

**MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF May 10, 2004**

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, May 10, 2004 at 6:33 p.m. in the Board Room at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President Tim Steele presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE

Board Members Present: Crystal Kennedy, Mary Marks, Tim Steele, Jeff Friedman, John Steiner, and Macon Roberts

Board Members Excused: Jake Metcalfe

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Jan Christensen, Mike Henry, Jerry Sjolander, Enid Hunter, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Jeff Wood, Pam Chenier, Debbie Bogart, Steve Kalmes, Ray Amsden, George Vakalis, Janet Stokesbary, Eric Tollefsen, Stan Syta, Mark Mew, Mary Kay Sambo, the press, and other interested people.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Macon Roberts noted that he represented the School Board along with Mr. Steele and Mr. Metcalfe at the May 4 UAA/ASD Mentor and Mentee Recognition Reception at UAA.

Crystal Kennedy commented that she had the opportunity to participate in the Project Citizen program along with other administrators. She stated that it was a great experience to see all the wonderful things that the middle school students are doing.

Ms. Kennedy reminded the Board that the next Joint School Board/Assembly meeting is scheduled for 11 a.m. on May 14, 2004.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved with the notation that the School Board received a revised ASD Memorandum #288 tonight.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS1. ASD Memorandum #260 – Recognition of Alayna Myles

Alayna Myles, an honor student at Bartlett High School is a determined young lady who wants to make a difference. Based on a need she saw in her school, she developed a K-12 curriculum for students to better understand their peers who have traumatic brain injuries. Her program, "In a Second," was presented to the Alaska Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board, and the Advisory Board was so impressed with her work that they named their first annual conference "In a Second," after her work.

Ms. Myles was not only invited to attend the conference this past March but was asked to present her curriculum. She was presented with a plaque by the chair of the state Traumatic Brain Injury advisory panel and Anchorage School District Superintendent Carol Comeau. Ms. Myles would like to pursue a career as a neuropsychiatrist.

It is requested that the School Board recognize Alayna Myles for her compassion and commitment to helping others.

2. ASD Memorandum #261 – Disney Teacher of the Year

Cindy Rosser, teacher at Creekside Elementary School, is among 39 national finalists for Walt Disney Company's Disneyland 2004 Teacher of the Year Award. Rosser teaches kindergarten and first grade and has been at Creekside Park for three years. She began working for the District in 1986 as a bilingual tutor, and became a bilingual teacher in 1988. She has worked at Government Hill Elementary, Willow Crest Elementary and Nunaka Valley Elementary.

Disney's Teacher of the Year awards recognize exemplary teachers in Kindergarten through 12th grade for innovative teaching methods that actively engage students in learning. The focus of Disney's awards is to recognize the teaching profession, showcase creativity in the classroom and honor those who can assist in developing creative teaching strategies in their school districts.

As a finalist, Rosser will receive \$10,000, and Creekside Park Elementary will receive an additional \$5,000. Rosser will also

receive an all-expense paid trip to Los Angeles in July for award and recognition festivities, and a second trip, to Orlando in October, for professional development activities and announcement of the Teacher of the Year winner.

It is requested the School Board recognize Cindy Rosser for her talents, skills and commitment to her profession that led to this award.

3. ASD Memorandum #262 - Librarian of the Year

Faith Johnson, an Anchorage School District librarian, was recently named School Librarian of the Year for 2004 by the Alaska Association of School Librarians. The award, presented at the annual Alaska Library Association Conference in Fairbanks in late March, recognizes exemplary achievement by a working Alaska librarian. Johnson has been librarian at Susitna Elementary School for the past 16 years.

Johnson was cited for her ability to motivate, inspire, and lead as well as for her active imagination, generosity and extraordinary skills of organization and management.

It is requested the School Board recognize Faith Johnson for her professionalism, dedication and enthusiasm that led to this award.

4. Big Brothers/Big Sisters Presentations

Stephanie Berlund, School Based Mentoring Program Coordinator, and Lanie Fleisher, Executive Director, updated the Board on their partnership with the District. A brief update of the program was presented. Their goal between student and mentor is to foster relationships. The school-based program addresses the needs of students at a younger age with volunteers who are unable to volunteer outside of their normal work day.

The Big Brothers/Big Sisters have served 529 students since 1997 and have served a total of 16 schools. Over the last year, they have grown 54 percent. As they grow, they are always looking for more referrals and volunteers.

Ms. Fleisher thanked the School Board for allowing them to give their report and for their involvement in the recent bowling fund raiser.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory

The Student Representative was absent.

2. Military Delegate

LTC Michelle Holtery noted on May 24 that a new replacement will be named due to the fact that she will be leaving Alaska shortly. Her last meeting will be on June 10, 2004.

Carol Comeau asked LTC Holtery for the biography of the new military representative and stated that she would be presenting the recommendation to the Board at the next meeting.

Tim Steele thanked LTC Holtery for her service to the Board as the Military Representative and wished her well in her new assignment.

