

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Valdez City Council Chambers
MINUTES

Monday, May 9, 2005, 6:30 P.M.

A. PRELIMINARIES

1. Call to Order:

President Duane Edelman called the regular meeting of Monday, May 9, 2005 to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

President Edelman led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Roll Call:

Board members in attendance:

Duane Edelman, President
Douglas Desorcie, Vice President
Dolores Gard, Treasurer
Melodie Mackey, Board Clerk
Douglas Johnson, Leg. Liaison
Kathleen Todd, Member
Laurie Hull-Engles, Member

Administration in attendance:

Ernie Manzie, Superintendent
Amber Cockerham, Business Manager
Dave McCahan, Facilities Director
Terry Gregory Technology Director
Geary Cantrell, Principal VHS
Rod Morrison, Principal GJH
Roz Strang, Principal HHES
Clarence Haugan, Special Ed Coordinator

Joseph Tapangco, Student Board Representative

The approximate number of the other people in attendance was five.

B. AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA FOR MONDAY,
MAY 9, 2005 WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS PULLED FROM THE
AGENDA:**

NUMBER ONE UNDER ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS, APPROVE

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL STUDENT TRAVEL REQUEST, AND;

NUMBER NINE UNER INFORMATION AND REPORTS, EXTRA CURRICULAR CONTRACTS FROM THE PERSONNEL ACTION REPORT

WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD, SECOND BY DOLORES GARD. VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

2. Presentation of Agenda Items

President Edelman read the agenda to the Board and public.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting, April 25, 2005

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING APRIL 25, 2005 AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD, SECOND BY DOUGLAS DESORCIE. VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

D. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

1. School Highlights:

a. Hermon Hutchens Elementary School

Roz Strang, Principal, reported to the Board. Today was declared “Debbie Day” in honor of the nineteen years of service Debbie Shreve, Administrative Secretary of Hermon Hutchens Elementary School (HHES) has given to the Valdez City School District. Ms. Shreve is retiring at the end of this school year. Ms. Strang gave the Board a picture of the festivities. Blonde wigs were worn by nearly all of the staff. Skits were performed and food was brought in and enjoyed by all.

b. Gilson Junior High School

Rod Morrison, Principal, reported to the Board. Two assemblies were held this week with representatives from NASA presenting. The speakers were very inspirational and told the students they could be anything they wanted to be.

Principal Morrison attended the Native Youth Olympics (NYO) in Anchorage. He said the competition was very positive. Competitors encouraged each other and offered help on how each one could improve their skill. Valdez NYO represented Valdez well and received a 4th and 6th place in the events.

c. Valdez High School

Geary Cantrell, Principal, reported to the Board. He said the Prom went very well and the evening was enjoyable. Choir will have a concert on May 16, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center. Band will have a concert on May 17, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center. The end of the school year is soon and arrangements are being made for graduation.

2. Middle School Building Project Update

Representatives of Prochaska and Associates, Steve Riley, Paul Ryan, and Curt Field gave a presentation to the Board. Drawings of the latest floor plans of the proposed middle school, dated May 9, 2005, were given to the board members. Paul Ryan met with Dave McCahan and his staff regarding the subject of mechanical needs for the middle school. The architects also met with Dave Armstrong to review the shop needs.

The architects explained that they were working towards a 35% completion of the drawings. The last site visit will focus on the electrical needs of the project. They reviewed a Drawings Delivery Schedule which was also given to the Board.

Superintendent Manzie said there would be a work session for the Valdez City School Board in early to mid June. The time and place will be determined at a later date.

There will be a joint Task Force Meeting Work Session with the Valdez City School Board and Valdez City Council on August 1, 2005. The time and place will be determined at a later date.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

President Edelman asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

F. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT'S QUESTIONS / COMMENTS / COMMITTEE REPORTS

Superintendent Manzie reported:

Enrollment is 406 students at Hermon Hutchens Elementary School, 137 at Gilson Junior High School and 273 at Valdez High School for a total of 816. Next year's enrollment estimate is 800.

Superintendent Manzie thanked the people of the community who took the time to complete and send in the Parent Surveys of the schools their students attend. The response has been

good. The information is being accumulated and will be reported to the Board in the near future. A summary will be shared with the community as well.

The breakfast survey has been mailed out to parents of Hermon Hutchens Elementary School. Surveys have started to come in. The information will be compiled and reported to the Board in June.

The legislative session has been extended by the Governor. The school funding and the TRS/PERS issues have not been decided on as yet.

Scheduling for Valdez High School and Gilson Junior High School is in process. The principals are meeting with counselors and administration to discuss issues tomorrow. Administration will update the Board as decisions are made.

Board member Desorcie informed the Board and public that Prince William Sound Community College (PWSCC) graduation ceremony is scheduled for Friday, May 13, 2005 at the Civic Center. Board members are invited to attend the graduation as well as the dinner before the graduation. Please call the college and let them know you plan to attend.

