

School Board Meeting (Monday, May 17, 2021)

Generated by Katy Grant on Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Members present

Margo Bellamy, Dave Donley, Pat Higgins, Andy Holleman, Carl Jacobs, Kelly Lessens, Dora Wilson

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM

A. Regular Session

Procedural: 1. Call to Order / Roll Call / Flag Salute

President Bellamy called the Regular Session of the School Board to order at 6:00 p.m. Member Donley is participating remotely, all other Board members are physically present.

Procedural: 2. Land Acknowledgment / Opening Statement

President Bellamy read a land acknowledgment and opening statement.

Action: 3. Approval of Agenda

To approve the agenda.

Motion by Andy Holleman, second by Pat Higgins.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Margo Bellamy, Dave Donley, Pat Higgins, Andy Holleman, Carl Jacobs, Kelly Lessens, Dora Wilson

B. Recognition

Recognition: 1. Spring 2021 Denali Award

Denali is an Athabascan word meaning "great one," and the Anchorage School District is proud to have employees that display greatness in the areas of achievement, service, and dedication. The Denali award is the highest award offered by the District. Twice each year, supervisors submit nominations, and a panel of ASD employees selects a number of co-workers and teams of colleagues that demonstrate outstanding commitment to the District's mission of educating all students for success in life.

Board members read recognitions for the Spring 2021 Denali Award winners:

- Nance Bale
- Sylvia Biondich
- Project Management Office Team
 - Julia Melson
 - Julie Shuttleworth
 - Andria Johannes
 - Ryan Thrasher
 - Michael Parker
 - Joe Barron
 - Carrie Payne
 - Cory Geraty

C. Community Engagement

Report: 1. Military Report

Col. Delamater gave the military report.

Report: 2. Native Advisory Committee (NAC)

Kimberly Santagata, Native Advisory Committee Chairperson, and Nyche Andrew, Native Advisory Vice Chairperson, reported to the Board on the Native Advisory Committee.

Board members and NAC representatives discussed graduation regalia and a resolution passed by the committee advocating that decision-making for graduation regalia be moved to the Title VI Indian Education Department. There was additional discussion on policy, graduation ceremonies, and appreciation expressed for work moving forward.

Report: 3. Board Conference and Committee Written Reports

Committees have not met since the last meeting.

New committee chairs discussed potential schedules for their meetings.

Information: 4. Community Outreach - Written Reports

No written reports posted.

D. Goal Monitoring

Information: 1. Review of School Board Goals & Guardrails Progress Monitoring

Dr. Deena Bishop, ASD Superintendent, spoke about outcome monitoring and process the Board went through to develop the goals and guardrails (2021-2026). Outcome monitoring (data) will be presented at each Board meeting for the set goals and guardrails. She highlighted information posted on the School Board page of the ASD website and reviewed the goals and guardrails, community engagement, and input received during the process (that informed the creation of the goals and guardrails). Dr. Bishop reviewed each goal and how they will be measured.

Board members and Administration discussed the goals and baselines, summer school (transportation), graduation requirements, and attendance (as key indicator for success).

E. Public Testimony on Non-Agenda and Non-Action Items (1-Hour Time Limit)

Information: 1. Public Testimony

Dianne Holmes testified with concerns about dairy intolerance and learning disruptions and behavior.

Ayyu Qassataq testified with concerns about trials Native people have suffered and Native regalia taken away at graduations. She stands with the Administration in efforts to improve and making things better.

Sarah Price testified with concerns about students being out from schools so long this year and activities shut down for the summer.

Meghan Holtan testified in support of cultural regalia worn at graduations and the Native Advisory Committee (NAC) resolution for Title VI decision making for graduation regalia.

Jonathan Barber, student, testified with concerns about the canceled JROTC summer outdoor course.

Danyelle Kimp testified with concerns about graduates who were denied the right to wear cultural regalia at graduations.

David Murray, student, testified with concerns about the canceled JROTC summer outdoor course.

Christy Lawton testified with concerns about the policy requirement for requesting approval for Native students to wear their cultural regalia at graduations.

Rachelle Pessetto testified in support of not requiring children to wear masks.

Dustin Sherman testified with concerns about cuts to programs over the last year, the canceled JROTC summer outdoor course, and mask wearing.

Annie Massey, representing the Alaska Chapter for Parents Rights in Education, testified with concerns about transparency and advocated for parent rights and engagement in the schools.

Polly Carr testified with concerns about students who were denied the right to wear cultural regalia at graduations.

Amber Glasser testified in support of ASD Memorandum #123 Charter School Amendment: Eagle Academy She also testified with concerns about Critical Race Theory and mandatory masks for students.

Rahelle Griffiths testified with concerns of Critical Race Theory and with mandatory masks for students.

Information: 2. Written Public Testimony

[Written public testimony.](#)

F. Superintendent Update

Report: 1. Superintendent Update

Dr. Bishop reported to the Board on ESSER III funding, graduation regalia, and elementary principal hires.

The District is gathering input from stakeholders in the community through town hall meetings, surveys, and public testimony at School Board meetings for ESSER III funding priorities.

After an incident involving graduation regalia at the West High School, as expressed in public testimony, the Administration took immediate action. The District is working to review the process and working with the Indian Education department in support of the NAC and students.

Dr. Bishop introduced the new principal hires. Each principal introduced themselves to the Board.

