

HAINES BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING No. 636
February 5, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Haines Borough School Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Kelly in the High School Open Area.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The pledge to the flag was conducted.

ROLL CALL: Carol Kelly, Daymond Hoffman, Judy Erekson, Sarah Swinton, Brian Clay, Gary Stigen, Mike Case and JJ Lende.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Approval of the Agenda, Approval of Meeting #365, and Communications. M/S Swinton/Clay to approve the consent agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: PASSED-consent agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-Meeting No. 635: PASSED-consent agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Tom Morphet spoke about the trail behind the pool that goes through the woods and ends up at the primary school. He said that he used that trail a lot in order to access the pool from Main Street and hoped that it continued to be made available after the Borough takes over the Main Street property.

Communications

LETTER ABOUT TENNIS FROM FOLTA: Richard Folta wrote a letter to the Borough Assembly and School Board about replacing the tennis court that was removed last year. He felt that it could be replaced for \$8,000 and thought that next summer would be a good time to do it since an asphalt plant would be in town.

DONATION/LETTER FROM RANDOLPH AND PATRICIA HICKS FOR THE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM: Mr. and Mrs. Hicks wrote a letter to cross country coach, Heather Lende, and donated \$300 to the team. They said they enjoyed watching the state meet and realized how important activities such as cross country are to young people.

Reports

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Lende reported that the Student Council is working in conjunction with Liz Falvey and the Assembly on a resolution for peace. At the end of February there will be a meeting with students and community members to understand why the students and future leaders care about peace. A student peace alliance may be formed. The Council is also working with Lilly Boron to organize a delayed Thanksgiving Feast. She reported that the student council had recently ordered speakers and cords for the District. Fran Daly was the December Student of the Month. The juniors have signed up for the March SAT. High School staff have been helping students prepare for the test. In addition, that class continues to operate the school store during basketball games in order to raise funds for prom. The seniors are busy making plans for next year. Lende noted that the basketball season continues to be very exciting. The girls are ranked 4th in the state. Both teams play Petersburg at home the upcoming weekend. In addition to the games, DDF is hosting their annual home meet. The cheer team will be sponsoring the Sadie Hawkins dance this weekend as well. A number of students traveled to Sitka to attend and participate in the Jazz Festival. Lende also commented that the Pep Band sounds marvelous at the basketball games; Linda Moyer is doing a great job in the library; Jeremy Strong is a welcome addition to the staff, and she thanked Stuart DeWitt and Ann Fossman for helping traveling students keep up with their homework.

PRINCIPAL REPORT: Stickler welcomed Jeremy Strong to the staff as the long-term physical education substitute. He is also working in math with Matt Davis' junior high and high school classes. Eliza Lende was thanked for her willingness to step in while the pe teacher search took place. The Child Study Teams continue to meet and review observations, concerns, and successes of students who demonstrate a need for additional

and structured behavioral and academic support. Mid-terms will be mailed to parents of students in grades 5-12 during the week of February 11th. Stickler reported that the feedback from parents regarding FOCUS is overwhelmingly positive. She said that solicited and unsolicited responses reveal that parents are accessing the system more easily and grade books are reliably up-to-date. She noted that the upcoming administrative tasks are: begin preliminary conversations about the 08-09 master schedule; re-convene the Professional Development Committee to assess and recommend staff training needs; collect information from students regarding elective options for FY09; and finalize inservice preparations for February 18th. She thanked Barbara Pardee and Patty Brown for a highly successful Family Math Night. Case thanked Stickler and the Child Study Teams for acting so quickly with a youth that he knew and wanted the District to know that he was very appreciative of this action.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT; Byer reported that Sam McPhetres had recently applied for the E2T2 grant and he thanked McPhetres for taking the initiative for doing so. He also wanted the Board to recognize staff members, such as McPhetres, who put in the extra time to make sure that the District continues to run smoothly. Byer and Barbara Pardee recently attended the NCLB conference in Anchorage. He pointed out that Pardee, as she is working on a plan to introduce staff to all the information gathered at the conference, is another essential component of the district. Byer welcomed Tennie Bentz who was approved for hire at the January meeting. She is teaching in the middle school. Jeremy Strong is working as a long-term substitute in PE this spring. Strong is currently enrolled in an educational preservice program, has taken the Praxis and is eligible for a provisional certificate. Byer reported that he has set aside \$15,000 of the LOGS money for staff professional development. The Leadership Team is developing a way to set criteria for how teachers can request and be granted money for individual professional development.

