

MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 23, 2004
AMENDED

The Anchorage School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, August 23, 2004, at 6:35 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President, Tim Steele, presided.

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

Others Present: Jan Christensen, Enid Hunter, Mike Henry, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Debbie Bogart, Jeff Wood, Eric Tollefsen, Janet Stokesbary, George Vakalis, Loretta Nabong, Ray Amsden, Mike Price, Pam Chenier, Stan Syta, Marie Laule, Mike Stephenson, Brian Griggs, LTC David Jones, William Johnson, Robin Siegfried, the press, and other interested people.

- A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE, Tim Steele Presiding
- B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Crystal Kennedy announced that the next meeting of the Legislative Sub Committee would be held Wednesday, August 25 at 5:00 in Room 320 at the ASD Administration Building.

Tim Steele announced that South Anchorage High School opened this week. This is the first new high school in the Anchorage School District to be opened in over 32 years.

- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by: John Steiner that the minutes of the Special Meeting of
seconded by: Macon Roberts May 10, 2004 be removed from the
Agenda for review by the Clerk.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Moved by: Jeff Friedman to approve the Agenda as amended with
seconded by: Jake Metcalfe addendum to ASD Memorandum #26.

The motion to approve the Agenda as amended was unanimously approved.

D. AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation by Eli Menaker for Anchorage (Downtown) Rotary's Centennial Project: Anchorage Light Speed Planet Walk

Jean Hellenthal began the presentation to the Board and stated that the project is to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Rotary International. This project will become a reality next summer and be ready for the 2005/2006 school year and every year thereafter. They are inviting ASD to participate as they prepare for the project. Ms. Hellenthal introduced Eli Menaker, a graduate of Service High School and past president of the National Honor Society, who thought of this idea and has done most of the work on it.

Mr. Menaker presented the Anchorage Light Speed Planet Walk - a scale model of our solar system. A planet walk is a three-dimensional scale model of the solar system. It is composed of ten stations for each of the nine planets and one for the Sun. The planet walk is a fun learning tool, which is accessible to everyone - casual strollers, students, and astronomy enthusiasts. It puts sizes and distances of the sun and planets in perspective.

The Anchorage Planet Walk would be a scale of 30 inches, equal to the distance light travels in one second or about 186,000 miles. This allows for a unique feature. A person walking at a normal pace simulates a light beam. Since it takes light eight minutes to reach Earth from the Sun, it should take eight minutes for a person to walk from the model Sun to the model Earth. The Sun Station location would be behind the Performing Arts Center, on the corner of 5th and G Street. Each planet station would include a planet sign, which would give interesting facts about that planet and a common sign, which would give instructions on how to do the walk, the locations of the other planet stations, etc. A scale model hemisphere of the planet will also be included and signs will be mounted on existing structures or poles where necessary. Mercury would be near 5th and H Street; Venus would be near the Captain Cook Hotel; Earth would be near the 5th and L Parking Garage; Mars would be near Elderberry Park; Jupiter would be near Westchester Lagoon; Saturn would be at Lyn Ary Park; Uranus at Point Woronzof Hill; Neptune would be 11 kilometers along the Coastal Trail; and Pluto would finish the walk at Kincaid Park Chalet.

Jake Metcalfe asked the speaker about funding ideas for the project. Eli Menaker replied that Rotary is working with a lot of ideas and has most of it covered. The proposed budget is between \$65,000 and \$250,000. Ms. Hellenthal commented that they are not worried about funding.

Carol Comeau asked the speakers if they have talked to any teachers about how they could incorporate the walk into their program. Eli Menaker replied that teachers at Dimond, Bartlett and East High Schools are aware and voiced interest in incorporating the project into their classes.

John Steiner commented that he would hope there would be some way to depict the actual size of the Sun for the whole course. Mr. Menaker stated that they are actually working on both a size and distance scale.

The speakers thanked the Board and Superintendent for giving them time to come forward and speak about their project. The speakers added that they hope this will enhance the partnership between ASD and Rotary.

