

SITKA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

March 14, 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 7:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Mr. Conley moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve the proposed agenda.

ANS President, Paulette Moreno welcomed and thanked the Sitka School Board for coming and meeting at the ANB Hall. She stated that she hoped that together a solution could be found.

ANB President, Wilbur Brown thanked the Sitka School Board for meeting in the ANB Hall. He also encouraged the board to look how to propel the community forward with trusting them to do the right thing for kids. He also stated that culture is very important to teach tolerance and allow students to know who they are. Lastly, he thanked Sitka High School for the use of the shop for the Sitka Canoe Team to make paddles.

President Fulton thanked both Mr. Brown and Ms. Moreno for the invite to the ANB Hall.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Marcia Strand thanked the school district for supporting Elizabeth Peratrovich Day. She stated that she is extremely worried about the Tlingit language in the schools and the status of that. She would like the district to be on the cutting edge of the language and offer it to all students.

Tom Gamble applauded SNEP for saving old songs and old ways in the Tlingit culture. He encouraged the Sitka School Board to ask the City of Sitka to include an education plan that includes Native studies into their comprehensive plan. He also informed the board that there is an ANDORE activity planned for April 1st and 2nd, 2016 and has invited key members of the community to attend. Mr. Gamble stated that the ANDORE activity is to discuss racial equity and to create a culturally responsive community.

Lauren Havens, SAFV education representative, encouraged

everyone to attend the Choose Respect march that will be happening on March 24th at noon.

Ed Gray encouraged the board to not dismiss ideas that people have for cutting or helping with the budget. He also stated that he opposed the teaching of Islam at Blatchley Middle School.

Nels Lawson stated he was pleased to see the progress that has been made over the years that this meeting has been occurring at the ANB Hall. He thanked Dr. Wegner for her work helping host the paddle workshop and also the 1st Alaskans Institute and working together. He also stated he was anxious to hear the report from SNEP on how our students are doing.

Pat Alexander thanked the board for continuing the tradition of having at least one meeting a year at the ANB Hall. She also expressed her curiosity on how the district monitors students since there are no longer liaisons on staff. She encouraged the board to assign people to sit in classrooms and observe how material is being taught. Ms. Alexander offered to volunteer to sit in classrooms to help build a relationship between the Sitka School District and the native community.

Paulette Moreno gave deep and heartfelt thanks you to the Board for the conversations. She wanted to personally thank the district for the early release on Elizabeth Peratrovich Day. She did encourage the district to have that day be a full release day.

REPORTS

- **REPORT ON SITKA
NATIVE EDUCATION
PROGRAM – NANCY
DOUGLAS AND KATHY
HOPE-ERICKSON** Nancy Douglas, District Cultural Coordinator, along with Kathy Hope-Erickson about the Sitka Native Education Program (SNEP). They presented information about the classes and successes that have been occurring with SNEP. There was a brief question and answer session following the presentation.
- **REPORT ON AASB FLY-
IN – CASS, TOM AND
TIM** Ms. Pook, Mr. Conley and Mr. Fulton discussed the information that they learned at the AASB Fly-In that they attended at the beginning of February.
- **WOOCHEEN NOTES –
ERIC VANCISE** Mr. Van Cise presented Woocheen notes to Deborah Riva and Charlie Skultka for their work with the Sitka High School art club on creating a glass piece that will be on display in a Representatives office in Juneau. He also presented an award to Mike Kernin for his work and effort with the Jazz Festival that is brought together in Sitka every year. Lastly a Woocheen note was presented to Karoline Diven Vargas for all of her contributions to bringing art into our district by having students enter various art

contests.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Van Cise stated that he had been at Keet Gooshi Heen in the capacity of the liaisons. He also stated that he had attended basketball games and was pleased at the turnout.

Ms. Pook stated that she was pleased to be at the ANB hall for the meeting and recommended that possible to come to the hall more than one time a year. She also expressed her appreciation about the openness of the conversations that had occurred over the course of the evening.

Mr. Conley expressed his appreciation for the warm welcome to the ANB Hall. He also congratulated the Sitka High School Boys for their win. He stated that the years of cooperation with the ANB /ANS has created a more successful environment in the schools.

