

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
School Board Room

MINUTES

Monday, September 28, 2009 6:30 P.M.

A. **PRELIMINARIES**

1. Call to Order

President Hull-Engles called the regular meeting of Monday, September 28, 2009, to order at 6:33 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
Kathleen Todd, Board Clerk
Duane Edelman, Board Member
Dan Walker, Board Member
David Lawrence, Board Member

Administration in attendance:

Lance L. Bowie EdD, Superintendent
Amber Cockerham, Business Manager
Rhonda Wegner, Activities Director

Quinn Verifillie, Student Representative was present.

Other people in attendance: 7

B. **AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION WAS MADE BY DOLORES GARD AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2009 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

- **REMOVE THE MINUTES FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA;**
- **MOVE DISCUSSION ITEM 1 SCHOOL LUNCHESES TO THE FIRST ITEM AFTER THE SPECIAL PRESENTATION.**

VOTE: 7 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.

School Board Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2009

C. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

1. DOE Pre-K Elementary Grant – Helen Morris

Helen Morris and Diane Selanoff representatives from Chugachamuit Inc. informed the members of the School Board about the Pre-K Elementary Grant Chugachamuit received from the Department of Education. The main goal is to help Alaska Native Students strive academically in Reading, Writing and Mathematics and to raise the awareness of different learning styles. Ms. Morris gave copies of Alaska curricula to the Valdez City School District of which some may be incorporated into the VCSD Social Studies Curriculum--which is presently in the review process.

D. DISCUSSION ITEM:

1. School Lunches

Amber Cockerham Business Manager of Valdez City School District, and Cricket Ridge VCSD Food Service Coordinator reported to the Board about healthy changes that have been made to the school lunch program. Much of the menus are USDA items because the District is only charged the cost of shipping. Food Service is making an effort to serve healthier meals while keeping them appealing to the students – noting that the campus is open and students often make choices to eat in other places.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment this evening.

F. REPORTS

1. Student Board Representative – Quinn Verfaillie

Quinn Verfaillie reported there will be a Valdez High School Pep Rally on Wednesday October 8, 2009 where the newly elected Student Council Representatives will be announced. Four students will be attending the AASB Youth Leadership Conference in Anchorage. A date for the first Student Council and School Board Roundtable Discussion will be set at the next meeting of the Board, October 12, 2009.

2. District – Superintendent Lance S. Bowie EdD

Superintendent Bowie reported the following:

- Valdez Star is reporting student sports on the internet – there are nice articles and good coverage. A copy of an article was passed among the Board.
- Tomorrow there will be an H1N1 Pandemic Influenza Workshop from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Superintendent Bowie and two other representatives from the school district will attend.

School Board Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2009

- A copy of a letter from Councilman Ridderbush, who was unable to attend the meeting this evening, was passed to the Board. Superintendent Bowie spoke to a concern about a video “The Story of Stuff” and noted the District has a policy (Board Policy 6144 Controversial Issues) that deals with complaints or concerns. A copy of the policy was passed out to each member of the Board. The Board tasked Superintendent Bowie to send a letter of response to Mr. Ridderbush and put a copy in the October 12, 2009 Board Reading File.
- A copy of the class schedules were distributed to each of the members of the Board in response to their request. Superintendent Bowie noted that these copies were to be used for the 2011 Budget process.

3. Board – Members of the Board

Vice President Huhndorf reported the following:

- A copy of the information materials received from attending the House Education Committee were given to the Board. The Board requested the material packet be made available in the District Office for any board member to view.

President Hull-Engles asked the Board to please attend the City Council Meeting on Monday October 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Valdez City Council Chambers to support the approval of funding for a school facilities master plan.

G. ACTION ITEMS: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Approve Second Reading of Bylaws of the Board BB 9223 (a-b) Board Vacancies

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF BYLAWS OF THE BOARD BB 9223 (A-B) BOARD VACANCIES WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD AND SECONDED.