E. SPECIAL ADVISORY REPORTS

1. Student Advisory Board

Lorett Nabong stated that the beginning of the school year is off to a great start and he hopes everyone had a relaxing and productive summer and is ready for the new and upcoming school year. Mr. Nabong added that he participated in the South Anchorage High School ribbon cutting ceremony.

2. Military Delegate

LTC Jones thanked George Vakalis and his staff for the tour of school facilities recently constructed. LTC Jones added that he is looking forward to a great school year.

3. M.E.C.C.

This report was given by Mr. William Johnson later during this meeting.

F. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Theresa Obermeyer commented to Mr. Steele that he is doing a wonderful job as School Board President. Eli Menaker and other students are so inspiring and we are lucky as parents. Ms. Obermeyer thinks the Eli Menaker's astronomy project will be great for tourism. Ms. Obermeyer reminded everyone that there is an election tomorrow.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda is attached. **All attachments referred to in memoranda Recommendations are on file in the Superintendent's office.**

1. Approval of Minutes:

Special Meeting	-	May 10, 2004 4:30 p.m. Revised
Regular Meeting	-	May 10, 2004 6:30 p.m. Revised
Special Meeting	-	May 24, 2004 4:30 p.m. Revised
Regular Meeting	-	May 24, 2004 6:30 p.m. Revised

2. ASD Memorandum #39 – Letter of Interest: Lease Consolidation

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Administration to solicit letters of interest from building owners or developers in response to the unsolicited proposal for lease consolidation submitted by JL Properties; to issue an RFP for lease consolidation if the District receives one or more credible letters of interest in response to the solicitation; and to negotiate the terms of a lease with JL Properties, subject to Board approval, if there is no response to the solicitation of letters of interest. The successful respondent will comply with the public site review process, as a condition of the lease agreement.

3. ASD Memorandum #17 – 2004 Charitable Giving Campaign

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve the inclusion of United Way of Anchorage and Alaska Community Share and their member agencies as shown in Attachments A and B in the District's 2004 Charitable Giving Campaign.

4. ASD Memorandum #6 – International Baccalaureate Course Approval

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to approve the proposed International Baccalaureate Program courses to begin with fall semester 2004 at West High School.

5. ASD Memorandum #15 – Award of Contract: Purchase of Two New End-Dump Trucks

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to award a contract for the Purchase of Two End-Dump Trucks to Alaska Truck Center in the amount of \$202,962.

6. ASD Memorandum #26 – Acceptance of Continuation Grant Award: Alaska Community Learning Center – 21st Century Community Learning Center FY 2003 -Revised

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$549,274 for the third year of a five-year grant period. The Alaska Community Learning Centers competition carries forward the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program through the No Child Left Behind federal authorization. Funding will continue after-school programs in five high-needs elementary schools. The sites are Government Hill, Mountain View, Northwood, Taku and Willow Crest.

7. ASD Memorandum #27 – Acceptance Of Continuation Grant Award: Alaska Community Learning Center – 21st Century Community Learning Center FY 2004

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development in the amount of \$474,936 for the second year of a five-year grant period. The Alaska Community Learning Centers competition carries forward the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program through the No Child Left Behind federal

authorization. Funding will continue after-school programs in three high-needs elementary schools and one Middle School. The sites are Fairview, North Star, and Williawaw elementary schools, and Clark Middle School.

8. ASD Memorandum #28 - Acceptance of Grant Award: YWCA of Anchorage

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to accept a grant award from the YWCA of Anchorage (AYWCA) in the amount of \$6,513. This will enable the 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) to partner with the AYWCA to implement the Girls on the Run Fitness Program during the 21st CCLC summer intensive program at all twelve elementary sites.

9. ASD Memorandum #29 - Alaska Department of Education and Early Development FY2006 Grant Applications

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to submit the following projects to the State of Alaska, Department of Education and Early Development (EED) by September 1, 2004, for the FY2006 Capital Improvement Project grants program.

