belated Happy Secretaries' Week. She noted that it is Teacher Appreciation Week and added that the Board appreciates the District staff. She noted that the Sealife Center tour was wonderful.

BOARD COMMENTS (continued):

Ms. Germano announced that a Homer High School student's digital graphic art piece was selected as the Alaskan congressional piece that will be displayed in Washington D.C. Ms. Germano stated that she shares many of the concerns expressed regarding student activities and added that she hopes that there will be changes regarding scheduling of activities. She thanked those present for speaking about the condition of the Seward facilities and suggested that the public make the legislators aware of the situation.

ADJOURN: At 10:22 p.m., Mrs. Mullins moved the School Board Meeting be adjourned. Mr. Arnese seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Deborah Germano, President

Mrs. Debra Mullins, Clerk

The Minutes of May 7, 2001,
have not been approved as of
May 20, 2001.