

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 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 5:31 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13, 2011 with a quorum present.

Tracey Buie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Barb Nickels read the Nome Public Schools Mission Statement.

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

Others in attendance included the following:

Mike Brawner	Cathi Wojtanek
Bill Gartung	Jon Berkeley
Pat Booth	Sylvia Matson
Lori Head	Lisa Leeper
Dave Keller	Steve Gast
Jim Adams	Kevin Busk
Julie Kelso	Laura Lawrence
Erika Rhodes	Mari Lammer
Randy Pomeranz	Matthew Smith
Christina Perrigo	Lloyd Perrigo
Tracey Buie	Don Stiles

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS/VISITORS

None.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS

Kevin Busk said that as a coach in the current situation without an AD there is a lack of organization in scheduling, travel and eligibility and this is a disservice to athletes. He said that his travel costs are at \$9000 when they should have been \$5000. The money was all raised last year and is now gone. He asked how he could raise the needed funds for travel to State in the next two weeks? He urged the Board make a decision concerning the Activities Director.

Lloyd Perrigo encouraged the Board to approve the contract for Mr. Callahan. He said that Mr. Callahan has been here for several years and has served the students and several administrators well. He further stated that he was appalled at comments in the last board meeting about Mr. Callahan and current and past administrators. He stated his hope that the situation could be resolved and we could move on to other things.

Erika Rhodes said that as a teacher and the NEA president, she had concerns about the AD contract. Ms. Rhodes read a letter that had been sent to each School Board member stating concerns about public discussion of personnel matters in the last meeting. She urged approval of Mr. Callahan's contract. She referred to BP 1312.1 concerning complaints about and employee, and BB 9323 concerning meeting discussion of an employee. Ms. Rhodes also shared a study on how the AD uses the minutes in his day.

Lynn DeFilippo introduced herself as a teacher and NEA building representative at Nome Beltz. She read a quote from Conflicting Landscapes: American Schooling in Alaskan Natives - "Look out the window, there's logic and common sense." She asked that if someone ever makes a disparaging remarks about her or her fulfillment of an extra duty contract that she would be directly contacted and given the opportunity to explain or defend herself, as the case may be.

Jim Adams said he thought it was time for the School Board to make a decision what they are going to do about the AD because school has already started and sports are already active.

Josie Stiles voiced her support for Pat Callahan and urged the School Board to approve his contract.

BOARD INFORMATION

The School Board reviewed the following information: Culture Camp iMovie (Following the presentation of the iMovie, Ms. Amarok thanked Lisa Leeper, NSEDC, Northwest Campus, and Bill Gartung for their contributions to the success of the Culture Camp. She also shared her hope that the Culture Camp would continue to receive support. Ms. Amarok stated that the members of the Camp and new teachers would be sharing in a follow-up picnic later that week. Ms. Karmun thanked Lisa Leeper for creating the iMovie and asked that she work with Robin Johnson to place it on the school district website for public viewing.), AML 61st Annual Local Government Conference, 2011 AASB Youth Leadership Institute, Partners in Education – NSEDC, Nome Eskimo Community, BP 3512 Equipment Usage, 2011-2012 AASB Resolutions and Timeline, 2011 School Climate and Connectedness Survey Results Summary

REPORTS

Administrator Reports

Steve Gast highlighted his report with the following items; The APEX (Credit Recovery) program has 41 students enrolled in 10 courses. Andre Van Delden is the coordinator to oversee the program. He said he has received positive comments from junior and senior high parents about the study period during the day. He said activities were in full swing, and there would be an Open House on Tuesday night, September 20.

Dave Keller highlighted his report with the following items; The Read 90 Initiative that 90% of 3rd graders will read at grade level by 2014. Mr. Keller reported that he and his staff are continuing to work toward this goal. He passed out research articles on the Reading Mastery program. Mr. Keller stated that this adds an alternative to Houghton Mifflin for grades 1 - 3. He mentioned that the team that went to Kennewick has aided in learning about the implementation and success of their goal to achieve the Read 90 goal. NES has allotted 120 min. for grades K–6. He has also invited parents to read with children after school. An explanation letter will be sent home to all parents concerning Reading Mastery. Mr. Keller explained that he was making attempts to work with parents to improve communication between the school, teachers, and the parents. He said that NES would be addressing the issue of bullying in the school.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Brawner highlighted his report with the following items: The September 19 in—service day would be dedicated to training for Read Mastery at the elementary school. Nome Beltz would have its own agenda for the day. He reported that Bob Whicker would be in Nome on September 27 to talk about the Communication Plan. The MOA with AKEELA will have provision for a certified staff member to do the paperwork. Mr. Brawner asked Jon Berkeley to share his information concerning the Report Card to the Public. He said that he had added e-mails concerning the AD position into his information items.