Bartlett High School Phase 3A	\$12,000,000
Chester Valley Elementary School Renovation	\$11,000,000
Chugiak High School Phase 4	\$11,900,000
Clark Middle School Replacement	\$51,400,000
Districtwide Major Maintenance	
Districtwide Code/Hazmat/Sprinkler/ ADA Projects	\$3,700,000
Districtwide Electrical Projects	\$1,668,000
Districtwide General Building Renewal Projects	\$2,711,000
Districtwide Mechanical Projects	\$8,620,000
Districtwide Roof Replacement and Repairs	\$2,015,000
Districtwide Security System Upgrades	\$4,800,000
Districtwide Major Maintenance Total	\$23,514,000
East High School Phase 4	\$16,500,000
Girdwood K-8 School Preliminary Design	\$100,000
Inlet View Elementary School Renovation	\$7,700,000
Rabbit Creek Elementary School Replacement	\$16,000,000

Sand Lake Elementary School Renovation	\$9,300,000
Service High School Phase 2B	\$20,300,000
Turnagain Elementary School Renovation	\$12,900,000
West High School/Romig Middle School Preliminary Design	<u>\$500,000</u>
	\$193,114,000

10. ASD Memorandum #18 - Personnel Report

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

The following memoranda were removed from the Agenda: Memorandum #39 and Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 10, 2004 (Revised).

ACTION:

Moved by: Jeff Friedman
seconded by: Jake Metcalfe

Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 10, 2004, 6:30 as Revised;
Minutes of Special Meeting of May 24, 2004, 4:30 as Revised;
Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 24, 2004, 6:30 as Revised;
Memorandum #15;
Memorandum #6;
Memorandum #26;
Memorandum #27;
Memorandum #28;
Memorandum #29; and
Memorandum #18.

VOTE:

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

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

Special Advisory Report by M.E.C.C.

William Johnson stated that the M.E.C.C. met on August 19 at 12:00 with a quorum. Items of discussion included the approval of the May 20 minutes,

they must indicate so by September 15. The letter will also indicate that if they are a successful proposer there will be time and a process in which we would negotiate what will be in the building in detail. This letter will let us see if there are those out there who would like to submit a proposal on at least those three requirements. If there are, we will send out an RFP. The party who submitted the unsolicited proposal would also be required to complete the RFP process. The formal proposal will not be as detailed as the previous proposal that was sent out because it was so detailed that it was cost prohibited for the District. We are going to rely on a neutral cost to ASD with the ability to negotiate what our requirements would be as we proceed. Mr. Vakalis commented that the Administration is asking the Board to authorize these three things as stated in the memorandum because time is of the essence. If we have a proposer they will need time to make the building acceptable to occupy, such as pony walls, wiring for computers and electrical, adequate lighting, and they will also need to convert the space to acceptable codes as required by the Municipality. Mr. Vakalis reminded the Board that the current leases expire on June 30, 2005. We can exercise our options but then we are locked in for an additional five years.

Jeff Friedman asked what the length of lease would be. Mr. Vakalis replied that the lease would be for five years with option years of five-year increments. In the proposals that would be submitted, we would expect some indication as to what the increases would be at the renewal dates if we exercise our options. The lock-in for this five-year period on the unsolicited proposal is for \$1.54 and that is what the base rate would be. The only difference in that would be a cost of living - a CPI adjustment that would basically coincide with the CPI for 35% of the \$1.54. The 35% of the \$1.54 is basically what the operations and management costs would be, because this would be a full service lease. That is in all of our current leases as well.

Jake Metcalfe asked Mr. Vakalis to explain the process absent the unsolicited letter. Mr. Vakalis replied that if we receive a letter that indicates that at least one other party is interested and meets those three requirements, we would go out formally with an RFP. If at the end of the 15 days there is no one that has expressed an interest in the facility, or those that are presented to us do not meet the requirements, we will ask the Board to authorize us to negotiate with the unsolicited proposer. The District will go through the public process regardless.