3. MECC

William Johnson reminded the School Board that May is the month of remembrance for the "Brown versus the Board of Education." He also noted that the next MECC meeting is scheduled for May 20 in Room 202 and the public is invited.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (30 minutes time limit)

Kari Brown informed the Board that a recent notebook on Arab World Studies was introduced to the community, which she felt was very wounding. She turned to Carol Comeau because no action was being taking to address this issue. Superintendent Comeau formed a committee to review the notebook to see if it was worthy of the District. Ms. Brown stated that the committee has been meeting since November 2003. She inquired about the progress of the committee and was informed that a report has been completed, but no decision has been made. Ms. Brown

asked that a timely deadline be set by the Board so the community will know whether the materials can be used.

Carol Comeau stated that the committee process has not yet been completed, but her intent is to look at the recommendation and if needed, bring it back to the School Board. Ms. Comeau noted that the Curriculum Department has been working very hard on the Six year Instructional Plan and the Alaska Studies adoption. Once she reviews the recommendation on the notebook, she will get back to Ms. Brown. Ms. Brown thanked Ms. Comeau for being so fair minded on this topic.

John Steiner asked if these materials were District owned. Carol Comeau responded no. She explained that the materials have caused quite a controversy in parts of the community and because of this, she requested a review of the notebook.

Jeff Friedman thanked Kari Brown for coming forward with this important topic.

Thelma Snow Jackson gave a brief presentation on the history of "Brown versus the Board of Education" and noted that May 17, 2004 is the 50th Anniversary. She requested that all schools and buildings ring a bell at 12:52 p.m. as a symbolic gesture to the time the landmark decision was made. Ms. Comeau responded that we will get the word out and will be showing a video of this landmark case on Channel 14.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approval of Minutes

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| a. | Regular Meeting | March 8, 2004 | 6:30 p.m. |
| b. | Special Meeting | March 29, 2004 | 10:00 a.m. |
| c. | Special Meeting | April 8, 2004 | 10:30 a.m. |

2. ASD Memorandum #295 - Naming of the Dimond High School Library for Mary Pat McDowell

It is the Superintendent's recommendation that the School Board approve the request of the Dimond High School community to name the library at the school as "The Mary Pat McDowell Library"

in honor of their former special education teacher and her twenty-four (24) years of service at Dimond High School.

3. ASD Memorandum #277 - Resolution for Silence the Violence Week

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing May 24-28 as "Silence the Violence Week" in the Anchorage School District.

4. ASD Memorandum #288 - School Board Policy Revisions: Section 853 - Assignment of Group Priorities and Section 854 - Facilities Use Fees (First Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve on First Reading, the proposed attached changes to School Board Policy 853.1-854 Assignment of Group Priorities and Facilities Use Fees.

5. ASD Memorandum #236 - Adoption of Six Year Instructional Plan

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to adopt the Six-Year Instructional Plan for the Anchorage School District. (Attachment A)

6. ASD Memorandum #280 - Calendar 2004-2005 and 2005-2006

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the revised school calendar for the 2004-2005 school year (Attachment A).

It is further recommended that the Calendar Committee continue meeting during the summer to prepare new calendars for the 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008 school years. The revised calendars would then be submitted for Board approval.

7. ASD Memorandum #296 - Memorandum of Agreement with Anchorage Community Education Association (ACEA)

It is recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to enter into a one year Memorandum of Agreement from July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005 with the Anchorage Community Education Association (ACEA) subject to annual

review and renewal (Attachment A). It is further recommended that the School Board approve \$100,000 of "bridge funding" to assist in the transition of the community school program from the Anchorage School District to the ACEA, and that the School Board approve the forgiveness of the \$65,000 revenue obligation from ACEA for the 2003-2004 school year.

8. ASD Memorandum #284 - Renewal of Health Insurance Contract

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to renew the contract for the 2004-2005 fiscal year with Premera Blue Cross of Washington and Alaska for group medical and dental, and Vision Service Plan for group vision care insurance.

9. ASD Memorandum #286 - Award of Contract: Life Insurance

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award the life insurance contract for the 2004-2005 fiscal year to Sun Life of Canada.

10. ASD Memorandum #263 - Prior Approval: Title VI-B Individuals with Disabilities Education Entitlement and Pre-School Disabled Incentive Grants

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Title VI-B Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Entitlement Grant and the Preschool Disabled Incentive Grant for FY 2004-2005. The total amount for both grants combined is \$9,357,898 based on the attached budgets (Attachments A and B).

11. ASD Memorandum #300 - Prior Approval: Indian Education Continuation Grant Application

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Indian Education Formula Grant continuing application for the third year of a five year period, with the third year funding in the amount of \$1,600,000 for the 2004-2005 school year.

12. ASD Memorandum #299 - Acceptance of Grant Award: Alaska Studies Professional Development

It is recommended that the Anchorage School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award not to exceed \$15,000 from the Alaska Humanities Forum for professional development related to the Alaska Studies course. The exact amount will be determined by the number of teachers who participate in the June 2004 Anchorage School District Teacher Academy (ASDTA) course offerings specific to Alaska Studies.

13. ASD Memorandum #281 - Grant Application Authorization for Alaska Energy Cost Reduction Projects

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to submit Energy Cost Reduction projects for matching grant funds from the Alaska Energy Authority, in the amount of \$780,927 for Energy Conservation Projects at 13 facilities and for development of a building administrator energy use awareness training course.

