



Regular Meeting

Saturday, April 15, 2023 9:00 AM
Remote, 1111 W 9th Street, Juneau, AK 99801

Unofficial Draft Minutes

1. Call to Order

President Greene called the regular meeting to order at 9:02am.

2. Roll Call

Margo Bellamy:	Present
Robyn Burke:	Present
Clarence Daniel:	Present
Tim Doran:	Present
Marie Greene:	Present
Diane Gubatayao:	Present
Wally Gust:	Present
Pete Hoepfner:	Present
Andy Holleman:	Present
Brian Holst:	Present
Dana Mock:	Present
Katie Oliver:	Present
Chrya Sanderson:	Present
Michael Swain:	Excused
Penny Vadla:	Present

3. Establish Quorum

A quorum was established.

4. Land Acknowledgement

5. Pledge of Allegiance

President Greene led the Pledge of Allegiance.

6. **Moment of Silence**

President Greene and the board observed a moment of silence.

7. **AASB Equity Statement**

The AASB Equity statement was read:

AASB believes in educational excellence for all of Alaska's students. Equity in public education means the fair allocation of resources, based on need, to address opportunity gaps and promote success for every student in Alaska. Students come to us from various backgrounds with different strengths and at varying degrees of readiness. What works for one student may not work for another.

AASB is obliged to support Alaska's students by providing school leaders with quality educational services such as policy, planning, hiring, and training to ensure successful outcomes for all students by respecting their race, ethnicity, religion, language, abilities, socioeconomic status, country of origin, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender, and gender identity.

AASB offers tools and resources to school boards and school districts to identify and eliminate systemic barriers and discriminatory practices, prejudices, and beliefs.

8. **Approval of Agenda**

Action(s):

I move to amend the agenda by moving all action items in section 12 to occur prior to section 11. This motion, made by Pete Hoepfner and seconded by Clarence Daniel, **Passed**.

Voting Summary: Yea: 14, Nay: 0, Excused : 1

9. **Approval of Minutes**

Action(s):

Move to approve minutes from November 7, 2022 Regular Board Meeting, December 14, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting, January 10, 2023 Special Board Meeting and March 13, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting. This motion, made by Clarence Daniel and seconded by Penny Vadla, **Passed**.

Voting Summary: Yea: 14, Nay: 0, Excused : 1

10. **Correspondence**

The Board reviewed correspondence in board packet from R. Gleason.

11. **Action Items**

11.A. 2023 Budget Revision

Speaker(s): Lon Garrison
Jenny Mathis

Garrison noted that he and Jenny Mathis were not prepared to move forward with a budget revision at this time. Mathis noted that AASB received nearly every grant that was recently applied for, after the budget was approved. As such, revising the budget is a substantial task, so Jenny Mathis and Lon Garrison are requesting to move this to a special meeting or at the July regular meeting.

Action(s):

I move to postpone the 2023 budget revision to either a special meeting between now and July or to the July regular meeting. This motion, made by Clarence Daniel and seconded by Margo Bellamy, **Passed.**

Voting Summary: Yea: 14, Nay: 0, Excused: 1

11.B. JNMS Scholarship Recommendation

Speaker(s): Penny Vadla

Committee Chair Vadla expressed thanks to the committee and staff members who helped score. She reviewed the written report, and noted that the scholarship committee reviewed the process for making the JNMS Scholarship Recommendations prior to beginning work. The report included student name recommendations for recipients of the 2023 June Nelson Memorial Scholarship. The committee work also included providing some ideas for clarification moving forward.

Discussion was held around the importance of the scholarship, and the positive feelings that come from participating in the process. The essay topic of social emotional learning was powerful.

Action(s):

I move that the 2023 June Nelson Memorial scholarship recommendations be approved and notifications be given out to those students. This motion, made by Tim Doran and seconded by Diane Gubatayao, **Passed.**

Voting Summary: Yea: 14, Nay: 0, Excused: 1

11.C. Board Approval of New Positions

Speaker(s): Lon Garrison

Garrison reviewed the AASB staffing plan and the Board discussed the request for the two new positions.

President Elect Margo Bellamy was excused from the meeting at 09:45 but indicated support for these positions before she left.

Action(s):

I move to approve the creation of the Grants Administrator and the Conditions for Learning - Associate Director positions as described in the AASB Staffing Plan - April 2023. This motion, made by Pete Hoepfner and seconded by Robyn Burke, **Passed.**

Voting Summary: Yea: 13, Nay: 0, Excused: 2

12. **Reports/Discussion Items**

12.A. President's Report

Speaker(s): Marie Greene

President Greene highlighted some of the items from her written report including the appreciation representing AASB at the NSBA 2023 Annual Conference and Exposition.