There was a brief discussion about unexcused absences. The Board agreed that all absences would be reported directly to the President. The President would have the discretion to excuse an absence if it was related to personal illness; family illness; or a work obligation. If the President is not available/out of town the members of the Board would contact the Vice President who would be the Acting President.

VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

H. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Substitute Teacher Pay Increase Recommendation

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING INCREASE OF THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER PAY: SUBSTITUTES WITH A CURRENT ALASKA TEACHING CERTIFICATE \$130.00 PER DAY; SUBSTITUTE TEACHER PAY

School Board Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2009

WITHOUT A TEACHING CERTIFICATE \$100.00 PER DAY WAS MADE BY GRACE HUHDORF AND SECONDED.

Superintendent Bowie explained that he had contacted all of the Alaska School Districts to find out what they paid their substitute teachers and found that Valdez City School District pay is in the mid range of pay. Administration recommended no raise at this time. President Hull-Engles compared the pay for substitute classified positions with the teacher position and noted teacher substitutes were paid less money as all other salaries have been raised over the years. The Substitute Teachers daily rate of pay had not been raised since 2001.

Pam Verfaillie, a community member/parent who substitutes for Valdez City School District told the board when she substitutes as a Paraprofessional/Aide she receives a higher pay than when she substitutes as a teacher and encouraged the Board to approve a raise for the substitute teaching positions.

VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

The Board asked Administration to bring back the Substitute Pay Board Policy as a second reading on October 12, 2009 so the raise could begin on October 13, 2009.

2. Approve Student Travel Request for VHS Business Professionals of America

MOTION TO APPROVE THE VALDEZ HIGH SCHOOL BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA STUDENT TRAVEL REQUEST MAY 3, THROUGH 9, 2010 TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD AND SECONDED.

Ms. Melissa Reese VHS BPA Advisor and two students reviewed the request and asked the Board to please approve the request for this year because they were unable to travel last year due to an outbreak of the H1N1 Flu in the conference area. Valdez High School BPA will again ask to travel next year to put the group back in rotation with travel accommodations on site at Disney Properties which is booked every other year for the National BPA Conference. Superintendent Bowie recommended the Board approve the travel request.

VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

3. Approve Student Travel Request for National Close Up

MOTION TO APPROVE THE NATIONAL CLOSE UP STUDENT TRAVEL REQUEST APRIL 11, THROUGH 17, 2010 TO ATTEND NATIONAL CLOSE UP IN WASHINGTON D.C. WAS MADE BY KATHLEEN TODD AND SECONDED.

School Board Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2009

Ms. Becky Walker National Close Up Advisor reviewed the request and asked the Board for approval. Superintendent Bowie recommended the Board approve the travel request noting this program is one of the best opportunities for students.

VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

By consensus the Board decided to move the Discussion Item number 3 to be heard at this time because all of the presenters were present and waiting.

I. DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Impact Software

Pam Verfaillie parent, Rhonda Wegner VCSD Activities Director, Stan Porritt Football Coach, Dr. John Cullen Physician and parent, and Cricket Ridge introduced Impact Software, a program which helps determine when a student who has received a concussion can return to an activity safely. A power point presentation was given by Pam Verfaillie. Testimony was offered encouraging the members of the Board to consider funding of \$500.00 for the Impact Software program noting a secondary concussion can be extremely dangerous to the lives of students.

The Board asked Superintendent Bowie to be the point person and coordinate with the local schools, coaches and medical physicians to ensure consistent testing of students and interpretation of the results. Additionally, the Board asked him to bring back Impact Software before the Board as an action item for approval when the details had been worked out.

ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

4. Approve First Reading of AASB Board Policy Updates
 - a. Release of Directory Information Board Policy BP 5125.1(a-b)
 - b. Authorization For Releasing Student Directory Information Exhibit E 5121.1(a-b)
 - c. Challenging Student Records BP 5125.2(a-c)
 - d. Immunizations BP 5141.31
 - e. Interscholastic Competition BP 6145.2
 - f. Damaged or Lost Instructional Materials BP 6161.2
 - g. Special Education BP 6172(a-b)
 - h. Bilingual-Bicultural Education/Limited English Proficiency BP 6174(a-f)
 - i. Education of Native/Indian Children BP 6174.1(a-e)
 - j. Education of Native Indian Children Administrative Regulation AR 6174.1(a-c)
 - k. Indian Policies and Procedures E 6174.1(a-e)
 - l. Migrant Children Program BP 6175
 - m. Charter School BP 6181(a-d)
 - n. Correspondence Study Program BP 6182

School Board Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2009

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF BOARD POLICIES A THROUGH G AND L THROUGH N WAS MADE BY GRACE HUHNDORF AND SECONDED.

Policies h through k were pulled to be brought back for a first reading the meeting of October 12, 2009. Tristy Morrison VCSD Federal Program Coordinator is out of town and has important input for consideration regarding these policies.

VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

J. CONSENT AGENDA: INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Item 1 was pulled from the consent agenda.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 AS CORRECTED WAS MADE BY DOLORES GARD AND SECONDED.

VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

Item 2 Personnel Action Report was approved by consent agenda.

K. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Teacher Negotiations/Collaboration

President Hull-Engles encouraged all of the board members to attend Collaboration Training, a proposed method of negotiating a contract between VAFT- the VCSD teachers union, and VCSD. The time and place for the training is being set up by representatives of VAFT. The members of the Board agreed by consensus and asked for a two week notice for planning purposes.

2. Home School Partnership

Vice President Huhndorf led the discussion and distributed information regarding the Public School Funding Program and the Alaska State Statues. She proposed the Board consider creating an entity that would enable home school students to be a division of VCSD thereby allowing the students to take some classes and participate in the VCSD activities. Valdez City School District could then receive 80% funding for the home school students. Ms. Hundorf estimated that there are 50 to 60 families who home school their children in the Valdez City School District area.

The Board agreed to have a Work Session from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. on October 12, 2009 regarding Home School Partnership immediately before the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

3. AASB Annual Conference and Youth Leadership – November 4-8, 2009

School Board Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2009

Treasurer Dolores Gard led the discussion. She reviewed the cost information sheet in the board packet and noted the cost savings traveling by vehicle instead of the airlines. President Hull-Engles complemented Board member Gard's suggestions and the Board by consensus agreed the District should go forward with the suggested travel savings.

Quinn Verfaillie suggested the reduction of Per Diem for students noting that last time he went to the AASB Youth Leadership Conference the Per Diem was more than enough. Additionally, he said there would be four students attending the conference and the names would be forwarded to VCSD Administration by the end of this week.

L. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

President Hull-Engles:

- Asked Administration to place AASB Nominations on the October 12, 2009 agenda as an action item.
- Will be calling in for the October 12, 2009 meeting.
- Had a conversation with Norm Wooten a member of the School Board in Kodiak. Kodiak has gone to a Consent Agenda for all of their Action Items and if a member of the Board wants to have an item pulled they contact the District ahead of time so people can be notified to attend the meeting to speak to the pulled item. She suggested VCSB go to a Consent Agenda as much as possible and notify Administration no later than 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the meeting if they want an item pulled from the Consent Agenda. The Board agreed by consensus.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Personnel

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:25 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 DAN WALKER AND SECONDED.

VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

MOTION TO END EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:29 P.M. WAS MADE BY DOLORES GARD AND SECONDED.

VOTE: 7 YEAS, MOTION PASSED.

There was no action taken this evening.

School Board Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2009

N. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING AT 10:30 P.M. WAS
MADE BY DAVID LAWRENCE AND SECONDED.**

VOTE: 7 YEAS. MOTION PASSED.

Submitted by,

Board Approval Date: October 12, 2009

Flynn Stuparich
Administrative Assistant to the Board
and Superintendent

Laurie Hull-Engles, President

Kathleen Todd, Board Clerk