Association of Alaska School Boards
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes (Approved)
July 17–18, 2026
Delta Greely School District, Delta Junction, Alaska

1. Call to order - 8:57 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Amber Frommherz	Present (Arrived 2:30 pm)
Tim Doran	Present
Carl Jacobs	Excused
Sigvanna Tapqaq	Present
Phil Burdick	Present
Annie Weyiouana	Present
Melanie Kasayulie	Present
Penny Vadla	Present
Clarence Daniel	Present (Arrived 11:10 am)
Marie Greene	Excused
Margo Bellamy	Excused
Michael Swain	Present
Darlene Trigg	Present
Dana Mock	Present
Julia Phelan	Present

3. Quorum Established
A quorum was established with the members present.

4. Pledge of Allegiance
President Phelan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Moment of Silence
A moment of silence was observed.

6. Land Acknowledgment
Tim Doran read the AASB Land Acknowledgement

7. Equity Statement
Phil Burdick read the AASB Equity Statement

8. Approval of Agenda
Motion: Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Made by: Tim Doran
Second: Penny Vadla

Outcome: Motion carried with no opposition.

9. Approval of Minutes:
Motion: To approve all meeting minutes as presented in the agenda.
Made by: Tim Doran
Second: Penny Vadla
Outcome: Motion carried with no opposition.

10. Ratification of Exec Committee
Motion: To ratify the actions of the Executive Committee taken since the March 2026 board meeting, including:

- Approval of the 2026 June Nelson Memorial Scholarship recipients (May 6, 2026).
- Approval to apply for supplemental funding for the Alaska Family Engagement Center (up to $350,000) and the Full Service Community Schools Grant (up to $800,000) (May 21, 2026).
- Approval to apply for additional supplemental funding for the Alaska Family Engagement Center (up to $500,000) and the Full Service Community Schools Grant (up to $2,800,000) (June 15, 2026).
- Recommendation to appoint Sigvanna Tapqaq to fill the board vacancy created by Frieda Nageak's resignation and approval to submit a letter of intent for the Promise Neighborhoods grant (June 18, 2026).

Made by: Penny Vadla
Second: Tim Doran
Outcome: Motion carried with no opposition.

11. Board Self-Evaluation
Motion: To move into executive session to conduct the Board Self-Evaluation.
Made by: Phil Burdick
Seconded by: Annie Weyiouanna
Outcome: Motion carried with no opposition.

Board went into Executive Session at 9:13 a.m.

Michael Swain exited the executive session at 9:13 a.m. and returned at 9:25 a.m.
Sigvanna Tapqaq exited the executive session at 9:20 a.m. and returned at 10:45 a.m.
Darlene Trigg exited the executive session at 11 a.m. and returned at 12:50 p.m.
Clarence Daniel arrived at 11:10 a.m.

The Board concluded the Executive Session at 11:37 a.m. and recessed for lunch.
Reconvened meeting at 12:50 p.m.

12. Financial Report

12.A. AASB Audit Report
Speaker: Max Mertz
Max Mertz joined the meeting via Zoom and shared his audit presentation.

12.A.1. Optional Q & A with the auditor (Board only).
The board opted not to go into executive session for Q&A with the auditor.

12.B. Chief Financial Officer Report
Speaker: Evan Reeves
CFO Evan Reeves reviewed the financial report and supporting documents included in the board packet. The Board discussed Policy 503 (Revenue), the organization's revenue composition, and the importance of maintaining and expanding non-federal funding sources.

12.B.1. Cash Asset Report - Raffa
Matt O'Lone from Raffa Investment Advisors provided a report and an investment summary in the board packet for review.

12.C. Adoption of the 2025 Audit
Motion: To accept the 2025 Audit Report
Moved By: Clarence Daniel
Seconded: Penny Vadla
Outcome: The motion carried with no opposition.

Recess: 2:24 p.m.
Reconvene: 2:35 p.m.
Amber Frommherz joined the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

13. Board Priority Setting
Speaker: Tiffany Jackson

Tiffany Jackson facilitated a board priority-setting exercise focused on identifying priorities for the Executive Director and the Board. The Board identified ten organizational priorities, with Advocacy, Professional Development, and Relationship Building selected as the top three priorities.

14. Correspondence

Several letters were included in the correspondence section of the board packet.

Recess: 4:25 p.m.
Reconvene: 8:50 a.m. on 7/18/2026

15. Reports/Discussion Items

15.A. President's Report
Speaker: Julia Phelan
President Julia Phelan included a written report in the board packet. She expressed gratitude for all the hard work and dedication coming from staff and board members.

15.B. Past President Report
Speaker: Dana Mock
Past President Dana Mock gave a verbal report.

15.C. President-Elect Report
Speaker: Darlene Trigg
President-Elect Darlene Trigg gave a verbal report on their committee work as well as NSBA and Pacific Region meetings.

15.D. Secretary-Treasurer Report
Speaker: Michael Swain
Secretary-Treasurer Michael Swain gave a brief verbal report.