14. ASD Memorandum 237 - Award of Contract: Eagle River Elementary School Restroom Upgrade

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Eagle River Elementary School Restroom Upgrade project to Reynolds General Contracting, Inc. for the Base Bid amount of \$274,275.

15. ASD Memorandum #239 - Award of Contract: North Star Elementary School HVAC Lighting Upgrade, Phase I

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the North Star Elementary HVAC and Lighting Upgrade Phase 1 Project to Consolidated Contracting & Engineering for the Base Bid amount of \$189,999, plus Allowance/Assignment of \$22,356 for a total award of \$212,355.

16. ASD Memorandum #222 - Award of Contract: Romig Middle School Restrooms, Fire Alarm, and Security System Upgrade

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Romig Middle School Restroom, Fire Alarm, and Security System Upgrade to the lowest responsive bidder, Christensen Builders Inc., for the Base Bid amount of \$738,000 and Additive Alternate 1 in the amount of \$82,000, for a total award of \$820,000.

17. ASD Memorandum #278 - Award of Contract: Mountain View Elementary School Re-Roof

It is the Administration's recommendation the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for Mountain View Elementary School Re-Roof to Stark-Lewis Roofing, Inc. for the Base Bid in the amount of \$273,740.

18. ASD Memorandum #289 - Family Partnership School Charter Changes

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the proposed revisions to the Family Partnership Charter School Charter.

19. ASD Memorandum # 265 - 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 Memorandums #295; #277; #236; #280; #296; #300; #281; and #289.

ACTION:

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| <p>Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Jeff Friedman</p> | <p>to approve Minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 8, 2004; Special Meeting of March 29, 2004; Special Meeting of April 8, 2004; Memorandum #288 Revised; Memorandum #284; Memorandum #286; Memorandum #263;</p> |
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| | Memorandum #299; Memorandum #237; Memorandum #239; Memorandum #222; Memorandum #278; and Memorandum #265. |
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VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele
 Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #295 - Naming of the Dimond High School Library for Mary Pat McDowell

It is the Superintendent’s recommendation that the School Board approve the request of the Dimond High School community to name the library at the school as “The Mary Pat McDowell Library” in honor of their former special education teacher and her twenty-four (24) years of service at Dimond High School.

ACTION:

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| Moved by Jeff Friedman Seconded by Mary Marks | to approve Memorandum #295. |
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Carol Comeau stated that it gives her great pleasure to bring this recommendation forward. She noted that the family of Mary Pat McDowell is coming to Anchorage for the awards ceremony.

Guy Okada noted that there is time scheduled during the awards ceremony for students and staff to tell everyone about Mary Pat McDowell and what a legacy she has left. Mr. Okada stated that there has been a \$104,000 scholarship fund established to help special education students.

Rosemary Fish thanked everyone for being a part of the petition to rename the library in honor of Mary Pat McDowell. Ms. McDowell was an outstanding educator who was well loved and went the extra mile for students. She was a demanding, strict teacher that expected the best from her students. She instilled a love of literature to all students.

Mary Bogart stated that Mary Pat McDowell stood out and had a rare quality and true passion for literature and language. Ms. Bogart stated that she learned very much from her and her life has profited immensely. Ms. McDowell was a wonderful educator who touched all students.

Stephanie Clark was a former student and noted that Ms. McDowell was her teacher and a friend. She stayed with her students until the very end. It is a wonderful tribute to name the library after Ms. McDowell because of her love of books. Ms. Clark stated that Ms. McDowell was the reason she was able to go to college.

Judy Ann Farris said Ms. McDowell never gave up on a student and had a calm way of working with them. She had a passion for reading and taught her students to love books. Ms. McDowell was a friend and she misses her. Ms. Farris provided Superintendent Comeau with several letters of support to read at the awards ceremony.

Carol Comeau stated that she will work with the Facilities Department to prepare the appropriate signage to rename the library in honor of Ms. McDowell.

John Steiner thanked everyone who spoke on behalf of renaming the library in honor of Ms. McDowell.

VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #277 - Resolution for Silence the Violence Week

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing May 24-28 as "Silence the Violence Week" in the Anchorage School District.

ACTION:

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| Moved by Macon Roberts Seconded by Mary Marks | to approve Memorandum #277. |
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Macon Roberts stated that he pulled this memorandum so the resolution could be read into the record. He commented that youth violence is something that the city and the District has taken great steps in trying to eliminate. Mr. Roberts emphasized the importance of keeping youth violence down and noted that the presence of the School Resource Officers in the high schools has helped address this issue.

Each School Board member read a section of the resolution.

VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele
 Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #236 – Adoption of Six Year Instructional Plan

It is the Administration’s recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to adopt the Six-Year Instructional Plan for the Anchorage School District. (Attachment A)

ACTION:

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| Moved by Mary Marks Seconded by Jeff Friedman | to approve Memorandum #236. |
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Carol Comeau reported that this is the Six Year Instructional Plan that the Instructional Division and other departments have worked on for the past school year. Two work sessions were held with the Board. Ms. Comeau stated that this plan is the direct result of the Curriculum Audit by PDK. She believes that this plan should be looked at in a way similar to our Capital Improvement Plan. Superintendent Comeau said this is a living, fluid document and her recommendation is that the Board adopt this with the clear understanding that it will be discussed with the community, staff, etc. Ms. Comeau stated that we will most likely come back to the Board with an update next year. She thanked all the people who have worked so hard on this project and turned the discussion over to Jan Christensen, Enid Hunter, and Beverly Thornburg.

