

SITKA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

February 2, 2016 6:00 p.m.

Sitka School District

Superintendent: Mary Wegner

CALL TO ORDER

The Sitka School Board meeting was called to order by President Tim Fulton at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present were, President, Tim Fulton; Vice-President, Cass Pook, Clerk, Eric Van Cise, Tom Conley, Jennifer McNichol and Debbie Yearwood, Student Representative

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Ms. Pook requested to add discussion of Mt. Edgecumbe High School becoming a STEM school with ANSEP. Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve the revised agenda as presented.

RECOGNITIONS

- **RECOGNIZE KEET GOOSHI HEEN AND BLATCHLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY BEE WINNERS**

Ms. Pook presented plaques to the geography bee winners from Keet Gooshi Heen and Blatchley Middle Schools. Hahlen Behnken Barkhau was the champion and Anja Brooks- Schmidt was runner-up for the Blatchley Middle School geography bee. Matthew Rice was the champion and Finnian Murphy was runner-up for the Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School geography bee.

- **RECOGNIZE KEET GOOSHI HEEN AND BLATCHLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL SPELLING BEE WINNERS**

Ms. McNichol presented plaques to the spelling bee winners from Keet Gooshi Heen and Blatchley Middle Schools. Romy Bekeris was the champion and Emily Melnick was the runner up for the Blatchley Middle School spelling bee. Greisha Aviles was the champion and runner up was James Helem for the Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School spelling bee.

- **RECOGNIZE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

Superintendent Wegner presented and thanked each board member for their service as a member of the Sitka School Board. President Fulton also thanked the other board members for their time and discussion.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Lauren Havens, Sitkan's Against Family Violence Education Director, informed the board on what has and will be happening with SAFV including that it is Teen Dating Awareness Month and Girls on the Run will begin at Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School.

Tiffany Shaquanie, parent of four children, was concerned and disappointed with the letter that was sent to her by Superintendent Wegner regarding a complaint that she made. Ms. Shaquanie also expressed her disappointment with the schools and their care of her

children.

REPORTS

- **SCHOOLY REPORT**
– MARY WEGNER AND
PHIL BURDICK Phil Burdick, Assistant Superintendent gave a report on the timeline and staff involvement regarding the selection of Schoology. There was a lengthy question and answer session between the board and administration. There were also comments from the students.
- **WOOCHEEN NOTES –**
ERIC VANCISE Mr. Van Cise presented Woocheen letters to Amanda Duvall, Scott McArthur and Natalie Voron for their dedication to the staff and students in the Sitka School District.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Conley informed the board that he attended the activities and policy committee meetings. He also stated he joined Baranof Elementary School teachers and students in painting native drums. Lastly, he reported that he, President Fulton and Superintendent Wegner attended the Community Task Force.

Ms. McNichol gave an update on her visit to Sitka High School in the capacity as the Sitka High School liaisons. She informed the board that there was disappointment at Sitka High School due to the electives schedule and the lack of vocational classes such as foods and an EMT course. She also stated that there have been a lot of activities happening around Sitka High including basketball games, and the robotics tournament. She also attended the Blatchley Middle School geography bee. Lastly she informed the board that the activities committee is looking for more student participation and needing ideas on how to financially support the activities at Sitka High School including the idea of an endowment.

Ms. Yearwood expressed her support to Mt. Edgecumbe High School and their wish to not become a 3 year high school that includes ANSEP. She said that she has spoken to students at Mt. Edgecumbe High School and they are concerned about the possible transition. She informed the board that Mr. Wayne, Sitka High School teacher has a list of students who are wanting to attend the lobbying trip in the spring. Ms. Yearwood announced that the student government will be working on a project to paint the poles in the parking lots with murals. Lastly she stated that the Sitka High School and Mt. Edgecumbe High School student governments are working together to hold a charity fundraiser.

Mr. Van Cise stated that he attended the Keet Gooshi Heen choir concert where there was standing room only. He also attended the KGH staff meeting and was able to enjoy the robotics tournament

that was held at Sitka High School.

President Fulton inquired with the board if they use the board packet program school wires. Most of the members stated that they do not log onto school wires website to review the board packet. He also requested that another board member be on the technology committee since he will no longer be able to serve on that committee. President Fulton also stated that he attended meetings with Sarah Ferrency, co-superintendent and Cassee Olin, business manager at each building regarding the new budget process. He also informed the board that he attended the Blatchley Middle School staff meeting and there was an expressed concern regarding the need for more technology funds due to the decrease in technology. He stated that there was questions on how the staff could fundraise for technology. President Fulton also announced that he and Superintendent Wegner would be speaking on Problem Corner again on February 12th along with meeting with students from Pacific High School with Ms. Pook. He also informed the board that there would be a student success meeting tomorrow with members of Sitka Tribe of Alaska. Lastly he requested that board members submit bios to the administration so that the web page could be updated.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 11, 2016 MINUTES**
- **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 19, 2016**
- **APPROVAL OF BP 5145.3 NON-DISCRIMINATION – SECOND READING – PC**
- **APPROVAL OF BP 5145.7 HARASSMENT IN EDUCATION – SECOND READING – PC**
- **APPROVAL OF BB9200 BOARD MEMBERS – SECOND READING - PC**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Conley seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **APPROVAL OF REVISING STUDENT NUMBERS FOR 2016-17 BUDGET**

Mr. Conley moved, Ms. McNichol seconded to approve to revise the student numbers to be 1300 students with 36 intensive students to use as the base of creating the 2016-17 budget. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **ACCEPTANCE OF
AUDIT**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Conley seconded to approve the FY15 audit as presented.

A roll call vote was taken.

Yes No
Fulton
Conley
Van Cise
McNichol
Yearwood
Pook

Motion carried.