SPED REPORT: Michelle Byer reported that Jerry Pasol (Functional Therapy Services), working out of Anchorage was in Haines and delivered services. He received high reviews from the staff. All students in 2nd and 3rd grades had been screened for hearing and sight. Barbara Blood volunteered her time to test the students. The SEAS (computer automated special education system) has been fully implemented. All of the teachers have been trained on the system and by the end of the month all teachers will have successfully completed current paperwork in the system. Byer reported that over 50% of the special education files have been organized and reviewed for missing items. A special education teacher in our district recently trained as a trainer to deliver the Alternate Assessment (intensive needs testing). The Tri-weekly student study team meetings are still taking place. Cross training has been initiated between special education paraprofessionals. Discussions about schedule changes and ways to adequately cover students have taken place. Resources on Response to Intervention (NCLB legislation) and how that will impact the special education program are being gathered. Two paraprofessionals and one teacher will attend the Alaska Special Education Conference in Anchorage. The paraprofessionals will mostly attend autism sectionals. The concerns that Byer is working on includes: Mosquito Lake coverage; finding and adequately training subs for the intensive program; and file compliance.

BOARD REPORTS/COMMENTS: Stigen said that while reading the newsletter *VISION* from Mrs. Flegel, he was happy to notice the number of high school students on the honor roll. Case told the Board that the American Legion recently held the District Conference and a recent veteran was invited in to some high school classes to speak. The service person and the students both seemed to benefit from his first hand knowledge. Case pointed out that this was not a recruiting visit but an informational one.

Old Business

NEW SCHOOL UPDATE: Byer gave the Board a facilities improvement list with 25 items on it. These are items that still need to be taken care of and are not part of Dawson's contract. Nine of the items are on a CIP list but may or may not be funded.

INTERIOR DESIGN/ART COMMITTEE REPORT: An Art/Design Committee meeting was held on January 22nd. At that meeting, locations for the commissioned art were discussed as well as the general format for proposals. The agreed upon areas for artwork are on the curved wall above the office area in the foyer, around the posts in the foyer, above the entry from the cafeteria/commons into the long hall leading to the elementary wing, and above both entries leading to the high school end. The committee also recommended that one proposal for all the areas be taken. This means that a single artist could make one proposals or a group of artists could collaborate to submit one proposal. The main criteria for the artwork would be that the art be inspirational, visually interesting, aesthetically and physically enduring, and inter-related.

SET AMOUNT OF CONSTRUCTION MONEY FOR ART FROM 1% to .5%: In Alaska Statute AS 35.27.030 (c) it states that “at least one percent, or in the case of a rural school facility, at least one-half of one percent of the construction cost of a building or facility approved for construction by the legislature after September 1, 1977, will be reserved for the following purposes...”. In August of 2006 the Board agreed that .5% would be the amount used for art in the new school/renovated high school. There was no official action at that time so Byer asked that the Board make the .5% official so that the Board’s intention could be forwarded to the Borough Assembly. M/S Swinton/Clay to set the amount of construction money being used for art at .5%. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed.

FY08 BUDGET REVISION: The FY08 budget revision was in the Board packet. It primarily reflected the increase in student numbers and increases in personnel costs. A major revision in this budget was to move \$50,000 into a special revenue fund in order to work on the Mosquito Lake septic and leach field. M/S Stigen/Swinton to approve the FY08 budget revision as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed.

New Business

PERSONNEL REPORT: New Hire: Long-Term Sub: Jeremy Strong, effective January 21, 2008. M/S Stigen/Swinton to approve the personnel report as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed.

FY09 SCHOOL CALENDAR: The Calendar Committee met and proposed the FY09 calendar that was included in the packet. The major difference in this calendar compared to past years is that a majority of the inservice days happen before students come to school in August. M/S Swinton/Stigen to approve the FY09 calendar as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION/TIMELINE: The superintendent evaluation, timeline, and procedures to be used were discussed. Kelly pointed out that the Board usually discusses their goals and objectives with the superintendent at the beginning of the year and then the superintendent could be evaluated on how s/he accomplished those goals. The Board will be working towards a new mission statement and goals hopefully this spring or next fall so she did not feel it was fair to do an evaluation without some sort of board direction. She suggested that the Board use an evaluation tool similar to the format sent from AASB. She wanted to have evaluations done in May in order to discuss the evaluation at the June meeting. The board agreed that they would work on an evaluation instrument before May.