Jan Christensen thanked all of the individuals who were involved in the development of this plan; PTA, MECC, community, volunteers, etc. She noted that this plan has 25 separate chapters. Ms. Christensen stated that

the Instructional Division will be bringing back a report to the Board sometime in the fall to provide an update on how we did this past year.

Enid Hunter stated that the document is not a bunch of separate chapters, but incorporates an integrated strand that runs through all of the programs. Superintendent Comeau wanted a parent component into each section, with the exception of Training and Professional Development and Human Resources; this was accomplished.

Bev Thornburg stated that this document will assist the Board in guiding policy and making budget decisions. She is proud that the plan was developed from the sources that are responsible for implementing them. It also incorporates input from the schools.

Enid Hunter thanked Ernie Ting, Karen Karsina, and Wanda Walker for their assistance in putting this plan together.

Jeff Friedman suggested that the Board may want to consider adding a section to the book on how they plan to implement their instructional goals.

Crystal Kennedy thanked everyone who worked on this plan. She noted that it is an important document, very clear, easy to read, and gives more insight on where we are going in the future. Ms. Kennedy will be looking at it closely to see how it will work in the future.

John Steiner appreciates the strategies and tactics used in developing this plan. He has a few concerns and asked what the level of flexibility will be for the Administration to make minor adjustments. Superintendent Comeau responded that she believes any major deviation from any one area of the plan has to be reviewed by her and then brought back to the Board for review.

John Steiner stated that one way we can look at this is to change the motion to approve instead of adopt the Six Year Instructional Plan. Superintendent Comeau responded that this would be acceptable. Jeff Friedman did not believe that an amendment to the motion is needed because of the way it is written. Mr. Steiner agreed.

Tim Steele stated that it is not a goal to make this plan a full-time job for the staff--it should only be a plan to give guidance. Mr. Steele would like to review annual updates. He feels that it is a marvelous document from where we originally started; it is specific in terms of goals and gives us

something to measure. Mr. Steele commented that this document was written from School Board goals. He feels that this document needs to be updated when appropriate.

Carol Comeau stated that we will bring the Six Year Instructional Plan back when we bring the Profiles of Performance for 2003-2004 to the Board for review. She further stated when the School Board takes action tonight, the Executive Directors for Elementary, Middle, and High Schools will review and discuss their areas of responsibility with their administrative teams to see what needs to be modified and stay in line with School Board goals. Superintendent Comeau stated that it is very important to do annual reports and stay in alignment with School Board goals

Mary Marks thanked everyone as well as the community for their input in the development of the Six Year Instructional Plan. She noted that this is an opportunity to grasp what education is all about. Ms. Marks asked for a clarification in the Elementary Section, page 304, goal 2 and asked if they are talking about anti-bullying. Patricia McRae responded that this is part of the school-wide discipline plan. Gail Opalinski stated that the middle schools are working with the Aggressors, Victims, and Bullying curriculum. Mike Henry responded that the School Resource Officers have accomplished a lot with the help of the Anchorage Police Department. Todd Arndt has also provided help as well as Mark Mew with a program called Verbal Judo.

John Steiner stated that he appreciates the fact that the document was not developed from the top down and is focused on a plan of instruction; it tells us what we have to do to meet NCLB requirements and raise achievement scores. He commented that we must make sure the community feels a stake in the success of it. Carol Comeau commented that for the first time in 30 years, the Anchorage School District has an integrated instructional program.

Jan Christensen noted the top issues of the community were safe schools; quality instruction; culturally sensitive schools; successful students; and the high school exit exam. They took the input from the community input and integrated it with the School Board goals.

Macon Roberts commented that he admires the work that went into this document since it will now define the direction the instructional division is going

Crystal Kennedy noted that there is a theme of technology running throughout this document and wondered if the Board would receive an update on the instructional technology program in the District. Carol Comeau responded that this is a priority and we do need to provide this update, but nothing has been set to date.

Mary Marks asked for clarification on who supervises the Indian Education programs in the high schools. Carol Comeau responded that the principal is in charge of their high schools and the various programs offered within their school.

Mary Marks expressed a concern with accountability and noticed that Native students did not do well again; she asked what the next step is going to be to help Native students. Carol Comeau responded that she is pleased with the achievement of the Native high school students; 94.8 percent of them are going to graduate on time. She believes giving the right intervention for tenth grade students will make a difference; we need to keep them in school and support them.

Macon Roberts called for the vote.

VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #280 – Calendar 2004-2005 and 2005-2006

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the revised school calendar for the 2004-2005 school year (Attachment A).

It is further recommended that the Calendar Committee continue meeting during the summer to prepare new calendars for the 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008 school years. The revised calendars would then be submitted for Board approval.