- **APPROVAL OF
REVISION OF BP 6000
CONCEPTS AND
ROLES – FIRST
READING -PC**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve BP 6000 Concepts and Roles in first reading. Motion carried.

There was no concern with the training for AR 6000 Concepts and Roles.

- **REVIEW OF AR 6000
CONCEPTS AND
ROLES - PC**

- **APPROVAL OF
REVISION OF BP 6020
FAMILY
INVOLVEMENT –
FIRST READING –PC**

Mr. Conley moved forward BP 6020 Family Involvement in first reading from committee. Motion carried.

- **APPROVAL OF
REVISION OF BP 6114
CRISIS RESPONSE
PLAN – FIRST
READING – PC**

Mr. Conley moved forward BP 6114 Crisis Response Plan in first reading from committee. Motion carried.

- **APPROVAL OF BB 9320
MEETINGS – FIRST
READING**

Mr. Conley moved, Ms. Pook seconded to approve BB 9320 Meetings in first reading.

- **DISCUSSION OF
BOARD
COMMUNICATIONS TO**

Mr. Van Cise spoke in regards to the possibility of doing some outreach and communication with the media. There was a discussion regarding the ideas of doing a short column in the Sentinel about school happenings that would include the school

MEDIA

board contact information. It could also include the Woonah awards. There were concerns expressed of how the board would present themselves and also the possibility of overstepping the board responsibility.

- **SUPPORT OF MT. EDGE CUMBE HIGH SCHOOL IN REGARDS TO ALASKA NATIVE SCIENCE ENGINEERING PROGRAM**

At the request of Ms. Pook the school board discussed the abrupt recommendation from Alaska Native Science Engineering Program (ANSEP) to make Mt. Edgecumbe High School a 3 year high school with emphasis in ANSEP. The board unanimously agreed to direct administration write a letter to the State Legislators requesting that Mt. Edgecumbe High School remain a 4 year high school and continue to run the way it has for many years and not be run as an ANSEP 3 year program.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- **BUDGET UPDATE**

Cassee Olin, Business Manager, explained that the budget is where it needs to be at this time of the year. She answered questions from the board.

- **ENROLLMENT UPDATE – MARY WEGNER**

Superintendent Wegner explained that enrollment is continuing to fluctuate.

- **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – MARY WEGNER**

Superintendent Wegner congratulated the Sitka High Robotics Team since we have one team heading to State. She also congratulated the spelling and geography bee winners.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that Heather Powell would be moving to Hoonah to continue her work in reviving the Tlingit language. She thanked Heather for her vision, passion and partnership over the years that she has been in Sitka.

Superintendent Wegner expressed her condolences to Woody Widmark's family for the loss of his wife.

Superintendent Wegner announced that she, Ms. Olin, and President Fulton presented to the Citizen Task Force. Superintendent Wegner and President Fulton also were on Problem Corner to discuss the school district.

Superintendent Wegner stated that many superintendents are asking for a pause on the Alaska Measures of Progress for this year due to the controversy surrounding the normed assessments and the lack of confidence in the contractor who created the tests.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that the process in

selecting the 2016-17 calendar. She explained the process that the administration is going through in the selection process.

Superintendent Wegner was pleased to announce that Eric Matthes, Pacific High School teacher has recently had a book published. She also announce that Cindy Duncan, Keet Gooshi Heen teacher has been featured in a few state and national media outlets for the Tlingit Village created in Minecraft. Lastly, she announced that Rebecca Himschoot, Keet Gooshi Heen science teacher is going to be selected to the State Board of Education.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that SEA and SESPA negotiations are still in process and things are moving along in a positive way. She also stated that the District and SESPA are in the process of selecting an arbitrator for the Community Schools grievance. She also informed the board that insurance meetings are continuing and that there will more than likely have a significant increase for next year. Lastly she announced that the School Climate and Connectedness Survey will be conducted during the month of February.

Superintendent Wegner announced that she will be attending the superintendent fly in in Juneau February 20-24, 2016.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

There was no additional correspondence or information.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND MEETING DATES

- **LEGISLATIVE FLY-INS – FEBRUARY 6-9, 2016 (YOUTH FLY-IN) & MARCH 19-22, 2016**

- **BUDGET HEARINGS**
 - February 10, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. Assembly Work Session – SHS Library
 - February 15, 2016- 3:45 p.m. Staff Budget Hearing – KGH MPR
 - March 2, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. Community Budget Hearing – SHS Library
 - March 7, 2016 -6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – Raven Radio Call In
 - March 9, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. Work Session – DO Boardroom

President Fulton, Ms. Pook and Mr. Conley will be attending the February fly in.

- March 23, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. 1st Budget Hearing – SHS Library
 - April 7, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. Assembly Work Session – Sealing Cove Business Cent on Alice Island
 - April 13, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. 2nd Budget Hearing – SHS Library
 - April 22, 2016 -7:00 p.m. Final Budget Hearing/Approval – SHS Library
 - Board Meeting – March 14, 2016 – ANB Hall
- **BOARD MEETING – MARCH 14, 2016 – ANB HALL**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- **SEA NEGOTIATIONS** Mr. Van Cise moved, Ms. McNichol seconded for the board to go into executive session in accordance with and under the provisions of AS 44.62.310 (c)(1) &(4), the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the district. The matters to be discussed are Sitka Education Association and Sitka Support Personnel Association Negotiations. Business Manager Cassee Olin and Co-Assistant Superintendent Phil Burdick are invited in during the discussion of SEA and SESPA Negotiations. Motion carried.
- **SESPA NEGOTIATIONS**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to return to regular session.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Pook moved, Ms. McNichol seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 p.m. Motion carried.

Tim Fulton, President

Cass Pook, Clerk