



# Alaska Association of School Boards (AASB)

## Board of Directors – Regular Meeting

### Approved Minutes

July 18–19, 2025 | Alaska Pacific University Campus

## 1. Call to Order

President Dana Mock called the meeting to order at 8:23 AM.

## 2. Roll Call

| Member            | Status  |
|-------------------|---------|
| Melissa Burnett   | Excused |
| Amber Frommherz   | Present |
| Melanie Kasayulie | Present |
| Frieda Nageak     | Present |
| Paul Robbins Jr.  | Present |
| Darlene Trigg     | Present |
| Annie Weyiouanna  | Present |
| Tim Doran         | Present |
| Penny Vadla       | Present |
| Michael Swain     | Excused |
| Clarence Daniel   | Present |
| Julia Phelan      | Present |
| Marie Greene      | Present |
| Margo Bellamy     | Present |
| Dana Mock         | Present |



A quorum was established.

### **3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by President Dana Mock.

### **4. Moment of Silence**

A moment of silence was observed.

### **5. Land Acknowledgment**

President Mock read the Land Acknowledgment.

### **6. Recognition of Visitors**

No visitors present.

### **7. Approval of Agenda**

**Action:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented, as a guide.

**Moved by:** Clarence Daniel

**Seconded by:** Penny Vadla

**Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously.

### **8. Approval of Minutes**

**Action:** Motion to approve the March 28, 2025, regular meeting minutes as corrected.

**Moved by:** Julia Phelan

**Seconded by:** Marie Greene

**Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously.

### **9. Ratification of Executive Committee Actions**

- **Action:** Motion to appoint Paul Robbins Jr. to the AASB Board of Directors.  
**Moved by:** Penny Vadla (from committee; no second required)  
**Outcome:** Motion passed without opposition.
- **Action:** Motion to ratify Executive Committee actions on June Nelson Scholarship selections and grant applications.



**Moved by:** Clarence Daniel

**Seconded by:** Paul Robbins Jr.

**Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously.

## **10. Executive Director Evaluation – Executive Session**

**Time in:** 8:33 AM

**Moved by:** Clarence Daniel

**Seconded by:** Darlene Trigg

**Outcome:** Entered executive session without opposition.

**Time out:** 2:41 PM

## **11. Board Self-Evaluation – Executive Session**

**Time in:** 2:41 PM

**Moved by:** Clarence Daniel

**Seconded by:** Penny Vadla

**Outcome:** Entered executive session without opposition.

**Time out:** 4:12 PM

## **12. Correspondence**

Thank-you letters from June Nelson Scholarship recipients were included in the board packet.

## **13. Reports / Discussion Items**

### **13.a. Revised & Updated AASB Website**

**Speaker(s):** Heather Shaw, Communications & Marketing Coordinator

Presentation given on the new website launch planned for August 2025.

**Recess:** 4:57 PM

**Resumed:** 8:10 AM (Saturday, July 19)

### **13.b. President's Report**

**Speaker:** Dana Mock

President Mock provided highlights from the written report in the board packet.



### **13.c. Past President's Report**

**Speaker:** Margo Bellamy

Past President Bellamy provided comments supplementing her report.

#### **13.c.1. ASAA Report**

**Speaker:** Margo Bellamy

ASAA Representative Bellamy shared her report; discussion followed.

### **13.d. President-Elect Report**

**Speaker:** Marie Greene

President-Elect Marie Greene provided a verbal report.

### **13.e. Secretary/Treasurer Report**

**Speaker:** Julia Phelan

Reported on the contents of her report and acknowledged fellow board members.

### **13.f. 2024 AASB Audit Report**

**Speaker:** Max Mertz

Audit presentation delivered via Zoom.

**Action:** Motion to accept the 2024 AASB audit.

**Moved by:** Darlene Trigg

**Seconded by:** Clarence Daniel

**Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously.

### **13.g. Chief Financial Officer Report**

**Speaker:** Tiffany Jackson

Provided updates on the CFO report from the board packet.

### **13.h. Cash Asset Report**

**Speaker(s):** Tiffany Jackson, Lon Garrison, Matt O'Lone

Executive Director Garrison reviewed the investment report. Discussion followed.

**Recess:** 10:46 AM

**Resumed:** 11:03 AM



### **13.i. Executive Director Report**

**Speaker:** Lon Garrison

Reported on office updates and included a verbal update on a recent office building flood. A full report was provided in the board packet.