ACTION:

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| Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Jeff Friedman | to approve Memorandum #280. |
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Carol Comeau stated that the Department of Education and Early Development changed the testing dates to April 2005. After review of our 2004-2005 school calendar and realizing that spring break was scheduled right before testing, it was decided to reconvene the calendar committee, under the direction of Robb Boyer, to look into adjusting the calendar. Superintendent Comeau believes by moving spring break back one week and adding one day for inservice is essential for student success. Ms. Comeau also noted that there is some interest in moving the start of school to mid-August; this important discussion must involve the whole community and will impact construction projects.

Crystal Kennedy stated that she appreciated being a part of the committee and complimented the committee for a good, open discussion. The main focus is to make sure students are prepared to take the test. She agrees that the high school exit exam is very important. Ms. Kennedy has heard comments from the public on why the calendar should not be changed; most revolve around travel arrangements and the lost of deposits. She agrees that it is a legitimate concern, but does feel it is an overwhelming majority that has been impacted. Ms. Kennedy has also heard that we should not change the calendar once it has already been published. Ms. Kennedy commented that the public needs to realize how important testing is and that students must be able to perform at the best level they can. She will support this calendar change.

Robb Boyer informed the School Board that contact with the state has revealed that the state continues to be committed to staying with the first week in April as the mandated testing date. He noted that attendance becomes an issue when spring break is scheduled right next to the week of testing; the participation rate is very important on this test.

John Steiner also informed the Board that several parents have talked with him about the same concerns regarding scheduled travel plans. He appreciates those who have reservations in place, but the Board must do what is best for the District as a whole and the majority of students.

Jeff Friedman is glad the calendar committee is continuing to meet and agrees an earlier start date is an important discussion for the Board to have.

Carol Comeau talked with Commissioner Sampson and tried to influence the decision on the mandated testing dates, but the state had already signed their contract with the testing firm. She noted that this is the third time the state has changed the dates and many other superintendents

have been upset as well. Ms. Comeau suggested putting a statement on every calendar that the information on this calendar could be changed based on unforeseen circumstances.

Tim Steele stated that he talked with Commissioner Sampson, who indicated that we are going to continue using the Norm Reference tests. Jan Christensen responded that she had not heard anything about this, but would check on it. Mr. Steele's understanding is that we were not going to have this particular test any longer.

VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #296 - Memorandum of Agreement with Anchorage Community Education Association (ACEA)

It is recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to enter into a one year Memorandum of Agreement from July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005 with the Anchorage Community Education Association (ACEA) subject to annual review and renewal (Attachment A). It is further recommended that the School Board approve \$100,000 of "bridge funding" to assist in the transition of the community school program from the Anchorage School District to the ACEA, and that the School Board approve the forgiveness of the \$65,000 revenue obligation from ACEA for the 2003-2004 school year.

ACTION:

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| Moved by Crystal Kennedy Seconded by Jeff Friedman | to approve Memorandum #296. |
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Carol Comeau stated that she feels very comfortable making this recommendation and believes that it will assist in the transition of the community school program from the District to the Anchorage Community Education Association (ACEA). This will allow them to keep five programs operating within the community. Ms. Comeau urged support from the School Board on this recommendation.

Blythe Campbell thanked the Superintendent and staff for their work on this project. She stated that this is a wonderful opportunity, both past and

present, to show how much they appreciate the volunteers involved in our community schools. Ms. Campbell urged support of this recommendation.

Marie Griffin, Chair of Four Valleys Community School in Girdwood, asked Julie Depkin and Julie Jonas to stand and be recognized. Ms. Griffin noted that registration is presently occurring in Girdwood. She noted that the needs of the program are unique due to the physical location and the lack of other agencies in the Girdwood area. This community is dedicated to community education and urged the Board to support the Memorandum of Agreement that is being proposed tonight.

Crystal Kennedy asked for a more detailed explanation on the \$100,000 bridge funding for ACEA. Carol Comeau responded that it is coming from our fund balance and will be used for next year's funding for the program. She also noted that ACEA is optimistic they will receive funding from the legislature, which will allow their program to continue.

Jeff Friedman is concerned about the money, but not the fact that they are taking it out of the fund balance. His concern is spending \$165,000 to get this program up and running. If the program does not continue, there are better places to put this money. Mr. Friedman commented that he had hoped to see a budget tonight. He is willing to take the risk, but just wanted to voice his concern. Carol Comeau responded that she has the same concern, but believes in these people. They have done very good work since she made her initial recommendation to cut community schools from the budget. Ms. Comeau cautioned the Board that ACEA really needs this decision tonight for planning purposes and reminded them that the MOA is subject to annual review. The additional \$65,000 revenue forgiveness obligation is in the 2003-2004 budget. Ms. Comeau stated that she trusts them to deliver a good program and keep the District informed of their progress.

Blythe Campbell noted that in a previous work session with the School Board that there was a draft budget. The District's \$100,000 makes up about 12 percent of the annual budget. Their plans include keeping the program revenue at about what they currently bring in. Ms. Campbell feels that they will be sustainable due to program revenue.

Jeff Friedman stated that he understands that but wanted to remind them that 12 percent of their budget (\$100,000) will not be available after this year.

MOTION

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| Moved by Crystal Kennedy Seconded by Jeff Friedman | to divide the question. |
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Motion to divide the question passed unanimously.