President Hamilton, president of University of Alaska will be in Valdez for the graduation ceremony and will also be speaking with high school junior and seniors about the opportunities of attending college earlier that day.

Student Representative, Joseph Tapangco, gave a report to the Board. Regarding Student Council: Student Council elections were held. The two proposals for separate Student Council positions of Intramural Coordinator and School Board Representative were passed. The elections for those positions will be held in the fall of 2005. There will be a Student Body Meeting on May 18, 2005. Regarding Sports: Track and Field, Softball and Baseball are going on now and doing well. Native Youth Olympics (NYO) is finished for this year. Regarding Activities: Senior Activity Day is next Wednesday, Clean-Up Day is coming and the Prom was a great success. Many students commented that they had a good time. Regarding Testing: College finals for seniors are finished and semester finals are coming up. Other: The seniors are counting down the days from the senior lounge and graduation will be in three weeks. Regarding Next Year: Scheduling is in process, there is interest in Intramural Coordinator, and sports to look forward to for next year are football, swimming and volleyball.

G. ACTION ITEMS: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Approve School Board Article 6000 – Instruction – Second Reading

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF ARTICLE 6000,
INSTRUCTION, NOT INCLUDING BP 6146.11, WITH THE EFFECTIVE DATE**

OF JULY 1, 2005 WAS MADE BY DOLORES GARD, SECOND BY DOUGLAS DESORCIE.

AMENDMENT TO THE ORIGINAL MOTION:

MOTION TO PULL BP 6146.11 FROM ARTICLE 6000, INSTRUCTION, FOR APPROVAL OF THE FIRST READING, WITH CHANGES AS SUGGESTED BY THE BOARD, WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY DOLORES GARD.

There was much discussion among the Board. Board members directed questions to Principals Morrison and Cantrell. The Board decided Board members Mackey and Todd would submit changes to administration for adjustments to the article for the second reading at the next regular board meeting, May 23, 2005.

There was some discussion about the procedures in the school handbooks. Superintendent Manzie told the Board the handbooks contained procedures that were approved by the Board in the past; however, the procedures were never in the Board Policy. He suggested procedures be in place in Board Policy.

President Edelman asked if there was public comment.

Michelle Cullen, parent, suggested to the Board that they should provide 6th, 7th, and 8th, graders the ability to take courses offered to gifted and talented students.

Ms. Miller, parent, asked if the Board would consider making credit retroactive for a student who has taken gifted and talented classes. She also expressed concerns about AR 6185(a) (b) regarding scheduling of highly qualified teachers to service gifted and talented students in all areas.

Superintendent Manzie mentioned only students on Student Learning Plans (SLP's) were considered for gifted and talented courses.

Board member Hull-Engles asked administration to go through the BP's and AR's 6145 and remove the word athlete and replace it with competitor, wherever applicable and possible.

Board member Desorcie suggested that rather than use the term competitor/athlete the Board might consider the language student school representative, to encompass both terms.

Board member Todd asked administration to change the list in AR 6145.2(b) to reflect the correct activities that should be listed for AASA insurance purposes.

Board members Gard and Edelman suggested including an AR that would have a list of all of the activities offered in the district. Superintendent Manzie suggested wording as follows: “The following list of activities must meet both AASA and Valdez City School District eligibility requirements.” Board members agreed with the superintendent’s suggestion. Board member Todd reminded administration to include Mock Trial.

Superintendent Manzie said he would include Boards suggestions.

President Edelman asked if there was any further comment from the public or Board. There was none.

President Edelman called for the vote on the amendment:

VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT 7 YEARS. MOTION PASSED.

President Edelman called for the vote on the original motion:

VOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION, 7 YEARS. MOTION PASSED.

H. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Varsity Volleyball Student Travel Request

This agenda item was pulled from the agenda. Superintendent Manzie told the Board the students could not attend an out of state activity because the athletic association over the schools required a certain number of practices before the event. There was not time available from the start of school in the fall to complete the number of practices required before the date of the activity.

2. Approve 2006 – 2007 School Calendar

MOTION TO APPROVE 2006 -2007 “YELLOW” SCHOOL CALENDAR WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY KATHLEEN TODD.

Superintendent Manzie reviewed the calendars. The Board decided on the “Yellow” calendar. The calendar has a student start date of August 22, 2005. The Board noted that the comments from the public were positive towards the yellow calendar.

There was much discussion among the Board. The Board agreed they needed to be flexible according to the possible building schedule of the middle school. The Board decided to make October 20, 2006 a regular student school day and move the end of the quarter to October 20, 2006.

Superintendent Manzie reminded the Board that the Board will have to come back to approve inservice days at a later date.

President Edelman asked if there was any further comment from the public or Board. There was none.

VOTE TO CLOSE DEBATE:

VOTE: 4 YEAS, 3 NAYS (DOLORES GARD, DOUGLAS JOHNSON, DOUGLAS DESORCIE), MOTION PASSED.

VOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION:

VOTE: 5 YEAS, 2 NAYS (DOLORES GARD, DOUGLAS JOHNSON), MOTION PASSED.

