

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
School Board Room

MINUTES

Monday, September 14, 2009 6:32 P.M.

A. PRELIMINARIES

1. Call to Order

President Hull-Engles called the regular meeting of Monday, September 14, 2009, to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

President Hull-Engles led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Roll Call

**Board members in attendance:**

Laurie Hull-Engles, President  
Grace Huhndorf, Vice President  
Dolores Gard, Treasurer  
David Lawrence, Board Member

**Administration in attendance:**

Lance L. Bowie EdD, Superintendent  
Roz Strang, Principal HHES  
Rod Morrison, Principal GJH  
Clarence Haugan, Special Ed Director

Kathleen Todd, Board Clerk attended by phone.

Duane Edelman, Board Member is absent and excused.

Dan Walker, Board Member is absent and excused.

Other people in attendance: 9

B. AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda

**MOTION WAS MADE BY GRACE HUHDORF AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGE:**

- **COMBINE DISCUSSION ITEM I-2, POLICY REVIEW: BYLAWS OF THE BOARD BB 9200(B) BOARD MEMBERS AND BB 9121(A) PRESIDENT, WITH ACTION ITEM G-3, APPROVE FIRST READING OF BYLAWS OF THE BOARD BB 9223(A) BOARD VACANCIES,**

**VOTE: 5 YEAS/0 NAYS. MOTION PASSED.**

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C. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

1. Elementary Choir and Band Status – Principal Roz Strang

Roz Strang Principal of Hermon Hutchens Elementary School reported that the new after school elementary music schedule is working well and was a smooth transition. Students are having more time in the classroom for instruction. There are 43 students in Band and 20 in Choir. Ms. Bauman the Elementary Music Teacher is very happy with how the program is going and with her job in general. It was noted that the students who are participating are devoted to music and the environment is positive and successful.

2. Elementary Counselor Grant – Dr. Karl Squier, Dr. Pat Nailor, Margaret Tice, Joan Sayre, and Tracy Pressley

Dr. Karl Squier and Dr. Pat Nailor presented a power point presentation regarding the Elementary Counselor Grant and noted the successes that have been realized by Hermon Hutchens Elementary School. A copy of the presentation was distributed to the Board. Tracy Pressley thanked Margaret Tice and Joan Sayre for their participation with the Grant.

3. District Test Results and District Report Card Information – Tracy Pressley

Tracy Pressley Valdez City School District Test Coordinator gave a power point presentation of the student test results and district report card information. She distributed updated data just received from the State of Alaska. She noted that the information the Alaska School Districts have been receiving was preliminary and did not contain final figures. Further, the Alaska School District Report Cards could not be completed because the State of Alaska had not released the final information until last Thursday, September 10, 2009. Hermon Hutchens Elementary School did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and is at a Level One in the area of Students with Disabilities. Overall the schools did well above the cut scores for the State of Alaska. Superintendent Bowie said the District is looking at all possibilities to make this District go from good to great.

President Hull-Engles recognized Tracy Pressley for all of the work she does for the District as well as her accomplishments as a national presenter in Washington D.C.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment this evening.

E. REPORTS

1. Student Board Representative – Quinn Verfaillie

Student Representative Quinn Verfaillie was not able to attend this evening.

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2. District – Superintendent Lance S. Bowie EdD

Superintendent Bowie reported the following:

- During the Karen Kirk luncheon with the Board someone asked if there was a bus breakdown. Answer: There have not been any bus breakdowns this school year.
- Edline Computer Program is updated once a week by staff and the Parent Portal is running efficiently. If parents have challenges they should call the schools.
- Met with VAFT President's Scott McKay and Adam Sharrai who are working with technology regarding training on Collaboration. Superintendent Bowie asked the members of the Board to think about who would attend the Negotiation/Collaboration Training as representatives of the Board.

President Hull-Engles asked Administration to put Teacher Negotiations/Collaboration on the September 28, 2009 regular meeting agenda under discussion items.