MOTION #1:

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| Moved by Crystal Kennedy Seconded by Jeff Friedman | to approve the recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to enter into a one year Memorandum of Agreement from July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005 with the Anchorage Community Education Association (ACEA) subject to annual budget review and renewal. |
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AMENDMENT TO MOTION #1:

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| Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Crystal Kennedy | to amend the Memorandum of Agreement: #8 - Facilities Use Fees. The Anchorage School District agrees to waive fees for ACEA's operation of Anchorage Community Schools programs during the school year Monday through Friday. This waiver will be in effect for three years, subject to annual <u>budget</u> review, after which time the parties will agree to a graduated transition to full payment of fees. ACEA will reimburse the District for custodial and other costs for programs held on weekends and in the summer months in accordance with Anchorage School Board Policy Section 850. #12 - Term. This agreement shall remain in effect from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005. An annual review of this Agreement will be completed prior to the end of each school year. This agreement will automatically renew from year to year from July 1 until the following June 30 |
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| | <p>unless either party requests renegotiation of this agreement. This Agreement will be brought before the School Board each year for renewal approval unless either party requests renegotiation or termination.</p> |
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MOTION TO DIVIDE THE AMENDMENT:

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| <p>Moved by Mary Marks Seconded by Jeff Friedman</p> | <p>to divide Mr. Steiner’s amendment.</p> |
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Motion to divide the amendment passed unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT #1:

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| <p>Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Crystal Kennedy</p> | <p>to amend the Memorandum of Agreement: #8 - Facilities Use Fees. The Anchorage School District agrees to waive fees for ACEA’s operation of Anchorage Community Schools programs during the school year Monday through Friday. This waiver will be in effect for three years, subject to annual <u>budget review</u>, after which time the parties will agree to a graduated transition to full payment of fees. ACEA will reimburse the District for custodial and other costs for programs held on weekends and in the summer months in accordance with Anchorage School Board Policy Section 850.</p> |
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VOTE ON AMENDMENT #1:

Ayes: Kennedy, Steele, Marks
Steiner

Nays: Friedman, Roberts

Absent: Metcalfe

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT ON MOTION #1 PASSED

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT #2:

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| <p>Moved by John Steiner Seconded by Crystal Kennedy</p> | <p>to amend the Memorandum of Agreement: #12 - Term. This agreement shall remain in effect from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005. An annual review of this Agreement will be completed prior to the end of each school year. This agreement will automatically renew from year to year from July 1 until the following June 30 unless either party requests renegotiation of this agreement. This Agreement will be brought before the School Board each year for renewal approval unless either party requests renegotiation or termination.</p> |
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Crystal Kennedy asked Mr. Steiner to delete the last sentence in his amendment. John Steiner accepted this took it out as a friendly amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT #2:

Ayes: Kennedy, Steele, Friedman
Steiner

Nays: Marks, Roberts

Absent: Metcalfe

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT ON MOTION #1 PASSED

VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele,
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION #1 PASSED AS AMENDED

MOTION #2:

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| <p>Moved by Crystal Kennedy Seconded by Jeff Friedman</p> | <p>to approve the forgiveness of the \$65,000 revenue obligation from ACEA for the 2003-2004 school year.</p> |
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Crystal Kennedy asked if there would be any impact to the District budget on the loss of the \$65,000 in revenue. Carol Comeau responded no.

VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele,
Friedman, Steiner, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION #2 PASSED

MOTION #3:

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| <p>Moved by Crystal Kennedy Seconded by Jeff Friedman</p> | <p>to approve \$100,000 of “bridge funding” to assist in the transition of the community school program from the Anchorage School District to the ACEA.</p> |
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Crystal Kennedy expressed a concern with the granting of money to ACEA out of the ASD budget. She noted that Superintendent Comeau previously asked the Board to not make any recommendations or changes to the budget until June, which is when we will know what our 2004-2005 budget will be. Ms. Kennedy believes this grant of money may create an advantage to this program. She would feel much better if we waited until we have our 2004-2005 budget set. Ms. Kennedy stated that our priority has to be the classroom.

Carol Comeau stated that she wants to see the transition accomplished. She does not believe that it is in our best interest to table it at this time. Ms. Comeau’s pledge to reinstate instructional programs remains her top priority. She indicated that ACEA needs this money so they can move on with their planning.

Jeff Friedman stated that if we were looking at this grant as an on-going problem, he would agree with Ms Kennedy. He believes that this is a one-time expense that we can do to keep a community school program alive. If we do not do it now, we will lose the program forever. Mr. Friedman reminded the Board that the budget reserve is there for one-time needs.

Macon Roberts agrees with Mr. Friedman that a commitment needs to be made now. Time is of the essence for planning purposes.

John Steiner agrees with Ms. Kennedy and noted that if we get some funds restored, we can fund the community school project. If funds are not received, we are struck with the budget that has already been passed. Mr. Steiner stated that we need the money for our regular programs.

Crystal Kennedy stated that it is her understanding from the work session that if the \$65,000 were forgiven, they would be able to hire a director. Blythe Campbell responded yes. Revenue will be coming in the fall, but we need the staff to plan for the fall sessions.