Mr. Fulton informed the public that there would be plenty of times to hear and talk about the budget including problem corner on KIFW, Raven Radio and various budget hearings. He also stated that the board was willing to listen and improve the outcome of the budget. He also spoke about attending the BMS Pac and moving forward with the Student Success Committee. He also spoke about looking forward to visiting Pacific High School again.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **APPROVAL OF
FEBRUARY 2, 2016
MINUTES**
- **APPROVAL OF
REVISION OF BP 6000
CONCEPTS AND
ROLES – SECOND
READING – PC**
- **APPROVAL OF
REVISION OF BP 6020
FAMILY
INVOLVEMENT –
SECOND READING - PC**
- **APPROVAL OF
REVISION OF BP 6114
CRISIS RESPONSE
PLAN – SECOND
READING – PC**
- **APPROVAL OF
REVISION OF BB 9320
MEETINGS – SECOND**

Mr. Conley moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

READING - PC

NEW BUSINESS:

- TITLE VIII- PL 81-874
IMPACT AID PUBLIC
HEARING

Mr. Conley moved, Ms. Pook seconded that the board go into Public Hearing concerning the Native American Policies and Procedures.

Pat Alexander encouraged the school district to involve elders and cultural bearers in the education of students. Tom Gamble encouraged the district to discuss racial equity and influences and ask the city to adopt a plan to include native education and the importance of advancing dialog.

Mr. Fulton moved to return to regular session.

- APPROVAL OF 2016-17
CALENDAR

Mr. Conley moved, Ms. Pook seconded to approve the 2016-17 calendar as presented. There were comments and questions from the audience regarding making Elizabeth Peratrovich Day a whole day off rather than just an early release. After a brief discussion motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- BUDGET UPDATE

Cassee Olin, Business Manager stated that we are mid-year through the budget and things are exactly where they need to be at this time.

- ENROLLMENT
UPDATE – MARY
WEGNER

Superintendent Wegner explained that there is generally a lot of movement of students in and out of the district at this time of the year.

- SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT – MARY
WEGNER

Superintendent Wegner congratulated the Sitka High School Drama, Debate and Forensics Team for winning 2nd overall at the State tournament. She also congratulated the SHS Battle of the Books team for being the statewide winners. Lastly she congratulated SHS Mock Trial teams for taking 4th at the State tournament.

Superintendent Wegner expressed her appreciation to Lindsey Jorgenson for her coordination of the Region V Basketball Tournament.

Superintendent Wegner welcomed Kathy Hope Erickson to the position as Education and Language Director at Sitka Tribe of Alaska. She also congratulated Margaret Galanin in getting a White Elephant grant to support snacks at the 21st Century after school program.

She informed the board that she and President Fulton attended problem corner to speak about the district and thanked KIFW and Dan Etulain for their help.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that the Alaska Measures of Progress would continue for this year. She encouraged staff, parents and students to keep the integrity of the exam by taking the exam seriously.

She explained the process of the 2016-17 calendar update. She also stated that the health insurance would only be increasing 15% rather than the 25% that was originally thought.

Selection of the new Commissioner of Education has begun. Superintendent Wegner wanted to thank Commissioner Hanley for his work in Alaska.

Superintendent Wegner express that there is a dire need to the fiscal crisis we are currently in. She encouraged members of the board to contact legislators and look closely at proposals that are being brought forward.

She also informed the board that the district completed the School Climate and Connectedness Survey for students and staff grades 3-12. She stated it worked perfectly with the board goals and our commitment to the i3 Social Emotional Learning grant.

A tentative agreement has been reached with Sitka Education Association and will be coming to the board within the next week for approval from the board. Mary expressed her thanks to SEA for their working together on coming to an agreement.

She informed the board that an arbitrator has been select for the SESPA Community Schools grievance, so that will be taking place in the next several months.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that she attended a 4-day trip to the Legislative Fly-In for the superintendent association. She stated that the fly-in included the business managers.

She announced a couple of things that are happening in the district including SESPA negotiations and Spring Break.

Lastly she informed the board that the Citizen Task Force would be holding a town hall meeting on March 21st at 6 p.m. and will be taking comment the committee is recommending reducing the city's contribution to the district by \$200,000 for the next 3 years.

She also thanked the ANB/ANS for inviting the school board to the ANB Hall for their meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

There was no additional correspondence.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND MEETING DATES

- **LEGISLATIVE FLY-INS –MARCH 19-22, 2016**

- **BUDGET HEARINGS**
 - 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

The board stated that no one would be attending the legislative fly in.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Pook moved, Mr. Conley seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 p.m. Motion carried.

Tim Fulton, President

Eric Van Cise, Clerk