Board Members Open Discussion

Ms. Nickels gave a report concerning the recent NACTEC Board of Governors meeting. She congratulated Doug Walrath for the work he is doing with NACTEC. She said she would be attending the AASB free training concerning the use of iPads, stating that she would check on possibilities for NPS use.

Ms. Brennan asked if the upcoming audit presentation could be accomplished with a teleconference.

Ms. Wojtanek said that last year that school Board chose to bring a person to Nome to make the presentation. This year they are suggesting a Skype report.

Ms. Karmun said she prefers an in-person presentation.

Ms. Brennan said that a Skype presentation would be acceptable.

Ms. Karmun asked about the deadline for the student count?

Mr. Berkeley said that at this point we have approximately 690 students. This represented 20 students more than last year at the same time. Ms. Brennan said she would like to see a student from the high school attend the AASB conference. She also asked that the superintendent evaluation form from AASB could be added to the Work Session.

ROUTINE MATTERS

Ms. Tozier moved, seconded by Ms. Nickels to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 16, 2011 .

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

AUGUST 16,
2011 MINUTES

Ms. Nickels moved, seconded by Ms. Brennan to ratify the checks for the month of August 2011, in the amount of \$ 1,421,578.53.
The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with the following results:
BA: yes GK: yes BN: yes MT: yes BB: yes

AUGUST, 2011
DISBURSEMENT

ACTION ITEMS

a. Ms. Nickels moved, seconded by Ms. Tozier to approve the four new resolutions recommended by the AASB Board of Directors.
The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

AASB
RESOLUTIONS

b. Ms. Brennan moved, seconded by Ms. Nickels to accept the Activity Director Contract for Pat Callahan.

ACTIVITY
DIRECTOR
CONTRACT

The motion carried by roll call vote with the following results:
BB: yes BA: no GK: yes BN: yes MT: no

BOARD COMMENTS

Ms. Nickels – None.

Ms. Brennan thanked NSEDC and Northwest Campus for their help in funding the Culture Camp. She also thanked Lisa Leeper for producing the iMovie. She also thanked Nome Eskimo for their participation with and support of Nome Schools. Ms. Brennan thanked Nome Eskimo for funding the Breakfast Program.

Ms. Amarok thanked Mr. Brawner for putting a list of district wide activities on the main page of the website. She thanked Mr. Gast for Apex training and orientation for the teachers. Ms. Amarok said she continues to be disheartened by the discrepancy of test scores among different groups of students. However, she was encouraged by the work that Mr. Keller is doing with the reading initiative. She attended the Beringia Days conference and thanked Andrew Lancaster and Jacob Martin for presenting the conference. Ms. Amarok also recognized Nadejda Soudakova and Lynn DeFilippo for their participation in the conference. Concerning the Activities Director contract: I take every responsibility that I am charged with as a Board member very seriously, including this one. We've been advised by Joe Reeves of AASB to make informed decisions and to vote our conscience. I have heard eighteen messages from local community members and I am taking them into serious consideration. There is a specific reason why it became required that the Board approve the Activities Director extra duty contract and that was to demonstrate our accountability to the public. The school belongs to the community and we say that we support community involvement but some community members have been foreclosed from being heard or taking an active role in school leadership and activities. Community members have told me that they are afraid to speak publicly about school practices that are not fair or right. Issues have come up recently that have come up over the past years and community members don't feel that they've been resolved. As a School Board member, I want to do my part to hear the community members who address me and to vote my conscience.

Ms. Tozier said that she was looking forward to the Report Card to the Public and she would like to see more participation from the public to take it seriously.

Ms. Karmun thanked Ms. Amarok, Nome Public Schools and Board for their approval and support of the Culture Camp. She said the iMovie was an excellent representation and looked forward to seeing it on the website. Ms. Karmun said that it is important to demonstrate Cultural sensitivity as a part of the Strategic Plan.

Next meetings: Work Session – September 27, 2011

Scheduled topics: BP 3512 review

Bob Whicker

Superintendent Evaluation

Dave Keller Read 90 update

Strategic Plan Update

Alternate Governance Plan - Dave Keller

AASB Annual Conference

AASB By-Laws and Constitution Update

Regular Meeting – October 11, 2011

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Nickels moved to adjourn. Ms. Karmun adjourned the Board of Education meeting at 7:16 P.M.

Gloria Ann Karmun Date
President, Board of Education

Barb Amarok Date
Vice President/Clerk, Board of Education