SET GRAND OPENING/OPEN HOUSE DATE: The Board instructed Sage to come up with a date to have a celebration of the new school and renovated high school. She will work on it and inform the Board as it progresses.

MOSQUITO LAKE CIP: Byer met with Robert Venables and put together two projects to include on Representative Thomas’ CIP list. They included a new septic system and leach field for Mosquito Lake as well as new playground equipment for that school. Byer asked that the Board approve this submission. M/S Case/Swinton to approve the CIP proposal sent to Representative Thomas. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed.

RECOMMENDATION ON WHETHER OR ESTABLISH A DRUG/ALCOHOL COMMITTEE: Board Policy 5131.6 (a) states that “To obtain the widest possible input and support for district policies and programs, the Board shall appoint a district-wide school-community advisory committee to make recommendations related to the prevention of alcohol and other drug abuse.” The administration has met and felt that the formation of such a committee should be looked at after AASB’s Alaska ICE student climate survey results are tabulated. That may give the District a clearer direction in which to focus. Byer told the Board that he was meeting with Skagway and Hoonah about a grant relating to at-risk students. He suggested that if such a committee were to be formed that it be done so after the climate survey had been conducted. Erikson wondered if a hotline for teens could be posted at the school. M/S Case/Erikson to authorize the board president to solicit community support for a drug/alcohol committee. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed. Erikson and Case said they would serve on the committee.

BOOSTER CLUB REQUEST: The Haines Booster Club wanted to discuss how finances they raised are handled and had a process they believed would go smoother for themselves and the District. Teri Podsiki said that the Club would like to be able to control their finances so they could look at their books and quickly see where they

stood. She was not placing blame on anyone but the Club had not had a balance sheet until December and not one since. The Booster Club is a 501©3 organization. They buy things for the teams, give scholarships to those who need them, and give away the money they raise. Stigen was concerned about using the school's name in fundraising. Case pointed out that it wasn't the district's money but used for the school. This will be placed on March's agenda for action.

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE FUNDING SUPPORT RESOLUTION: Byer told the Board that in the packet was a copy of a resolution supporting the recommendation of the Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Force. He asked the Board to review and approve the resolution so that it could be presented during the AASB Fly-In. M/S Swinton/Stigen to approve the Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Forces' resolution. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed.

ADVANCE PLACEMENT ENGLISH COURSE ON-LINE APPROVAL: Byer told the Board that the District had an opportunity to offer an advance placement English class. Our school had been identified as a possible site for the Supporting Distance Learning in Small Rural School District study sponsored by the National Research Center on Rural Education Support at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with funding from the US Department of Education. Our students could get dual high school and college credit for free. Haines would have to purchase the AP Exam for each student enrolled in the class but the fee would be reimbursed by the project. M/S Case/Swinton to authorize the superintendent to enter into an agreement with the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill to offer an advance placement English course on-line. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed.

KHNS NEW VOICES PROJECT GRANT PARTNERSHIP: John Hunt with KHNS was writing a grant and had asked for district support. The grant was to train individuals or small groups in the use of mobile audio recording equipment. This partnership would allow the District to offer a vocational program in audio journalism. M/S Case/Swinton to authorize the superintendent to enter into an agreement with KHNS to partner with the New Voices Project grant. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON A ROLL CALL VOTE. Advisory vote passed.

BOARD COMMENTS: Hoffman asked when the Policy Committee was going to meet. They would be meeting soon. Kelly said that she was going to attend the AASB Fly-In and if anyone had any items that they would like to have stressed to our legislators, to let her know. Clay suggested endorsing Kookesh's educational endowment plan. Kelly also said that Peggy Wilson and Kookesh were trying to get the ferry schedules to be more school and user friendly.

ADJOURNMENT: M/S Swinton/Stigen to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Advisory vote passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Carol Kelly, School Board President

Attest:

**Ashley Sage
Administrative Assistant**