15.E. Executive Director Report
Speaker: Tiffany Jackson
Executive Director Tiffany Jackson provided a written report in the board packet. Jackson gave verbal updates to that report.

Recess: 10:05 a.m.
Reconvene: 10:27 a.m.

15.F. Associate Executive Director Report
Speaker: Katie Oliver
Associate Executive Director Katie Oliver provided a report in the board packet. In addition to the attached report, Oliver shared a District Participation Tracker for board members to explore district participation in AASB services and grants partnerships this school year.

15.G. Director of Conditions for Learning (CFL) Report
Speaker: Lori Grassgreen
CFL Director Lori Grassgreen provided a report in the board packet.

Grassgreen gave a verbal update highlighting the challenges of rewriting grants.

15.H. Long Range Plan Report
Speaker: Katie Oliver
A report spanning from July 2025 to June 2026 was provided in the board packet.

15.I. Advocacy Report
A report written by AASB lobbyist Andrea Watts was provided in the board packet.

15.J. Membership Committee Report
Speaker: Clarence Daniel
The results of the membership survey were provided in a report that was included in the board packet.

15.K. Constitution & Bylaws Report
Speaker: Tiffany Jackson
A report was provided in the board packet.

15.L. Sustainability Committee Report
Speaker: Tim Doran
A report was provided in the board packet, which included a matrix tool to evaluate the sustainability of AASB services.

Recess for Lunch: 11:50 a.m.
Reconvene: 1:25 p.m.

15.M. June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Committee Report
Speaker: Dana Mock
A committee report was provided in the board packet. Discussion was held regarding future scholarships and fundraising.

15.N. Ad Hoc Tribal Compacting and Consultation Committee Report
Speaker: Darlene Trigg
Darlene added a verbal update to the committee report that was provided in the board packet. Discussion followed.

15.O. ASAA Report
Speaker: Margo Bellamy (Excused)
A report was provided in the board packet.

15.P. Annual Conference Report
Speaker: Katie Oliver
Katie Oliver shared highlights from the report provided by Jenni Lefing.

Break: 2:25 p.m.
Reconvene: 2:45 p.m.

16. Action Items

16.A. Approval of Executive Director's Contract
Motion: To approve the Executive Director's Contract.
Made by: Clarence Daniel
Seconded by: Phil Burdick
Outcome: The motion carried with no opposition.

16.B. Amicus Brief Approval
No items were presented at this time.

16.C. Resolutions

Motion 1: To continue 13 sunsetting resolutions as recommended by staff and to allow Resolution 2.45, *Teacher Education Loan Expansion to sunset.*
Made by: Michael Swain
Seconded by: Clarence Daniel
Outcome: The motion carried with no opposition.

Motion 2: To amend Belief Statement B17 by adding the second sentence: *"AASB encourages the Alaska Legislature and the Governor to declare our children a most valuable resource,"* and by adding the phrase *"to the highest standard"* in the third sentence, along with the early sunsetting of Resolution 3.1.
Made by: Michael Swain
Seconded by: Penny Vadla
Outcome: The motion passed by a vote of 10 in favor and 1 opposed.

Motion 3: To amend B17 by inserting the phrase *"are the top priority for our state"* after the phrase *"declare our children"* and before the phrase *"and our most valuable resource"* in the second sentence.
Made by: Tim Doran
Seconded by: Phil Burdick
Outcome: The motion passed by a vote of 8 in favor and 3 opposed.

Motion 4: To amend the second sentence of Resolution 1.10 to read: *"AASB is protective of local governance throughout its resolutions packet, including but not limited to the following areas."*
Made by: Julia Phelan
Seconded by: Penny Vadla

Outcome: The motion failed by a vote of 3 in favor and 8 opposed.

Motion 5: To amend Resolution 1.10 by replacing the word *"control"* with *"governance"* in the second sentence of the first paragraph.
Made by: Michael Swain
Seconded by: Amber Frommherz
Outcome: The motion carried with no opposition.

16.D. Promise Neighborhoods Grant Application
Motion 6: To approve the application for the Promise Neighborhoods grant.
Made by: Michael Swain
Seconded by: Clarence Daniel
Outcome: The motion carried with no opposition.

17. Future Business

- AASB Calendar
- Terms Expire
- Board Committees

18. Board Comments

Board members shared closing remarks expressing appreciation for the productive meeting, the opportunity to strengthen relationships, and the hospitality of hosts Dana Mock and President Julia Phelan. Members welcomed Tiffany Jackson in her new role as Executive Director and thanked AASB staff for their hard work and dedication.

Board members also shared updates from their districts, celebrated student and staff accomplishments, and emphasized the importance of student voice, collaboration, and continued advocacy for Alaska's schools and communities.

19. Adjournment
Action: Motion to Adjourn.
Made by: Dana Mock
Seconded by: Amber Frommherz
Outcome: Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 p.m.