### **13.j. Associate Executive Director Report**

**Speaker:** Katie Oliver

Reported on Superintendent Searches, Charter School Academy, and the upcoming Fall Academy.

### **13.k. Director of Conditions for Learning Report**

**Speaker:** Lori Grassgreen

Highlighted the report in the board packet and included information on the grant application for Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood - HEART -- Helping Every Area of Relationships Thrive. Discussion followed.

**Action:** Motion to approve the HEART grant application.

**Moved by:** Darlene Trigg

**Seconded by:** Annie Weyiouanna

**Outcome:** Motion passed unanimously.

**Recess:** 12:13 PM

**Resumed:** 12:40 PM

### **13.l. Ad Hoc Tribal Compacting Committee**

**Speaker(s):** Margo Bellamy, Lori Grassgreen

Reported on the new Guide Book and upcoming commentaries.

### **13.m. Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report**

**Speaker:** Julia Phelan

Acknowledged committee members and summarized meeting notes.

### **13.n. Resolutions**

**Speaker(s):** Katie Oliver, Lon Garrison

Recommendations made regarding new, consolidated, and sunseting resolutions.



## **Actions Taken:**

1. **Action:** Motion to recommend new resolution titled: Resolution to Affirm and Preserve Local Governance of Voluntary Open Enrollment Policy.  
**Moved by:** Julia Phelan  
**Seconded by:** Paul Robbins Jr.  
**Passed**
2. **Action:** Motion to recommend continuation of all 2025 Sunsetting Resolutions.  
**Moved by:** Julia Phelan  
**Seconded by:** Margo Bellamy  
**Passed**
3. **Action:** Motion to recommend early sunset of Resolution 4.6 – Repeal Social Security Government Pension Offset & WEP  
**Moved by:** Julia Phelan  
**Seconded by:** Penny Vadla  
**Passed**
4. **Action:** Motion to recommend consolidation of Resolutions 2.11 Funding for Pupil Transportation and 2.14 Pupil Transportation  
**Moved by:** Julia Phelan  
**Seconded by:** Margo Bellamy  
**Passed**
5. **Action:** Motion to recommend new resolution titled: Establishing a Dedicated State Fund for Routine and Preventive School Maintenance Separate from the BSA Education Funding Formula  
**Moved by:** Julia Phelan  
**Seconded by:** Annie Weyiouanna  
**Passed**
6. **Action:** Motion to recommend substantial revisions to the language of Resolution 2.12 Ensuring Equitable and Adequate Funding for Alaska's School Capital Improvement Project, as presented.  
**Moved by:** Julia Phelan  
**Seconded by:** Frieda Nageak  
**Passed**



### **13.o. Membership Committee Report**

**Speaker:** Clarence Daniel

Shared results of the membership survey. Discussion followed.

**Recess:** 2:17 PM

**Resumed:** 2:30 PM

### **13.p. Sustainability Committee Report**

**Speaker:** Tim Doran

Reviewed survey results and board contribution discussion.

### **13.q. Advocacy Report**

**Speaker(s):** Lon Garrison, Andrea Watts

Reported on the conclusion of the 1st session of the 34th Legislature.

### **13.r. Annual Conference Report**

**Speaker:** Katie Oliver

Provided an update on the upcoming 72nd Annual Conference.

## **14. Future Business**

- Succession Plan
- What we can't do - we are at maximum capacity
- Board Member Engagement Plan
- HR Policy on Layoffs
- Financial Reports for Board
- Training on Grants
- Finance Committee
- Bylaws Reviews

### **Officer Changes:**

Marie Greene voluntarily stepped down from the President-Elect position to continue serving as a board member.



## **Election Actions:**

Clarence Daniel moved to open the floor for nominations to the position of President Elect, seconded by Paul Robbins, Jr.

- **President-Elect Nominees:**

- Darlene Trigg (Nominated by Marie Greene, seconded by Amber Frommherz)
- Julia Phelan (Nominated by Margo Bellamy, seconded by Paul Robbins Jr.)

**Vote outcome:** Julia Phelan elected President-Elect via secret ballot.

Clarence moves to open up nominations for Secretary/Treasurer, seconded by Amber Frommherz.

