

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 11, 2011  
Nome Elementary School  
5:30 p.m.

Gloria Ann Karmun, School Board President, called the regular meeting of the Nome Board of Education to order in the Library of Nome Elementary School at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 with a quorum present.

Marcy Merrill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Gloria Ann Karmun read the Nome Public Schools Mission Statement.

School Board Members present: Gloria Ann Karmun, Barb Amarok, Marie Tozier, Barb Nickels, Betsy Brennan, and Student Representative Jacob Martin.

Others in attendance included the following:

Mike Brawner	Jon Berkeley
Jennifer Reader	Bill Gartung
Pat Booth	Sylvia Matson
Lori Head	Steve Gast
Dave Keller	Carmen Russo
Julie Kelso	Erika Rhodes
Ben Matheson	Gina Thomas
Mari Lammer	Laura Lawrence
Marcy Merrill	Kevin Knowlton
Robin Johnson	Tom Gray
Kent Runion	BeeJay Gray
Ian Coglan	

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Nickels moved, seconded by Ms. Brennan to approve the agenda.  
The motion carried by voice vote.

Swearing in of new Board of Education members – President Karmun

Ms. Barb Nickels and Ms. Jennifer Reader were sworn in as new School Board members.

Board of Education Reorganization.

Elections were held by the newly seated Board with the following results:

President – Betsy Brennan

Vice President/Clerk – Barb Nickels

Treasurer – Jennifer Reader

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS/VISITORS

Mr. Brawner introduced Tom and BeeJay Gray.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS

Mari Lammer welcomed Jacob Martin as the Student Representative. Ms. Lammer said that she had a conversation over the past weekend with Ms. Karmun about a discussion item concerning the wrestling event. The concern was that paper and plastic silverware had not been provided for the wrestling event last weekend and that there was not very much food available. Ms. Lammer said that she is the president of the booster club that is responsible for the hospitality room during school events. She said she is also in charge of raising funds and they do not have a secure budget at this point in the school year. Ms. Lammer mentioned that the booster club has helped Costa Rica travelers, athletic groups, community groups, and softball over several years. She explained that the Activities Director is not the responsible party for the hospitality room. She also stated that the AD has a budget for regional events that covers meals for the traveling teams and coaches.

Julie Kelso said that she was also at the event over the weekend. She reported that the food on the first night was a little sparse but by the next day there was plenty of food. Ms. Kelso said she received lots of positive comments on Saturday and that there was plenty of paper and plastic product available.

MSG Kevin Knowlton reported that JROTC had completed their 3rd annual Leaders Conference over the past weekend at the Boy Scout camp. He said they planned their calendar for the year and that they

would hold their 2nd annual Lois Christensen carwash during the upcoming weekend. The funds would go to the VFW for their distribution.

Erika Rhodes welcomed new and returning School Board members as well as thanking the outgoing member for their commitment to Nome Public Schools and their willingness to grapple with difficult issues. Ms. Rhodes also said the Honor Society was planning a field trip to work at the Food Bank.

Ms. Amarok presented Tom and BeeJay Gray with the Partner in Education award for their participation in the recent Culture Camp.

Marcy Merrill said that she was grateful for the School Board and their commitment to education. She asked that State Troopers be added to BP 5119 because they face many of the same issues as military families because they are moved around the state of Alaska.

#### STUDENT OF THE MONTH – September 2011

Ms. Carmen Russo presented Nathan Evak as the Junior High Student of the Month. She also presented Miranda Kakaruk as the Senior High Student of the Month. MSG Kevin Knowlton spoke on her behalf. Both students were unable to be present to receive their award.

#### BOARD INFORMATION

The School Board reviewed the following information: Review of Superintendent Evaluation, AASB Annual Conference update, E 6141(b) Curriculum Review Cycle, AR 3512 Certified Staff Use of School District Facilities for Wellness Activities, AKEELA Memorandum of Agreement, Partners in Education – Tom and BeeJay Gray

#### POLICY COMMITTEE

Betsy Brennan reported that the committee met on October 4 and was recommending four policies to Board for adoption. She said the next meeting would be on October 31st at noon.

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Jacob Martin thanked the Student Body for the opportunity to represent them to the School Board. Mr. Martin read his written report to the school board.

#### REPORTS

##### Administrator Reports

Steve Gast highlighted his report with the following items; Mr. Gast welcomed Jacob Martin as the Student Representative and commented that Jacob does the announcements every morning at the high school. Planning was underway for the Junior Carnival that is planned for October 29 at Nome Elementary School from 6–9 PM. MAPS was ongoing and ready to conclude later in the week. He recognized Ardy Potter for her efforts in completing 100% of the student packets. APEX continues to help students (41) with academic courses. He said the counseling office provides weekly updates about contact with students and the counselors share this information with Mr. Gast. He said William Vega would be starting the 2nd Step project that would include anti-bullying, anger management and said that Mr. Vega would teach the material in the classrooms to 7th and 8th grade students.