Ms. Kennedy stated that she can't prioritize this funding over anything else considering the needs of the District as a whole. She would like more time to consider this recommendation.

MOTION TO TABLE:

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| <p>Moved by Crystal Kennedy Seconded by John Steiner</p> | <p>to table discussion on the \$100,000 "bridge funding" to assist in the transition of the community school program from the Anchorage School District to the ACEA.</p> |
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Mary Marks will support the recommendation of the Superintendent and urges the other Board members to move forward on this topic. She understands the concerns of Crystal Kennedy and John Steiner, but feels we as a District have the perfect opportunity to take this step forward to assist ACEA become a sustainable entity. It is very important to the community to show that we are still working collaboratively. She feels it would be a disgrace to this group to table the funding issue.

Tim Steele stated that this item has been discussed previously in a Board work session and there are no surprises with the Memorandum of Agreement. He remains concerned about the \$26.5 million dollars in cuts, but feels it would be a terrible tragedy to lose the community school program. He would like to use our budget reserve to fund the one-time expense. Mr. Steele will support this recommendation.

John Steiner will support this recommendation, but would have preferred to table the discussion for a short time. Mr. Steiner does feel that there is room in the fund balance to fund this request. He does not want to sacrifice community schools by not approving this recommendation. Mr. Steiner hopes the legislature will fully fund the District on the 2004-2005 budget.

VOTE ON MOTION TO TABLE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Steiner

Nays: Marks, Steele, Friedman,
 Roberts

Absent: Metcalfe
 MOTION TO TABLE FAILED

VOTE ON MOTION #3:
 Ayes: Marks, Steele, Friedman
 Steiner, Roberts
 Nays: Kennedy
 Absent: Metcalfe
 MOTION #3 PASSED

ASD Memorandum #300 - Prior Approval: Indian Education Continuation Grant Application

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the Indian Education Formula Grant continuing application for the third year of a five year period, with the third year funding in the amount of \$1,600,000 for the 2004-2005 school year.

ACTION:

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| Moved by Mary Marks Seconded by Crystal Kennedy | to approve Memorandum #300. |
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Carol Comeau noted that this is a continuing application.

Mary Marks asked how the District is defining progress under this grant. Edna Lamabull responded that they work with the teachers to determine the progress of the students and then work with both the math and reading departments to find the appropriate assessment format to use so they can review the student's progress by mid-year. Carol Comeau also responded that she was interviewed by the Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC) evaluator and looked at all the programs offered to see how to assess the programs for their success with students. She stressed that we as a District must look at all of our programs and not just individual ones.

Mary Marks asked if the Six Year Instructional Plan will be distributed. Carol Comeau responded that she hopes to put the plan on the web site as well as distribute to all principals.

Mary Marks asked if our programs are working for Native students. She noted that other minority groups are not broken out individually and asked if it makes sense to make some changes within our own programs. She also asked if the Native students in these special programs are being

mainstreamed into the regular program at the high schools. Edna Lamabull responded that many Native students moving into Anchorage from small villages need this type of program since many of these students are considered at-risk. She feels that without these special programs, some students would not have a chance. Students need to feel a connection to their school and these programs provide this. Mike Henry agreed with Ms. Lamabull, but is concerned over Ms. Mark's feeling of segregation. Mr. Henry feels that the programs are very successful and work very well by creating a common bond among students. Students identify with their peers right away and do very well academically. The administrative staff in these programs at East and West work very hard on integrating these students into other classes and activities.

Carol Comeau suggested having some Native students come in before the School Board and talk about their programs and their successes. She noted that it is very important to have a Board work session on the programs at West and East.

VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele,
Steiner, Friedman, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #281 - Grant Application Authorization for Alaska Energy Cost Reduction Projects

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to submit Energy Cost Reduction projects for matching grant funds from the Alaska Energy Authority, in the amount of \$780,927 for Energy Conservation Projects at 13 facilities and for development of a building administrator energy use awareness training course.

ACTION:

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| Moved by Jeff Friedman Seconded by Tim Steele | to approve Memorandum #281. |
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Tim Steele stated that he is extremely pleased to see this come forward. We need to look at all of our operations to see where savings can be made. This grant gives us the flexibility for doing great things.

VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele,
Steiner, Friedman, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION PASSED

ASD Memorandum #289 – Family Partnership School Charter Changes

It is the Administration’s recommendation that the School Board approve the proposed revisions to the Family Partnership Charter School Charter.

ACTION:

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| Moved by Mary Marks Seconded by Jeff Friedman | to approve Memorandum #289. |
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Cassandra Posey, member of Family Charter School and member of the APC Board, presented a packet of information outlining the changes requested to their charter.

Deb Fancher noted that the requirement for the school administrator to hold a Type B certificate was discussed at length. No one came forward with concerns and there was unanimous support from the APC Board for not requiring the Type B certification. Ms. Fancher noted that normal issues for a principal are not required at their school. Their school is run more like a business office and she doesn’t feel a Type B certificate is necessary.