John Steiner asked Mr. Vakalis what would the expected costs versus expected savings be from doing this process. George Vakalis replied that there would be a moving cost. Mr. Vakalis does not know what the current cost is at this time, but it did cost the District approximately \$100,000 a few years ago when we moved out of the Alyeska Building. It is anticipated that that cost may still be valid because Boniface Mall already has some ASD employees in it now. That number was for moving people out of the Alyeska Building and to the Boniface Mall, the Silverado Building, the 6th and K Building and to the Emerald Building. We would be moving from three instead of four locations so it might cut down on the cost and the difference would be the cost of inflation since that period of time. Also, last time the move was contracted out since we were in the height of getting ready for a major construction period and our resources were tapped out. So, ASD did get concessions from the labor union to allow it to contract out specifically to cover these moves. Mr. Steiner asked if the Administration knows how much of the furnishings in the existing buildings would be suitable and would there be a need to purchase other furnishings? Mr. Vakalis explained that we know that if we looked at the Boniface Mall we have configurations that are complete separate offices completely enclosed from floor to ceiling and there is the opportunity there to completely enclose some other areas. We also know that they are willing to put in pony walls, which would help us to limit the use of movable walls. We will look at current configurations. Also, we have different configurations from the last few years, which tells us who work closely with whom, and who should be co-located with whom. We also will use the information from the Barnes report that specifically tells us the number of square footage we should have enclosed because of confidentiality issues and the nature of what they do as opposed to those that could be open. The tenant improvement allowance will allow us to prioritize what our needs are.

John Steiner commented that he is a very strong proponent of consolidation and was strongly in favor of replacing the Administration Building and putting everything into one spot because he thinks it has a great opportunity for savings, but we really don't have any estimates of consolidating this portion of our activities and the cost saving of employees' travel times, etc. Mr. Vakalis responded that the Barnes Study tried to assess the amount of travel time and cost for reimbursement of gas. We won't know until we go through the negotiation process to see what would best fit. We do have a courier service, an employee from the Warehouse Department, that currently goes back and forth to all of these buildings. Our current courier service takes away from that employee

doing work in the warehouse, which would help alleviate the backlog in that department. You can't put a dollar amount on savings for the public.

Carol Comeau added that the Administration would look at all employees in this building and the others and analyze whether or not the different departments are aligned appropriately. Some in other leased facilities might be better located in the Administration building. If the Board approves this and we find a location we can then review department by department and determine where efficiencies and savings would be. Ms. Comeau added that customer service to our public and our own employees is very important.

Tim Steele commented that he is confident that the Administration believes there are savings, but is concerned that people have said they do not want these facilities. Ms. Comeau stated that every time we brought this forward it has been different. Yet, some people think it is always the same. We are not discussing the Administration Building at all. We are not asking the voters to buy a building. We are looking at our current expenditures for leases, trying to consolidate four of them into the same blended rate over a five-year period of time because the need has not gone away. We must become more efficient and we need to consolidate any way we can. Ms. Comeau added that it is her responsibility to bring this forward if it will help the District become more efficient. We think this is an opportunity that we should take.

Macon Roberts stated that he is a big proponent of long-range leases and it seems that the five-year lease regardless of what the current market does, that guarantees a certain amount is a good thing. The current \$1.54 sounds like a competitive market value. George Vakalis commented that when negotiating throughout the city to find a home for all the employees in the Alyeska Building we ran the whole gamut as far as dollars per square foot and quality. We ended up below market rate. The problem is that when the leases run out after we've exercised our options we start from scratch. Mr. Vakalis thinks the market will require the District to pay a lot more than now. William Johnson commented that we have constituents in the community who would relish the one stop shop. From a public perspective this would serve the public. We have people who have to use public transportation and this would make it a lot more efficient for them.

Mike Stephenson from the legal firm of Jermain, Dunnigan and Owens, commented that he was asked to provide an opinion on whether the District could respond to an unsolicited proposal. Mr. Stephenson stated

that he checked the Board policy and the policies do not specifically grant the District the authority to go out with a sole-source solicitation for a leased office space. By analogy to the authority of the Municipality and the State of Alaska and by reference to the Board policies which require the District to follow the state purchasing guidelines and the fact that we are a municipal school district and the fact that the federal government and almost every state and local government has this authority under certain specific circumstances, his firm has given the opinion that they think the District has the authority to do this. The one issue that might be helpful to address tonight is the fact that since the Board policies do not expressly reference this authority the Board does have the authority with a five-member majority to waive any policies and while they can't guarantee that the decision won't be criticized, since most procurement decisions are and sole-source is probably more open to that than others, they think that the District, with going out with a letter of interest, will be able to make a determination whether there is competition for this service. The past procurement efforts suggest that there is not, but things could change, and the District is going to make a genuine effort to determine whether competition exists. This is a process that the State of Alaska follows before it does a single-source procurement and the language of the regulation says that the procurement agency can advertise its intent to award a sole-source procurement. Mr. Stephenson added that we want to get the message out to the community at large and any potential proposer the potential for a sole-source award. Mr. Stephenson further commented that Mr. Vakalis outlined the requirements that we are going to advertise and we will find out whether or not there is the potential for competition or not and if there is not the District has the authority to go forward with the sole-source solicitation. One of the District's Board policies that does reference sole-source procurement is when there is no competition for a product or service.

Moved by: John Steiner

To end the first sentence with "Properties" in the fourth line of the memorandum and insert: The Board requests an order of magnitude estimate from the Administration as to expected costs and savings, over a five or ten-year horizon, from the proposed consolidation, and to bring back before the Board a request for authorization.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Crystal Kennedy stated that for purposes of clarification she would like to move to divide the question.

Moved by: Crystal Kennedy to divide the question by dividing the two
seconded by: John Steiner issues: "Move that the School Board authorize the Administration to solicit letters of interest from building owners or developers in response to the unsolicited proposal for lease consolidation submitted by JL Properties and to issue an RFP for lease consolidation if the District receives one or more credible letters of interest in response to the solicitation. And "Move that the School Board authorize the Administration to negotiate the terms of a lease with JL Properties, subject to Board approval, if there is no response to the solicitation of letters of interest.

Ms. Kennedy stated that she would like to divide the question for purposes of clarification because it seems we have two different things going on. First of all, we need to take care of what has been happening with the unsolicited proposal and then in all fairness go through the public process of issuing an RFP. The other side would be to have a separate motion that basically gives the Administration the ability to negotiate with JL Properties if in fact we have no one else submit anything.

Tim Steele suggested that the Board have a discussion about dividing the question and if it appears there is interest in doing so take a break to write up the two issues so it would be clear what the Board is voting on.

John Steiner commented that he is very much in support of dividing the question and is concerned about negotiating the sole-source when we do not have any notion of the cost or expected benefits. Mr. Steiner would like to know a generic cost since the Administration does not have a specific site.

Jake Metcalfe asked the Administration how it would know the costs before the site is known. Ms. Comeau replied that we would not know the cost until we know what the site is and take time to do a department by department of analysis. A lot will be sorted out in the negotiations. George

Vakalis commented that we would know what the costs and efficiencies are after negotiations and then will come back to the Board for approval.

Mr. Metcalfe stated he thinks it's putting the cart before the horse to divide the question and will not support the motion.

Jeff Friedman commented that he does not see the need to divide the question because he feels it is one big process, but if Board members feel more confident, he will support it. Mr. Friedman added he does not see why we would do one without the other.

Macon Roberts stated that he also does not see the necessity to divide the question. Mr. Roberts agrees with Mr. Metcalfe and feels the policy is in place to do this. A lot of work has gone into this and he has heard enough of the presentation to know that the direction in which we are going is the right direction. Mr. Roberts will vote against the motion because he feels it is unnecessary.

Ms. Kennedy asked what the legal impact would be of issuing an RFP. Mike Stephenson replied that there would be no legal impediment to issuing an RFP if the District issues letters of interests and receives credible proposals. It would follow its normal procedure. Then JL and every other credible proposer would have an opportunity to respond.

Mary Marks stated that she would not be in support of dividing of the question. Ms. Marks stated that she is confident that the Administration will keep the Board apprised on the steps that it's taking.