Dave Keller highlighted his report with the following items; Mr. Keller said he would update the Read 90 each month as well as the Reading Mastery program. He said the reading support team consists of seven certified and six classified staff that meet with students as identified. Mr. Keller said that MAP testing would come to a close on October 14. The tests are important because NES would base success on the outcomes of the tests. The vision and hearing screening was complete and the parents would receive results along with a newsletter. He said that 20% of students were suggested for follow-up on hearing and 15% on vision. TB testing has been accomplished. Students and staff are required to participate. Mr. Keller reported that 29% of NES students recognize that bullying is an issue. The student handbook, board policy and state/local laws all recognize the issue of bullying. The NES Social Worker is using the Peacemaker program to work with primary students in this area. He said he appreciates calls from parents to help identify problems.

##### Superintendent Report

Mr. Brawner highlighted his report with the following items: Mr. Brawner said that he appreciated Mr. Gast and Mr. Keller's reports. He referred to AR 5131.43 and stated that our policy covers a student from doorstep to doorstep on the bullying issue. Mr. Brawner said that he was looking forward to the new board orientation. He would be traveling for training during the upcoming week. Mr. Brawner said the presentation of the audit would take place on October 25 at the Work Session. He said he had a great visit with Nome Eskimo Community and Kawerak about building connections between parents and schools. He was developing a survey that would seek feedback on the Strategic Plan. He was working with the BIRCH Project in affiliation with RuralCAP to develop a half-time position to help

students with at-risk issues. He reported that he was using the Superintendents blog to help get the information out about Read 90.

### Board Members Open Discussion

Ms. Reader asked about changing the meeting night of the School Board meetings.

The consensus was to add this to the Work Session.

Ms. Nickels thanked the PTSA for their help with the vision and hearing screening. She said the PTSA was suggesting an honor roll for NES students to give students something to work for in order to be recognized. This suggestion was based on the recent School Climate Survey. She was suggesting that Julie Kelso address the Board concerning this idea.

Ms. Amarok asked if anyone had expressed interest in the Assistant Business Manager.

Mr. Gartung reported that two persons had expressed interest.

Ms. Brennan asked that copied information be provided at the Work Session for the audience. She asked about the Board calendar for the next three months as it related to last years plan. This would be discussed at the next Work Session. She said there have been discussions about broadcasting the School Board meeting and was asking what possibilities might be available?

Ms. Karmun mentioned the possibility of City Hall.

Ms. Brennan asked about restarting the Wellness Committee to work with the Let's Move committee at the CAMP department.

Ms. Nickels suggested that Mr. Brawner discuss this with the building administrators.

### ROUTINE MATTERS

Ms. Nickels moved, seconded by Ms. Karmun to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 13, 2011 .

SEPTEMBER 13,  
2011 MINUTES

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Ms. Nickels moved, seconded by Ms. Reader to ratify the checks for the month of September 2011, in the amount of \$927,338.67.

SEPTEMBER, 2011  
DISBURSEMENT

The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following results:

BA: yes GK: yes BN: yes JR: yes BB: yes

### ACTION ITEMS

a. Ms. Karmun moved, seconded by Ms. Nickels to approve the first reading of BP 3512 Equipment Usage.

BP 3512  
EQUIPMENT  
USAGE

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

b. Ms. Nickels moved, seconded by Ms. Reader to approve the first reading of BP 5119 Children of Military Families.

BP 5119  
CHILDREN OF  
MILITARY  
FAMILIES

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

c. Ms. Nickels moved, seconded by Ms. Reader to approve the first reading of BP 5125.3 Withholding Grades, Diploma, or Transcripts.

BP 5125.3  
WITHHOLDING  
GRADES,  
DIPLOMA, or  
TRANSCRIPTS

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

d. Ms. Nickels moved, seconded by Ms. Reader to approve the first reading of BP 5138 Portable Electronic Devices, Including Cellular.

BP 5138  
PORTABLE  
ELECTRONIC  
DEVICES,  
INCLUDING  
CELLULAR

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

### BOARD COMMENTS

Ms. Nickels thanked Pat Booth for helping to initiate the hearing and vision screening at the beginning of the year. She also thanked PTSA for their help with this project. Ms. Nickels welcomed Jennifer Reeder to the School Board and thanked Marie Tozier for her work over the past year on the School Board. Ms. Nickels invited Ms. Tozier to stay involved.