12.B. Past President's Report

Speaker(s): Peter Hoepfner

Past President Hoepfner reviewed some of the highlights from his written report, including the importance of advocating for education funding in a sustainable manner, even if it is just from a short note in support or opposition when a "call to action" comes out. Hoepfner has also

been serving on the teacher recruitment and retention subcommittee and gave an update on their work. The board held discussion regarding the importance of testimony regarding education funding and teacher retention.

12.C. President Elect's Report
No report given.

Speaker(s): Margo Bellamy

12.D. Secretary/Treasurer's Report
Secretary/Treasurer Mock noted his appreciation for attending the NSBA 2023 Annual Conference and Exposition, which has brought back a lot of helpful information for his district and the state.

Speaker(s): Dana Mock

12.E. NSBA/AIAN Directors Reports

Speaker(s): Peter Hoepfner
and Michael Swain

Past President Hoepfner noted that he would discuss under Pacific Region & NSBA Report agenda item.

12.F. Pacific Region and NSBA Report

Speaker(s): Marie Greene,
Peter Hoepfner, Michael
Swain, Lon Garrison

President Elect Margo Bellamy returned to the meeting at 10:25 AM.

Board member Hoepfner reviewed highlights from the Pacific Region & NSBA written report. Hoepfner also mentioned the NSBA rearrangement of regions and the importance of including youth voices.

Hoepfner reviewed AASB participation in the January NSBA Equity & Advocacy Institute and the March/April NSBA Annual Meeting.

The board discussed how to strengthen AASB & NSBA voices and show the importance of quality of education and address the voucher situation. There was also conversation about the concern over the change to 3 regions and how we as a board can encourage states and regions to return.

Board member Margo Bellamy returned to the meeting at 10:25 AM.

12.G. ASAA Report

Speaker(s): Dana Mock

ASAA Representative Mock gave an ASAA Report, primarily focused on a recent resolution by the State Board of Education requesting the Department of Education and Early Development to require ASAA to change its policy relating to divisions based on biological sex.

Mock noted that ASAA bylaw amendments were sent out to all school principals, superintendents and school board presidents (prior to the ASAA board knowing about it). The way the policy was written prompted a lot of response, both in support and in opposition. Mock's goal for BOD discussion and input is to come to a consensus on the board's position so that Mock can present that to the ASAA board in two weeks.

Discussion followed, with many board members expressing disappointment and frustration at the situation and lack of due process. Board members indicated it would not be in the best interest of ASAA to take action, and expressed concern over lack of district inclusion in the process. Board members also expressed appreciation for Dana and his representation of AASB.

Mock reminded the board that although he represents AASB at ASAA, each region also has a representative who should be representing school district opinions, and suggested that communicating with them could be another way to guide the conversation.

Executive Director Garrison recommended that the board provide guidance and support to Dana on how to voice AASB's opinion on the matter, and offered to draft a letter with President Greene, to submit to ASAA. Once developed, the letter would be sent to the board prior to submitting to ASAA.

AASB Resolution 3.30 was referenced as a place to start regarding AASB's stance on safe and inclusive learning environments for LGBTQ+ students. Belief Statement B.1 on Local Governance & Equity Statements were also referenced as important to refer back to in a written statement on the issue.

Action(s):

I move that Executive Director Lon Garrison work with President Greene to develop a statement in response to ASAA bylaw revision. This motion, made by Margo Bellamy and seconded by Diane Gubatayao, Passed.

Voting Summary: Yea: 13, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

12.H. 2023 Annual Conference Discussion

Speaker(s): Jenni Lefing

Jenni Lefing went over the highlights from her written report, noting the actual profit was up in 2022 at \$88,340.77, compared to \$30,018.03 for 2021. Lefing reminded the Board that November 9-12, 2023 will be the dates for this year's conference, and asked for guidance for topics to include, indicating she would then work with President Greene to develop a theme.

The board provided many ideas, which were recorded and sent to Lefing separately. Lefing made a note that board members are always nice to hear from during the Conference, as well as youth entertainment from the various school districts.

Recess 12:30 PM
Reconvene 1:01 PM

12.I. Director of Advocacy Report

Speaker(s): Norm Wooten

Directory of Advocacy Norm Wooten reviewed the highlights from his written report. The report highlights that the 33rd legislature might be known as "the year of education". This session your advocacy team has "stepped up" efforts beyond what AASB has ever done from our beginnings.

Board discussion followed regarding the topic of a BSA increase. The need may come to send the message to the governor's office from voices around the state regarding the need for fair, equitable and dependable BSA increase.

12.J. Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report

Speaker(s): Dana Mock

Committee Chair Mock noted that the Constitution & Bylaws committee could not meet, but hope to convene in the next two weeks. Proposed changes were referred to in the packet, and show what the committee will be reviewing.

12.K. Membership Committee Report

Speaker(s): Chyra Sanderson

Committee Chair Sanderson gave a brief overview of the written report. The board viewed the new membership video. <https://vimeo.com/817737477>

12.L. Sustainability Committee Report

Speaker(s): Brian Holst

Committee Chair Holst reviewed progress made toward the sustainability checklist. The Board decided to pilot the tool this summer and see how it works, make adjustments and at that point, move forward with adopting the checklist to use as a tool.

12.M. Advocacy Committee Report

Nothing in addition to the Director of Advocacy Report.

12.N. BLN Report

Speaker(s): All Directors

No responses for BLN report. Executive Director Garrison suggested using AASB Connect as a way to get feedback from BLN contacts. One board member did receive appreciation for the BLN network, so that reiterated the need for this support.

President Marie Greene and President Elect Margo Bellamy excused themselves from the meeting due to prior commitments. Secretary/Treasurer Dana Mock took over as Chair.

12.O. Executive Director Evaluation Preparation

Speaker(s): Lon Garrison

Garrison referred to evaluation questions and asked for feedback on the questions and noted that more information will be coming within the appropriate timeline. Discussion followed regarding the comments sections.

12.P. Board Self Assessment Preparation

Speaker(s): Timi Tullis

Tullis reminded Board members that it is important to take the time to fill this out. Tullis posed the question about having someone come in from outside to help facilitate board self evaluation. Discussion followed.

12.Q. Summer Meeting Logistics

Speaker(s): Kate Schaberg

Schaberg reviewed the written report outlining logistics for the summer BOD meeting. She noted she would be sending a follow up email with requests regarding travel preferences.

13. **Staff Reports**

13.A. Executive Director Report

Speaker(s): Lon Garrison

Garrison reviewed the highlights of his written report, including policy changes, new employment agreements, online timekeeping changes, and advocacy work AASB has been doing. Garrison commented on AASB's work continuing to build partnerships with other organizations. Garrison also noted that AASB's involvement with NSBA required a significant effort, but it went exceedingly well and was well worth the time and effort.

13.B. Associate Director Report

Speaker(s): Timi Tullis

Associate Director Tullis highlighted how many districts they've been working with - a big number! Tullis indicated that her biggest takeaway from NSBA was how many states out there don't have anything like AASB, and that really drove home that what we do is important and valuable.

13.C. Finance Director Report

Speaker(s): Jenny Mathis

Finance Director Mathis went over highlights of the financial report and noted the financial report numbers are unaudited, and may change once the audit is complete.

Mathis reviewed some items from the business office including grant report updates, negotiation of indirect rate (12.4%), the new time keeping system by individual grant, automated bill system for bill payments, and the implementation of Docusign. She reminded the Board that the annual audit begins on May 8, which will take place in the office all week. That report will come out for the July meeting.

13.D. Director of Membership Report

Speaker(s): Tiffany Jackson

Director of Membership Jackson noted that nearly 400 phone calls were received between November and February, in addition to what is noted in the report. There were six active superintendent reports during this period. A service agreement is in place so we will have charter school academy on Sept 29-30, for all charter schools around the state. She also gave kudos to Jenny Lefing for her work on the June Memorial Scholarship.

13.D.1. District Participation Report

Speaker(s): Tiffany Jackson

13.E. Director of Conditions for Learning Report

Speaker(s): Lori
Grassgreen

Lori Grassgreen commented that the CFL is a big team doing a lot of work, and referenced two video links in her report. She also highlighted two federal grants awarded since the November meeting - Full Service Community Schools (FSCS) & Project Transform. FSCS is about serving schools but also creating effective models to share with other districts throughout the state. Project Transform is an evaluation and participation grant, diving deep into trauma engagement piece.

Grassgreen then circled back to ASFEC, a family engagement grant where we are working with 14 districts from the state. Resources being developed from this grant, as well as the Carnegie grant, will be useful for all districts around the state.

13.F. Director of Advocacy Report

Speaker(s): Norm Wooten

Director of Advocacy Norm Wooten reviewed the highlights from his written report. The report highlights that the 33rd legislature might be known as "the year of education". This session your advocacy team has "stepped up" efforts beyond what AASB has ever done from our beginnings.

Board discussion followed regarding the topic of a BSA increase. The need may come to send the message to the governor's office from voices around the state regarding the need for fair, equitable and dependable BSA increase.

14. **Board Comments**

Tim: Appreciate everyone's time and insights today. Welcome to Kate and appreciate timeliness. Concern about where the state board is at this time especially regarding vacancies not being announced. The state board should be kept on our radar.

Clarence: Noted that we skipped the land acknowledgement at the beginning. He was able to attend indigenous language symposium in Hilo in February, and came out with a letter to President Biden on the indigenous/bilingual language equity statement he had. One thing that Hawaiians told us at the symposium was that in Hawaii, they have both Hawaiian and English recognized by the state government. Wondering what we could do to have the same recognition in Alaska, could help move our indigenous languages forward. Would like to see this topic on a future agenda, maybe a resolution to consider. Community Dialogue training was done in their district by Claudia and Konrad. It was great, kudos to them. Peer counseling happening with their students. ASAA report: ASAA region 1 is huge, larger than the state of California. Should have more representation on the ASAA board. Would like more information about tribal jurisdiction when it comes to banishing non tribal members to come talk to the board. Thank you to the staff.

Diane- good to see everyone. Enjoyed the new membership video, kudos to everyone who contributed. Congratulations to AASB on all of the new grants, can't imagine how busy the team is. We have a staff at AASB - none greater that exists, especially the amazing array of services provided for everyone around the state. Fortunate in Ketchikan to receive a \$4 million grant, all about mental health support in the district, based upon Transforming Schools design. all the work of AASB helped their district qualify for an amazing grant, thankful!

Brian - keep up the pressure in the legislature!

Penny- thank you to Jenny Mathis for the financial report and to Norm for his help with advocacy work. Thank you to Lori for her work, Lori is brilliant and we appreciate the work you do. Thanks to Tiffany for contribution to the June Nelson Memorial scholarship - Jenni too, she worked so hard to get that all together. Loved the video, Katie Oliver is wonderful! Sources of Strength and Educators Rising - celebrate that and pass it on. Happy we're revising evaluations for comments. Thank you to Lon.

Chrya - Thank you for being here and welcome Kate. Lon, Timi, Tiffany - thank you so much for the support you've given me, for answering questions as they come up. You are phenomenal people, always willing to help. Don't take you for granted, appreciate this team of people.

Pete- appreciate the lengthy conversation over issues that have popped up over ASAA. Good luck to Dana around that issue. Kudos to AASB staff- hope you all know the board really appreciates the excessive amount of work you do. Rockstar grant diva that brings such amazing things to our school board association that no other states have.

Robyn - Welcome to Kate, and thank you to all staff at AASB. Thank you to Tiffany for all of the trainings she has done. Some of their students participated in one of Tiffany's training and they loved that it was the same one board members receive. Back in January, they had a winter retreat for strategic planning and changed their mission to be in indigenous language, translated by multiple people into English. Throughout this year, the superintendent has been visiting each of the communities to hear what they want their schools to look like. Setting community expectations - gets students and families together, helping manage classrooms.

Circling back to teacher recruitment - last year we had a lot of turnover in the district. Particularly hard over the last few years and - started with Dr Bolen assisting with HR, it's been a long process but are now a H1B sponsor - approved for 25 positions.

Andy: wondering about regulations and bylaws related to charter schools.

Wally: missed you all, plan to be at the annual conference but hasn't been as active as usual due to the grieving process. He is wondering when he has questions, should he go to superintendent or directly to AASB and then AASB brings it to superintendent? How does the chain of command work? Appreciate on getting more up to speed on where AASB is right now and where we go from here. Wanting to get communities more involved.

Katie: appreciate opportunity to work on the membership video, nice affirmation of the value of AASB. Sometimes with nonprofits, when you have really strong teams - it can be challenging to step away from the work and tell the success stories. Welcome Kate - nice to see a Kodiak face.

Lon: thank you all for dedicating time to be AASB board members. Thanks to our wonderful staff and all that they do. It's a lot of work, and he is hoping the two new positions will help provide that relief. Wally - whatever we can do to improve his experience/challenges with tech, we will do.

Lori - thank you to the board, appreciate you dealing with such a range of things.

Kate – Appreciate the patience and welcoming nature of the board and staff at AASB. Being a mom and involved in youth development for 7 years, it's surprising how much work has been going on behind the scenes that I was not aware of. Thank you to the board for all that you do.

Dana- On behalf of the executive board - thank you for taking an entire Saturday for this board. Personally, offered thanks for leadership and guidance regarding the ASAA issue. Thank you to the staff for all that you do - impressiveness was noted at NSBA.

15. **Future Business**

No future business noted.

16. **Adjournment**

Action(s):

Move to adjourn. This motion, made by Pete Hoepfner and seconded by Clarence Daniel, **Passed.**

Voting Summary: Yea: 12, Nay: 0, Excused: 3