Tim Steele called the question and asked for a vote on dividing the question.

Crystal Kennedy withdrew her motion. John Steiner, as the second requested the Board vote on the motion.

VOTE TO DIVIDE THE QUESTION:

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

MOTION TO DIVIDE THE QUESTION FAILED

Mr. Steiner requested a vote to continue to debate the motion.

VOTE TO CUT OFF DEBATE:

Ayes: Metcalfe, Marks, Steele,
Roberts

Nays: Kennedy, Friedman,
Steiner

VOTE TO CUT OFF DEBATE OF THE MOTION PASSED

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION:

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

Nays: Steiner

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION PASSED

The Board recessed at 7:50p.m. and reconvened at 8:05 p.m.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ASD Memorandum #19 - Fourth Quarter And End Of 2003-2004 School Year Suspension/Weapons/Expulsion Report

Information regarding suspensions and expulsions for various offenses, including weapons, is collected from the elementary, middle, and high schools each quarter. This information, as well as year-end summaries by school and category for each Instructional Division level for the 2003-2004 school year, is shown in the narrative information below and in Attachments A - L.

In accordance with the School Board's adopted goal to "Establish and maintain a supportive and effective learning environment by providing safe, caring, barrier-free schools...", all efforts were focused to provide safe and healthy schools. This goal has been supported by the employees at each school, as well as by the students and their parents and the business and general community. Again this year, the Anchorage Police Department was extremely supportive in its assistance to the schools. The attached discipline/suspension reports from the elementary, middle, and high schools show the statistics for the fourth quarter and the recently completed school year and the schools' efforts to address this important goal.

Carol Comeau asked the executive directors to report what they did to get to these statistics.

Patricia McRae stated that the Elementary Education Department is pleased that the elementary suspensions and expulsions went down in the fourth quarter. Overall, for the year they went down slightly. We are hoping to see a continuing downward trend. Thirty schools are engaged in proactive schoolwide discipline training and implementation. It is part of our Six-Year Plan and we are doing training the week of September 13th. Twelve more schools are going to engage in that training. Overtime, Ms. McRae feels we will see continuing decreasing suspension numbers as more schools engage in proactive schoolwide discipline.

Gail Opalinski stated that Middle Schools have been engaged in the last few years in addressing issues as soon as they occur as well as training in harassment and anti-bullying. As a result, the numbers of suspensions have gone up but the severity is small short three-day suspensions for inappropriate behavior. Ms. Opalinski added that they are very pleased that expulsions have gone down more than 50 percent for the year and feel it is because they are getting the behaviors as soon as they start and doing some proactive things right at the beginning. They are working hard with the Aggressors, Victims, Bystanders training for students so they understand and get new skills in addressing harassment and bullying. They will continue that training this year as well.

Mike Henry stated that for the 4th quarter, fights and threats in the high schools have significantly reduced. Having the police officers on campus with their cars parked there was a major contributor. It also gave the Administration the confidence to take some bold actions. Sometimes parents say that boys will be boys and sometimes teenagers get into scuffles. But we don't believe that and when students got into their first fight, after their suspension and before they could return, the Administrators would sit down with the parents and the student and tried to involve a counselor, a security officer, and APD as well, and said it is not a good honest mistake to get into a fight and the next time they will be long term suspended for the remainder of the semester. The repeat offenses in fights and assaults were down. Once given expectation the students followed it. This was something Todd Arndt and his discipline principals identified early on a year ago and we have seen results every quarter. It is nice to see the yearly results.

Jan Christensen stated that this is going to be the last time the format is like this. We will break down the other categories this year.

Carol Comeau commented that she feels it is important for the public to realize the efforts the staff put in this year and the addition of the police officers was an extraordinary help along with it. If we keep working on it with the training for the students and the staff we will continue to see safer schools and a better learning environment.