- Regarding sensitive information: the District prefers the members of the Board to use a separate email address for school board business – such as the email address provided by VCSD to receive sensitive information.
- The City has 25 million dollars of renovations and renewals within the City – not including the Hospital or Schools.
- Last Friday Superintendent and President Hull-Engles met with the Valdez City Manager Mr. Hozey and Director of Facilities Jack McKay. Monies have been allocated in the City Budget to create a Master Plan for the Schools. The approval of the proposed funding of the Master Plan for the schools by the City Council is scheduled for their meeting on October 5, 2009. All members of the Board are encouraged to attend and support the approval of the proposed funding of the District wide Master Plan. The Master Plan would be done by McCool Carlson Green Architects – the same firm that completed the report on the High School. The Board would have a major role in the Master Plan and issues of renewal regarding where facilities are and where they need to be. It was an exciting meeting and very inclusive. President Hull-Engles said the meeting was good. The school District is a client of the City. They want to work together – maybe a joint tutorial with the City. Decisions must be made about the educational programs. Mr. Hozey has an aggressive timeline of 2010.
- The Junior High Project is not complete – waiting for furniture to be delivered. Students are using the area and it is going forward.
- The Valdez High School Library Project is going well – furniture will be delivered soon.
- The District is working closely with the Valdez Animal Control regarding a Bear that is in the area of the Junior High and the High School.
- The report from the Fire Marshall has not been received. When the report is received the Board will be informed. Important Information: There is a big ticket item that will come before the Board for funding regarding the Junior High School – Sprinklers/Fire Alarm System.

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- AASB Policy Online: An instruction manual was distributed to all of the members of the Board. Administration talked with AASB today. AASB is working with MicroScribe Publishing Inc. to properly complete the installation of VCSD board policies. When the installation is complete and the Policy Online is working properly the approved board policy updates will be forwarded to AASB to be processed by MicroScribe.

3. Board – Members of the Board

Vice President Huhndorf reported the following:

- The Technology Committee in the Valdez High School Library tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m.
- Attended the Legislative House Education Committee Meeting regarding topics Single Site and Exit Exams where information was gathered and reviewed.
- Attended Valdez High School Assembly regarding community service and was impressed with the way the community organizations came to the assembly and provided opportunities for those students to serve.

President Hull-Engles reported the following:

- Valdez High School Counselor Mona Riddle is very ill. Superintendent Bowie said Administration is working together to cover that position temporarily while she is absent.
- Viewed the VHS Library and Junior High Commons construction projects and said they both are coming along and looking good. Thanks to Ms. Porritt VCSD Accounts Payables who saved \$4,000 on the Junior High Commons Project.
- There is a need for Buc Bus Drivers. The District needs volunteers to train.
- Diane Selanoff received a Pre-K Grant; Administration was asked to include Ms. Selanoff as a Special Presentation on the regular meeting agenda of September 28, 2009.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business this meeting.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve 2010 AASB Resolutions

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2010 ASSOCIATION OF ALASKA SCHOOL BOARDS (AASB) RESOLUTIONS AS REVISED AT THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 WORK SESSION WAS MADE BY GRACE HUHDORF AND SECONDED.**

Board members Todd and Gard will finalize the wording and submit the 2010 AASB approved Resolutions and recommendations to AASB in Juneau before the deadline of September 25, 2009.

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**VOTE: 5 YEAS/0 NAYS, MOTION PASSED.**

2. Approve AASB Nominations

**MOTION TO TABLE THE APPROVAL OF AASB NOMINATIONS TILL THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 12, 2009 WAS MADE BY DOLORES GARD AND SECONDED.**

The members of the Board decided to wait until after the School Board Elections to make nominations.

**VOTE: 6 YEAS/0 NAYS, MOTION PASSED.**

3. Approve First Reading of Bylaws of the Board BB 9223 (a) Board Vacancies

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF BYLAWS OF THE BOARD BB 9223 (A) BOARD VACANCIES WAS MADE BY DAVID LAWRENCE AND SECONDED.**

Superintendent Bowie reviewed the materials in the board packet and noted that the Board had tasked him with providing verbiage from the past VCS Board Policy – he also attached the State Statute for additional information. Further, the Bylaws of the Board BB9223 (a) was not approved with the original approval of the AASB Policies. A copy has been provided by AASB for review and approval at this time.

The Board directed Administration to remove the word “regional” in the first sentence. All other wording remains the same.

**VOTE: 5 YEAS/0 NAYS, MOTION PASSED.**

President Hull-Engles requested the members of the Board to contact her directly if they will not able to attend a meeting. Contact numbers and email are on the updated Board Member Contact list of which all members of the Board have received an email copy as well as a hard copy.

4. Approve Stimulus Funds Proposal

**MOTION TO ACCEPT AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) FUNDS FOR TITLE VI-B AND PRESCHOOL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$162,601 AND \$6,596 AND THE BUDGETS SUBMITTED WITH THE PACKET WAS MADE BY GRACE HUHDORF AND SECONDED.**

The VCSD Director of Special Education Clarence Haugan reviewed the information in the board packet. He noted that this is an opportunity to provide needs and services to students on Individual Education Plans (IEP's) and Hermon Hutchens Elementary School which is currently at an AYP Level One. Additionally, there is an ongoing effort to

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identify student needs early on so that they will not be in a special education program later.

**VOTE: 5 YEAS/0 NAYS, MOTION PASSED.**

5. Approve Valdez City School District Revised Strategic Plan

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE VALDEZ CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT REVISED STRATEGIC PLAN WAS MADE BY GRACE HUHDORF AND SECONDED.**

President Hull-Engles said the information in the board packet was put together by Joseph Reeves AASB Facilitator of the VCSD Strategic Plan Update, for the Board's review and approval. The Board decided on two steps: step one - to approve the information provided by Joseph Reeves; step two – Superintendent Bowie will work with Administration to form a VCSD Strategic Plan Sub Committee which will be tasked with making an action plan to implement the updated VCSD Strategic Plan. Board members Huhndorf and Todd volunteered to serve on the Sub Committee as representatives from the Board.

**VOTE: 5 YEAS/0 NAYS, MOTION PASSED.**

6. Approve Additional Junior High School Coaches

**MOTION TO APPROVE THREE ADDITIONAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ASSISTANT COACHES FOR 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR/BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST # 10-2 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,896.00 WAS MADE BY GRACE HUHDORF AND SECONDED.**

Rod Morrison Principal of Gilson Junior High School addressed the Board. Last year the sports program dramatically increased with the junior high school no cut policy. The increase in coaches provides better supervision; higher quality of instruction; and safety with two coaches.

Superintendent Bowie recommended the approval of this motion and noted that junior high students are “tweeners” – in between. This is an important time for this age group to have an open opportunity to try sports that they might never have a chance to play. We want them to feel success. Kids need to explore and we owe them that opportunity to have some exposure; wear the team uniform; and feel connected to the school and team. Board member Lawrence agreed and added “Education goes beyond the classroom”.

Board member Gard said she would vote no because the Valdez Community provides programs for students of this age group.

**VOTE: 4 YEAS/1 NAY (DOLORES GARD), MOTION PASSED.**

H. CONSENT AGENDA: INFORMATION AND REPORTS

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Items 1 through 10 were approved by consent agenda.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Town Hall Next Steps

The Board decided to have a Work Session from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on September 28, 2009 before the next regular meeting of the Board to discuss Town Hall Next Steps.

2. Policy Review Bylaws of the Board BB 9200(b) Board Members and BB 9121(a) President

The Board combined this discussion topic with action item new business G-3 as they were part of that same conversation.

J. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

Some of the Board members and Superintendent Bowie discussed computer software called “Impact Software” regarding head injuries/concussions to which they were recently introduced. The Board asked Administration to include the approval of funding for Impact Software as an action item on the September 28, 2009 agenda.

President Hull-Engles and Vice President Hundorf asked Administration to put Approval of Substitute Teacher Raise Pay Increase on the September 28, 2009 board meeting agenda as an action item. Administration agreed.

Per the request of the Board, Superintendent Bowie will schedule the School Climate and Connectedness Survey results for October 12, 2009 as a Special Presentation during the regular meeting of the Board. Andre’ Layral of AASB will present.

President Hull-Engles asked Administration to put School Lunches as a discussion item on the September 28, 2009 meeting – inviting Business Manager Cockerham and Food Service Coordinator Cricket Ridge to bring their ideas for improvement to the Board.

President Hull-Engles asked all of the members of the Board to please copy the Board Administrative Assistant Flynn Stuparich on all Board emails so that they would be filed in the electronic District Board Email Folder.

President Hull-Engles suggested an increase in the level of Custodians at the Elementary School during the flu season.

President Hull-Engles informed the Board that she was going to place an article in the Voice regarding the Town Hall Meeting information and next steps.

President Hull-Engles asked Administration to put AASB Annual Conference Attendance on the October 12, 2009 agenda under discussion.

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Superintendent Bowie informed the Board he is working with Pam Sherrill of the Valdez Health Department. Flu inoculations will be made available at the schools.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Personnel

**MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:15 P.M. FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING PERSONNEL; A SUBJECT THAT TENDS TO PREJUDICE THE REPUTATION AND CHARACTER OF ANY PERSON, PROVIDED THAT THE PERSON MAY REQUEST A PUBLIC DISCUSSION WAS MADE BY DOLORES GARD AND SECONDED.**

**VOTE: 5 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION TO END EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:17 P.M. WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD AND SECONDED.**

**VOTE: 5 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.**

L. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING AT 10:18 P.M. WAS MADE BY DOLORES GARD AND SECONDED.**

**VOTE: 5 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.**

Submitted by,

Board Approval Date: September 28, 2009

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Flynn Stuparich  
Administrative Assistant to the Board  
and Superintendent

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Laurie Hull-Engles, President

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Kathleen Todd, Board Clerk