Molly Hickox - Huffman Elementary
Chris Opitz - Taku Elementary
Tina Bartlett - Ursa Minor Elementary
Dawn Campbell -Eagle River Elementary
Dorissa Martin - Ursa Major Elementary
Christine Irwin - Wonder Park Elementary
Kori Engstrom - Kasuun Elementary
Jenny Whitt - Campbell STEM Elementary
Mara Rosenthal - Baxter Elementary
Cherry Galloway - O'Malley Elementary
Eric Anderson - Spring Hill Elementary
Maria Hernandez - Steller Secondary

Administration responded to Board questions and discussed staff training regarding graduation regalia, student travel (canceled JROTC trip), and graduation regalia for all cultures.

G. Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): 1. Voting on Consent Agenda items

Resolution: To approve the Consent Agenda.

To approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Andy Holleman, second by Kelly Lessens.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Margo Bellamy, Dave Donley, Pat Higgins, Andy Holleman, Carl Jacobs, Kelly Lessens, Dora Wilson

Action (Consent), Minutes: 2. March 16, 2021 Regular Session Minutes

Resolution: To approve the March 16, 2021 Regular Session minutes.

To approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Andy Holleman, second by Kelly Lessens.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Margo Bellamy, Dave Donley, Pat Higgins, Andy Holleman, Carl Jacobs, Kelly Lessens, Dora Wilson

Action (Consent): 3. ASD Memorandum #116 - Personnel Report

Resolution: To approve the attached Personnel Report.

To approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Andy Holleman, second by Kelly Lessens.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Margo Bellamy, Dave Donley, Pat Higgins, Andy Holleman, Carl Jacobs, Kelly Lessens, Dora Wilson

Action (Consent): 4. ASD Memorandum #107 - Award of Professional Services Agreement: Professional Services Selection for Multi-Site Secure Vestibule Upgrades: Group 3 And Group 4
Resolution: To approve the selection of McCool Carlson Green, LLC as the Designer of Record for the Multi-Site Secure Vestibule Group 3 project and authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contract with McCool Carlson Green, LLC for professional services in the amount of \$665,921 for the purpose of design through contract documents. The Administration also recommends that the School Board approve the selection of NVision Architecture, Inc. as the Designer of Record for the Multi-Site Secure Vestibule Group 4 project and authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contract with NVision for professional services in the amount \$574,670 for the purpose of design through contract documents.

To approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Andy Holleman, second by Kelly Lessens.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Margo Bellamy, Dave Donley, Pat Higgins, Andy Holleman, Carl Jacobs, Kelly Lessens, Dora Wilson

H. Action Items

Information: 1. Public Testimony on Action Items

Public testimony is taken prior to each item before it is voted on.

Information: 2. Written Public Testimony on Action Items

[Written public testimony.](#)

Action: 3. ASD Memorandum #123 - Charter School Amendment: Eagle Academy

Annie Massey testified in support of memorandum #123, Charter School Amendment for Eagle Academy.

Vanessa Hall testified in support of Memorandum #123, Charter School Amendment for Eagle Academy.

Board members and Administration spoke in support of the program and proposed addition of 7th and 8th grade over the next two years. There was additional discussion on impact to other middle schools, choice programs offered by ASD, and supporting students.

Request from Eagle Academy Academic Policy Board (APB) to amend their current charter and add 7th & 8th grades to their school grade levels and increase their enrollment cap from 180 to 240 students.

Motion by Andy Holleman, second by Kelly Lessens.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yea: Margo Bellamy, Dave Donley, Pat Higgins, Andy Holleman, Carl Jacobs, Kelly Lessens, Dora Wilson

I. Non-Action Items

Information: 1. ASD Memorandum #124 - Charter School 2019-2020 End of The Year Report (Information Only)

In accordance with School Board Policy (BP) 6181 Review of the Charter School, this Charter School Summary contains an overview of charter schools operating within the Anchorage School District as well as an annual summary reported by each school for the 2019/2020 school year.

Information: 2. ASD Memorandum #128 - Paid Lunch Price Increase (Information Only)

In line with Student Nutrition's mission to provide healthy satisfying meals to students in support of education, the Student Nutrition department raises paid meal prices as needed, based on the USDA's formula which uses actual food

service costs to minimize losses. Price increases provide financial resources that support changing menus, service styles, and inflation-adjusted costs.

Tom Roth, Chief Operations Officer, responded to Member Lessens questions on where additional funds are reinvested (from price increase), quality of lunch meals, and concerns about chocolate milk.

J. Public Testimony on Non-Agenda and Non-Action Items (Continued)

Information: 1. Public Testimony

Natahalia Grauvogel testified with concerns about Critical Race Theory in schools, student achievement, and masking students in the fall.

K. School Board & Administration Comments/Communications

Information: 1. School Board and Administration Comments

Member Higgins congratulated graduates and has been enjoying the celebrations. Member Higgins recently attended plant sale hosted by students, he appreciated the job teachers are doing and brought plants in to show.

Member Wilson congratulated the 2021 graduates and spoke about ceremonies she has attended. She thanked all the educators that helped students get to graduation.

Member Lessens spoke about the graduation ceremonies and a Rites of Passage event at Rogers Park Elementary School she recently attended.

Member Jacobs congratulated the 2021 graduates and spoke positively of the ceremonies. He has two graduates of his own and appreciated the District's support for students.

President Bellamy congratulated the 2021 graduates. She spoke about ceremonies and community events she has attended recently.

Member Donley appreciated the previous 20 year math data provided by the Administration. He asked follow up questions regarding a drop in proficiency between 2014 and 2015 (transition from SBA to AMP testing). Dr. Bishop responded to Member Donley's question and reviewed the change in rigor of standards and increased difficulty of the new test.

L. Adjournment

Procedural: 1. Adjournment

President Bellamy moved to adjourn.

Member Wilson seconded. The Regular Session of the School Board adjourned at 9:03 p.m.