Valarie Burgess stated that the silence of the changes concerns her as a parent and teacher. She became aware of the proposed changes by word of mouth and stated that the changes were not on the FPCS web site. No one in the office has seen the changes and nothing was placed in the newsletter. Ms. Burgess informed the School Board that information was not available in the minutes about the Type B information. She stated that she asked the office staff for a copy of the minutes and they were not available. She also feels there has been too many different administrators in the school. Ms. Burgess suggested a delay on the proposed changes to the charter until the entire FPCS community is notified of the changes. She also feels there is a conflict with the APC chair approving changes to the position when she has announced her interest in the position of principal.

John Steiner asked for a clarification on whether the proposed changes were available on the web site and in the office. Valarie Burgess responded that at this moment, they were not available; staff personnel told her there was not a printed copy available.

Pat Shelton stated that the proposed changes were on the web site between APC meetings. Currently, there is one bylaw change posted on the web site. The charter changes first were discussed in January 2004 and then distributed to different standing committees. These changes were posted for one month between meetings. Ms. Shelton stated that all documents are public documents and are available for review and stored in the principal's office. Ms. Shelton apologized to Ms. Burgess for not having this information readily available for her review.

Macon Roberts asked Ms. Burgess if the previous administrators held Type B certificates. Ms. Burgess responded that two administrators held Type B certificates; one is the current administrator and the other one is the previous administrator who transferred to Frontier Charter School last year. Mr. Roberts asked Ms. Burgess why she is objecting to the principal not having a Type B certificate. Ms. Burgess stated that she is objecting to the fact that the parents were not fully notified and copies were not made available to the members. She also believes there is a conflict of interest between the APC chair and the fact that she is interested in the position. The APC is currently changing the position requirements to accommodate the APC chair.

Jeff Friedman asked if it would be difficult for them to delay their decision for a couple of weeks. Pat Shelton responded that the APC needs to release the position vacancy announcement for advertisement for a new administrator. She further commented that she is only one vote and did not make the proposed changes by herself. Ms. Shelton stated that she has been asked by a number of people if a Type B certification was not required, would she be interested in the principal position. She also offered to recuse herself and not be involved with anything regarding the administrator position.

John Steiner understands that some people might feel there is something amiss even if it did not occur. He asked Ms. Posey if a delay of a couple of weeks would be a problem. Ms. Posey responded that discussion occurred within the APC to put the charter back into compliance with state law, which does not require them to have an administrator with a Type B certificate. They want the opportunity to choose the best person to run the school. Ms. Posey also stated that Ms. Shelton removed herself

from the position of APC Chair due to a potential conflict regarding the development of the position vacancy announcement. Ms. Posey also understands that some of the staff are concerned about the change in administration.

Jeff Friedman is concerned with the process rather than the substance of the changes. He noted that some of the parents feel that the information is not as broad as it should be and there are some parents that will say that this change was not done well. This could cause problems in the future for the APC.

Cassandra Posey stated that the next annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 11. The next meeting after that will be scheduled in June.

Carol Comeau stated that she has received many calls regarding the process that was used for the proposed charter changes. She suggested delaying a decision on the changes until May 24 or the first meeting in June. This will negate the perception that something is amiss. Ms. Comeau suggested that the principal's office may not be the best place to house public documents. She also suggested that the proposed changes stay on the web site until they are adopted. Ms. Comeau asked Ms. Posey who will be completing their evaluations. Ms. Posey responded that they have contracted with Don Schakelford to complete these evaluations. Carol Comeau stated that this is a very special school and while business management is important, the evaluation tool and testing is a concern. Cassandra Posey stated that they have 12 teachers who are under contract with FPCS that need to be evaluated.

John Steiner does not have a concern with the outcome of the changes, but noted that statements in the memorandum are not correct. Copies are not available in the office or on the web site. Mr. Steiner asked for the Superintendent's recommendation. Carol Comeau responded that she would like to delay action.

MOTION TO POSTPONE:

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| Moved by Macon Roberts Seconded by Mary Marks | to postpone action on the Family Partnership Charter School charter changes until June 14, 2004. |
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VOTE:

Ayes: Kennedy, Marks, Steele,
Steiner, Friedman, Roberts

Nays: None

Absent: Metcalfe

MOTION TO POSTPONE PASSED

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. ASD Memorandum #266 - Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of March 29, 2004 through April 29, 2004.

Jeff Friedman expressed a concern over the completion date of September 30 listed for the new high school in Eagle River. He also stated that he would be willing to work on finding additional funds to open on the first day of school. Ray Amsden responded that we should be able to open on the first day of school. John Steiner asked for a revised date and commented that he is pleased that they are 23 percent complete without any change orders.

Crystal Kennedy stated that there is a great deal of concern with the traffic impact and how ASD is going to address this issue. Carol Comeau will be preparing a summary of the traffic issues for the School Board.

2. ASD Memorandum #246 - Facility Change Order Report and Completed Projects for the Month of March 2004

The monthly Facility Change Order Report for the month of March 2004 is attached. There are no exceptions to report this month.

Crystal Kennedy inquired about the window replacement and asked if we are rebidding the contract on the Ursa Major window replacement. Ray Amsden responded that the contractor found asbestos and cancelled the contract.

I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION - (PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS/
LITIGATION

L. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of May 10, 2004 adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:45 p.m.

Tim Steele, President

Jeff Friedman, Clerk

Mary Kay Sambo
Recording Secretary

Date