

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Valdez City Council Chambers  
**MINUTES**

Monday, February 28, 2005, 6:30 P.M.

A. PRELIMINARIES

1. Call to Order:

President Duane Edelman called the regular meeting of Monday, February 28, 2005 to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

President Edelman led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Roll Call:

**Board members in attendance:**

Duane Edelman, President  
Melodie Mackey, Board Clerk  
Douglas Johnson, Leg. Liaison  
Kathleen Todd, Board Member

**Administration in attendance:**

Ernie Manzie, Superintendent  
Amber Cockerham, Business Manager  
Dave McCahan, Facility Director  
Tracy Pressley, District Test Coordinator/GJH  
Counselor

Dolores Gard, Treasurer attended via telephone conference call.

Douglas Desorcie, Vice President was absent and excused.

Laurie Hull-Engles, Board Member was absent and excused.

Jessica Koscielski, Student Board Representative was absent and excused.

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

B. AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD, SECOND BY MELODIE MACKEY. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 2 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

2. Presentation of Agenda Items

President Edelman read the agenda to the Board and public.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting, February 14, 2005

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 14, 2005 AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD, SECOND BY DOLORES GARD. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 2 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

D. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

1. 2004 Gatorade Alaska Volleyball Player of the Year

President Edelman gave background information about the award and then made the presentation of a plaque to the recipient Brooke Wegner. The Board congratulated her for her achievement.

2. School Board Members Recognition

President Edelman thanked the present Board and former board members for their volunteerism and explained that the month of February is School Board Recognition Month.

Superintendent Manzie recognized the current board members and thanked them for their time and support to the schools and the community. He presented them with a certificate of appreciation.

President Edelman called for a ten minute recess 6:45 p.m. to 6:55 p.m. to have cake and punch.

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:

Midge Clouse, state representative, contacted the school district regarding the possible formation of Prince William Sound Borough. There will be a meeting in Anchorage on

March 9, 2005 to gather additional information from interested parties. The meeting will be accessible by phone conference from Valdez. There will be representatives from the City of Valdez who will be attending the meeting in Anchorage. Superintendent Manzie and Business Manager Cockerham were also planning on attending the meeting in Anchorage.

Samples of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey were given to all board members. Valdez City School District participated in the survey in 1999, 2003 and will be participating again this year on April 19, 2005. The survey is given to Junior High and High School students who have a permission slip signed by a parent or guardian. Samples of the surveys will be available on the district website and at the offices of Gilson Junior High School, Valdez High School and the District.

Tracy Pressley, District Test Coordinator, told the Board that there will be proctor rooms set up for student who will not be taking the survey.

Dave McCahan, Facility Director, informed the Board about the snow load measurements that had been taken at Hermon Hutchens Elementary School (HHES) and Valdez High School (VHS). He said the snow load level is high at HHES. Efforts to organize possible snow shoveling crews are in the process. There is some concern about shoveling the HHES roof because of the damaged pavers that were put on the roof last summer during the roofing project. Negotiations are not completed with the contractor and removing the snow might cause some disturbance to the original project. The high school does not need snow removal at this time. Gilson Junior High will be measured tomorrow.

Science and Math Current Trend Classes are proceeding. Curriculum writing teams are being recruited at this time. The process is moving forward.

There will be a public hearing on school policy Article 6000, Instruction, tomorrow, March 1, 2005, at the district office from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for the purpose of taking public input. All public are encouraged to attend and give input. The information is available on the district website and the ability to make comment can be done there.

Valdez City School District will be audited by the state from March 9<sup>th</sup> through March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Programs will be reviewed in the areas of Special Education, Carl Perkins Grant and Title Programs. Special Education state representatives will hold a meeting with staff and one with parents during their stay. The times and locations will be advertised.

G. ACTION ITEMS: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Reconsideration: Approval for Payment of AASB 2005 Annual Membership Dues

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF AASB ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,518.00 WAS MADE BY DOLORES GARD, SECOND BY DOUGLAS JOHNSON.**

President Edelman explained the history of AASB and the services they give school districts.

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

**VOTE: 4 YEAS, 1 NAY (MELODIE MACKEY) 2 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

2. Approval of Article 9000 – Bylaws of the Board – Second Reading

**MOVE TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF SCHOOL BOARD ARTICLE 9000 – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD WITH THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF JULY 1, 2005 WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD, SECOND BY DOLORES GARD.**

There was some discussion about clarification of wording regarding the rotation of board members. The desire of the Board is to make sure member rotation is staggered so the board is not replaced all at one time.

Superintendent Manzie told the Board he would bring wording back to the Board for clarification and amendment to the policy.

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

**VOTE: 5 YEAS, 2 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

#### H. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Resolution 05-05: Supporting Increased State Funding

Superintendent Manzie reviewed the Resolution 05-05 for the Board. This resolution supports AASB's funding allocation per student of \$4,995.00.

There was discussion among the Board. The Board asked that the wording be changed in the last paragraph adding "at least" before an additional \$23 million; add the word "minimum" before base student allocation; add "attempt to maintain" and take out "increase" before student achievement; delete "improve" before school performance; and end the sentence after the word "performance" and delete the last four words in the sentence "in a sustained way".

There was some discussion about the Funding Floor. Business Manager Cockerham explained to the Board that the Floor is a soft landing. The intent of the Floor was to be an equalizer. It is extra money in the formula to equalize Valdez with the other school

districts. The Floor was meant to erode slowly with the growth in students or a growth in the education dollars the state was able to give Valdez.

**MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 05-05: SUPPORTING INCREASED STATE FUNDING WITH THE CHANGES MENTIONED ABOVE WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD, SECOND BY DOLORES GARD.**

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

**VOTE: 5 YEAS, 2 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

2. Approval of Resolution 05-06: Supporting Early Funding of K-12 Education in Alaska

Superintendent Manzie reviewed the Resolution 05-06 for the Board. This resolution would enable school districts to offer contracts to teachers in a timely manner. Budgeting is very difficult now because the district can not plan numbers of teachers or curriculum programs until the end of the school year.

**MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 05-06: SUPPORTING EARLY FUNDING OF K-12 EDUCATION IN ALASKA WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY DOUGLAS JOHNSON.**

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

**VOTE: 5 YEAS, 2 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

3. Approval of FY'05 Budget Adjustment # 2 and Updated Financial Report

Amber Cockerham, Business Manager, reviewed the FY'05 Budget Adjustment # 2 and the updated financial report for the Board.

There were no questions from the Board.

**MOTION TO APPROVE FY'05 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT # 2 AND UPDATED FINANCIAL REPORT WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY DOLORES GARD.**

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

**VOTE: 5 YEAS, 2 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

4. Approval of Recommendation to Cancel March 14, 2005 Board Meeting

Superintendent Manzie told the Board that March 14, 2005 is during spring break and there will be many members of district administration, the board and the community that will be out of town.

**MOTION TO CANCEL REGULAR BOARD MEETING MARCH 14, 2005 WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY KATHLEEN TODD.**

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

**VOTE: 5 YEAS, 2 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

I. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

1. District Test Coordinator Update

Tracy Pressley, District Test Coordinator reviewed the 2004 Fall Retest School Summary Report for the Alaska High School Graduation Qualifying Examination. Valdez did well in the Alaska State Comparison.

There are five seniors that are not proficient in one or more areas. These students will retest April 5, 6, and 7, 2005. Special classes are in process emphasizing the areas of student need. The district purchased computer programs in math, reading and writing to assist in improving skills.

There is a new testing contractor, Data Recognition Corporation, who provides clear assessments to teachers, parents and students showing the exact topic and area that needs improvement. This enables teachers to teach more effectively.

2. Middle School Construction Update

Superintendent Manzie updated the Board. He met with Prochaska in Valdez last Wednesday. There was a very frank conversation regarding what is being proposed and what the school district is actually receiving. Weekly morning calls with Prochaska will start up again next week. Prochaska is planning to come up again in April.

3. Superintendent Search Update

President Edelman updated the Board on the Superintendent Search. He said the time for accepting applications had been extended to March 31, 2005. There has been interest in the position. The process is moving forward in a timely manner.

4. District Test Coordinator's Report (Consent Agenda)

5. Facility Director's Report (Consent Agenda)
6. Personnel Action Report (Consent Agenda)

J. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

Superintendent Manzie talked with the Board about a date for a public hearing on school policy Articles 1000, Community Relations and 7000, New Construction. The Board decided to hold the public hearing on March 28, 2005 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Valdez City Council Chambers before the regular meeting. They will also hold a work session at the same time to finish reviewing school policy Article 3000, Business and Non Instructional Operations. If there are no people attending the public hearing, the Board will use that time for the work session.

School policy Articles 1000 and 7000 will be available to the public prior to the public hearing on the district website, the Valdez Library, school offices and the Valdez City School District Office.

There will be a joint meeting with the Board and the Substance Use Committee to discuss the proposed drug and alcohol policy on March 21, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the School Board Room in the Valdez City School District Office.

Board member Johnson reminded the Board of the importance of attending the April Legislative Fly In, in Juneau, Alaska. He suggested a brochure be created, which could be left with the legislators.

There were no further comments from the Board or Superintendent.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Personnel
2. District Finances

**MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION (9:47 P.M.) FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING PERSONNEL AND DISTRICT FINANCES, MATTERS THE IMMEDIATE KNOWLEDGE OF WHICH WOULD CLEARLY HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT UPON THE FINANCES OF THE DISTRICT WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY KATHLEEN TODD. VOTE: 5 YEAS, 2 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

The Valdez City Council telephone conference call capacity is one call; the school district attorney needed to attend this executive session by phone, therefore Board member Gard disconnected from the call.

**MOTION TO EXTEND THE MEETING (10:30 P.M.) WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY KATHLEEN TODD. VOTE: 4 YEAS, 3 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOLORES GARD, DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION TO END THE EXECUTIVE SESSION (10:48 P.M.) WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY DOUGLAS JOHNSON. VOTE: 4 YEAS, 3 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOLORES GARD, DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting reconvened at 10:49 p.m.

There was no action taken.

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

**MOTION TO ADJOURN (10:50 P.M.) WAS MADE BY MELODIE MACKEY, SECOND BY DOUGLAS JOHNSON. VOTE: 4 YEAS, 3 ABSENT AND EXCUSED (DOLORES GARD, DOUGLAS DESORCIE AND LAURIE HULL-ENGLES) MOTION PASSED.**

Submitted by,

D. Flynn Stuparich  
Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Board Approval Date: March 28, 2005

Duane Edelman, President

Melodie Mackey, Board Clerk