Jeff Friedman commented that he thinks these are excellent results and they will only get better. It takes a couple of years for the kinds of programs we are doing to have the effects show up. It was pointed out that there appears to be a correlation between the overcrowding and number of offenses. The most overcrowded school has the most offenses per pupil. It explains why we need a new middle school because this overcrowding is everywhere and until we get it we will have middle school students causing trouble who will in turn be high school students causing trouble and then adults causing trouble. We need to break the cycle in elementary school or wherever we can. We are making good progress and need to keep going.

Carol Comeau agreed with Mr. Friedman and stated that this is what we said when Gruening and Hanshew Middle Schools were overcrowded. It was one of the biggest issues to building Mirror Lake and Goldenview. We need that school so we can get those kids back inside school buildings so they can focus on learning rather than crowds.

John Steiner stated that he noticed in looking at the statistics the harassment and sexual harassment have dropped dramatically in high school over the last three years on an annual basis. Mr. Steiner is pleased to see the significant drop. In middle school and elementary they have increased slightly. Mr. Steiner wondered if they are harassing one another more or if there is a greater sensitivity to those who are harassing. Patricia McRae agreed. When implementing schoolwide discipline everyone is more vigilant and it is more likely that you will have consequential behaviors. Gail Opalinski agreed. The fact is that behaviors were not recognized as harassment for many years. We are educating parents as well on what harassment is. Ms. Opalinski suspects we will have a greater number of consequences in the category as we train more students. Ms. Opalinski hopes they had something to do with better numbers at the high school level as they are sending them there with consequences for harassment.

Tim Steele pointed out it was four years ago that the Board dealt with a rewrite of the harassment policy. Carol Comeau mentioned that Margo

Bellamy and the Executive Directors have worked closely together and need to keep working together. It is exciting to see where we are. There is much more acceptance of the fact that we need to deal with these issues.

ASD Memorandum #20 - Status Report: Submission of Discretionary Grants, Fourth Quarter 2003-2004 School Year

The purpose of this report is to inform the School Board on a quarterly basis of new grants that have been submitted for funding.

ASD Memorandum #22 - Operating Budget Transfers - June Monthly Report FY 2003-2004

The attached report of budget transfers for the time period of June 2004 that were processed in the Integrated Financial Accounting System (IFAS) includes the following:

Attachment A: Report of Budget Transfers Over \$5,000—
Report for individual transfers of more than \$5,000, which includes summarized justifications.

The schedule of monthly budget transfers processed for the month of June 2004 and related information are available in the Budget Department office for review by the School Board and members of the public.

ASD Memorandum #23 - Project Status Report

This is a report of activities and project status changes in Major Capital Projects during the period of July 22, 2004 through August 12, 2004.

ASD Memorandum #24 - Facility Change Order Report and Completed Projects for the Months of June and July 2004

The monthly Facility Change Order Report for the months of June and July 2004 is attached. There are no exceptions to report for these months. There are two completed projects for these months.

ASD Memorandum #25 - Out-of-District Travel: Fourth Quarter Report FY 2003-2004

The attached Travel Report summarizes the travel taken by District employees and School Board members during the fourth quarter of FY

2003-2004 for both in-state and out-of-state travel. This report complies with the travel procedures established with the revision to School Board Policy Sections 156, Board Member Travel, and 526, Staff Travel.

I. PERSONS TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

J. COMMUNICATIONS & SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Crystal Kennedy reminded everyone to vote tomorrow.

John Steiner commented that due to a favorable bond market ASD is issuing \$80 million in refunding bonds and it is a savings of \$4.591 million for various maturities and six current outstanding bonds. The fact is that we are taking advantage of good interest rates and bringing down the cost of what taxpayers would be paying on interest.

Mary Marks announced that she participated in the Broad Institute retreat where she and other Board members received a lot of new information. They may have a visitor from the institute to talk more about it and core values and financial planning along with other issues. Ms. Marks is looking forward to the school year as is the rest of the staff and is confident that we will be making more progress this year.

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

L. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of August 23, 2004, was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:25 p.m.

Tim Steele, President

Jeff Friedman, Clerk

Robin Siegfried, Recording Secretary

Date Minutes Approved