Board member Gard reminded the Board that there is one day in the 2005-2006 calendar that will need to be decided by the Board and new superintendent whether it is going to be a work day or an inservice day.

3. Approve Submission of the Volunteer Involvement Program Grant

This board agenda item was approved under consent agenda.

I. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

1. Special Education Extended School Year

Clarence Haugan, Special Education Coordinator, told the Board that Extended School Year (ESY) would take place during this summer for special education students with Individual Education Plans (IEP's). There will be 9 or 10 students receiving the ESY service. There will be two blocks of service May 31, 2005 to June 10, 2005 and August 1, 2005 to August 12, 2005. There will be one certified Special Education Teacher and two paraprofessionals. Mr. Haugan said the service has doubled from last summer.

2. Policy Revision Update and Meeting Dates

Superintendent Manzie reviewed the memorandum addressing the status of the Articles.

The Board decided to do the following:

Article 3000 – Business and Non-Instructional Operations:

1st reading May 23, 2005, 2nd reading June 13, 2005 at the regular board meetings.
Article 5000 – Students

1st Public Hearing, Saturday, May 21, 2005, 10:00 a.m. to noon at the School Board Room, District Office, 2nd Public Hearing Monday, May 23, 2005, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Valdez City Council Chambers immediately before the regular board meeting. Both hearings will be advertised as work sessions too – so that the Board may start reviewing Article 4000 – Personnel, if no members of the public are in attendance at the hearings.

Article 4000 – Personnel

This article is in need of one more review by administration and is hoped to be available on Saturday, May 21, 2005 for the start of the Board review process.

Article 6000 – Instruction

BP 6146.11 Junior High School Grades – High School Credit 2nd reading May 23, 2005 regular board meeting.

BP 6146.1(a) High School Graduation Requirements – 1st reading May 23, 2005 regular board meeting.

Article 9000 – Bylaws of the Board

Revision is in the process addressing multiple school board vacancies. Language is coming to match the City Council of Valdez. Administration will be proposing an amendment once language is drafted.

3. 2005 – 2006 Legislative/Budget Update

Board member Johnson told the Board that he has been talking to both Representative Harris and Senator Therriault. Both sides want the TRS/PERS fix. Neither is interested in solving the school funding at this time. Board member Johnson said legislators need to stop and look the PERS/TRS issue over for a year and make a decision that is sound. They are rushing into a fix at this time, and it truly is not going to fix the problem. It looks like the legislators may go into a special session.

4. Valdez City School District Capital Improvement / Major Maintenance

Dave McCahan, Facilities Director, and Superintendent Manzie reviewed the memorandum and Capital Improvement / Major Maintenance list. Valdez City School Board will work with Southeast Regional Resource Center (SERRC) to assist in putting together formal applications for the State of Alaska's CIP list to request funding. The applications must be completed by September 1, 2005.

5. Building Administrators' Report (Consent Agenda)
6. Special Education Coordinator's Report (Consent Agenda)
7. Technology Director's Report (Consent Agenda)
8. Dean of Students Report (Consent Agenda)
9. Personnel Action Report (Consent Agenda)

The Extra-Curricular Activity Contract list was pulled from the agenda. Administration said it would be included in the agenda for the next regular board meeting, May 23, 2005.

J. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

There were no further comments from the Board or Superintendent.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Student Discipline

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION (9:40 P.M.) FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING STUDENT DISCIPLINE, A SUBJECT THAT TENDS TO PREDJUICE THE REPUTATION AND CHARACTER OF ANY PERSON, WAS MADE BY KATHY TODD, SECOND BY DOUGLAS JOHNSON. VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

Attorney, Thomas Wang, was in attendance by telephone conference for the student discipline issue.

MOTION TO END THE EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY KATHLEEN TODD. VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

There was no action taken by the Board.

2. District Finances

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING DISTRICT FINANCES, MATTERS THE IMMEDIATE KNOWLEDGE OF WHICH WOULD CLEARLY HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT UPON THE FINANCES OF THE DISTRICT WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD, SECOND BY DOUGLAS JOHNSON. VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION

PASSED.

Amber Cockerham, Business Manager, was in attendance for the district finance issues.

MOTION TO EXTEND TO 11:00 P.M. WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY DOUGLAS DESORCIE. VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO EXTEND TO 11:15 P.M. WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY DOUGLAS JOHNSON. VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO END THE EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS MADE BY DOUGLAS JOHNSON, SECOND BY MELODIE MACKEY. VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

There was no action taken by the Board.

L. ADJOURNMENT BY 10:30 P.M. UNLESS RULES SUSPENDED

MOTION TO ADJOURN (11:16 P.M.) WAS MADE BY DOUGLAS DESORCIE, SECOND BY MELODIE MACKEY. VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

Submitted by,

D. Flynn Stuparich
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Board Approval Date: May 25, 2005

Duane Edelman, President

Melodie Mackey, Board Clerk