- **Secretary/Treasurer Nominee:**

- Darlene Trigg (Nominated by Margo Bellamy, seconded by Clarence Daniel)
- **Motion to close nominations:** Tim Doran, seconded by Marie Greene

**Outcome:** Passed unanimously. Darlene Trigg elected Secretary/Treasurer.

## **15. Closing Comments**

### **Annie Weyiouanna:**

Welcome to the new members. Congratulations to those stepping into new roles. Thank you to the staff for the amazing work you've done in support of our districts—we deeply appreciate it.

### **Darlene Trigg:**

Thank you all for your support. I came into this meeting prepared to share some difficult thoughts, and I appreciate the space to do so. That openness strengthened my confidence in this board and our ability to collaborate effectively. I'm honored to step into this new role and look forward to the work ahead. Thank you also to the staff



**Penny Vadla:**

Thank you to the staff and to Lon for everything you've done this past year. Margo, thank you for staying on top of all the moving pieces. I think we accomplished a lot, and I truly enjoyed working with all of you.

**Amber Frommherz:**

Thank you to the staff—and especially to Mindy for helping me with my flights. I learned so much at this meeting. Welcome to the new board members, and thank you all.

**Clarence Daniel:**

I echo everything that's already been said. Thank you all for your work and for a productive meeting.

**Melanie Kasayulie:**

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this board. I'm still learning, but I'm really enjoying the experience and working with such a great group of people.

**Paul Robbins Jr.:**

It was great to meet everyone. I absolutely plan to run again in November and hope to continue working with all of you. Special thanks to Mindy, who made it possible for me to be here on such short notice—I was appointed Monday and arrived by Thursday. We made it happen!

**Tim Doran:**

Looking ahead, I want to highlight that several districts in our state are becoming involved in lawsuits—both statewide and nationally. As an association, we need to stay ready to support them. These districts are not only representing themselves, but also all of us. Thank you to the superintendents and boards willing to take on these legal challenges.

**Frieda Nageak:**

It's been a great couple of days. This was my first in-person board meeting—I attended my first one virtually. I really appreciated the opportunity to be here and connect with all of you.

**Julia Phelan:**

We made it! One of the things I love most about Alaska is the strength of the connections we build. It's always great to strengthen those relationships. Thank you all for your diligence—not just here, but back home with your local boards.



**Marie Greene:**

Thank you all. It's been a beautiful meeting. I appreciate everyone's time, effort, and commitment.

**Margo Bellamy:**

Thank you, everyone. We all work hard to do what's best for kids every day. Just remember to take care of yourselves, too—give yourselves grace, rest when you need it, and cherish your family time. Being here with all of you is truly a highlight for me.

**Mindy Wetherall:**

Thank you for answering emails and for being flexible with scheduling and travel. I appreciate working with each of you.

**Lori Grassgreen:**

Thank you. Everyone on our team is here because we care deeply about students. Whether it's helping families, promoting mental health, or supporting postsecondary planning, we're all focused on making life better for students in Alaska. It's a difficult time to do that well, so I really appreciate the important conversations this board is having.

**Tiffany Jackson:**

Thank you to the board for everything you do and the time you give up with your families. Your service means a lot. I'm grateful to work with such dedicated people—we have a great team.

**Katie Oliver:**

Between now and the Annual Conference, we'll be reaching out to your local boards to recruit members for committee positions. If you know of someone who might be a great fit—or someone who might benefit from extra engagement—please let me know. We want to give them a personal invitation. Each year, we also have a few last-minute dropouts at the Annual Conference, so we may be calling on you—especially for resolutions. Thank you all for your willingness and commitment.

**Lon Garrison:**

Thank you to the board for your hard work, honest conversations, and continued support. While our focus is always on students, we also have a duty to support local boards as they navigate difficult decisions. Please reach out to your fellow board members when they're going through tough times—a kind word or note can go a long way. I appreciate everything you do.



**Dana Mock (President):**

I'll say this with both joy and a little sorrow—I don't love having this meeting in Anchorage, where so much else is going on. We miss out on chances to really connect as a team. I hope we can challenge ourselves to get to know one another better, even in virtual or busy environments. This was a long but motivating meeting. Your passion inspires me to continue this hard, heartfelt work. Thank you all, and thank you to the staff for all that you do.

**16. Adjournment**

**Action:** Motion to adjourn

**Moved by:** Clarence Daniel

**Seconded by:** Margo Bellamy

**Outcome:** Motion passed without objection.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM**