



Alaska School Board Association
Regular Meeting
Saturday, December 5, 2020
9:00 a.m.

Official Minutes

1. Call to Order
The regular meeting of the AASB Board of Directors was called to order by President Katie Oliver at 9:03 a.m.
2. Roll Call

Director	Present	Absent
Margo Bellamy	x	
Deena Mitchell	x	
Dana Mock	x	
Chrya Sanderson	x	
Brian Holst	x	
Penny Vadla	x	
Clarence Daniel	x	
John Mark	x	
Barb Amarok	x	
Muriel Brower	x	
Tillie Ticket	x	
Michael Swain	x	
Marie Greene	x	
Peter Hoepfner	x	
Katie Oliver	x	

3. Establish Quorum
Quorum was established
4. Pledge of Allegiance
President Katie Oliver lead the Pledge of Allegiance
A moment of silence was observed for the communities in Alaska that are struggling to manage the pandemic, and for the Community of Haines, and the missing teacher.
5. Approval of Agenda
Michael Swain moved/Marie Greene seconded to approved the agenda as presented, Motion approved unanimously

Deena Mitchell motioned/Penny Vadla seconded to amend the agenda by adding item 8A Fire grant.

Amendment of motion carries.

Penny Vadla moved/Peter Hoepfner seconded to re-order Jenni Lefing's annual conference report from item 7m to the beginning of the agenda.

Amendment of motion carries.

6. Approval of Minutes
Peter Hoepfner moved/Penny Vadla seconded to approve the August 1, 2020 meeting minutes.
Motion carries unanimously.

Michael Swain confirmed that we will need to review minutes from the October Special meeting at the next meeting.

7. Reports/Discussion Items
 - A. Annual Conference Review
Speaker(s): Jenni Lefing
Jenni Lefing provided a breakdown of the conference attendance:
 - 229 Annual Conference attendees from 36 school districts
 - 25 registered for Ready, set, govern this is smaller than our in-person group but the group was very engaged.
 - 70 registrants for the Ann McFarland Jurassic Parliament but several of those were group registrations which increases the number of actual attendees.Feedback from attendees in the evaluations was really great, for each session.
Discussion followed
 - B. President's Report
Speaker(s): Katie Oliver
President Katie Oliver extended a warm welcome to new board members Margo Bellamy, John Mark and Muriel Brower. She thanked them for their willingness to serve during this challenging time.
 - C. Past President's Report
Speaker(s): Michael Swain
Michael Swain is now chairing AIAN and has taken over the duties for the past chair who is no longer on his board. He has also been prepping for a NSBA meeting.
 - D. Executive Director's Report

Speaker(s): Norm Wooten

It has been fairly busy preparing for the transition of the new Executive Director and the upcoming Legislative session. A written report was provided in the board packet.

E. NSBA Director's Report

Speaker(s): Peter Hoepfner

NSBA is going through an interesting time right now. The Delegate Assembly which is usually done in April was postponed until August which ended up being a just Constitution and Bylaws. Several States are having governance issues, and the results from the Constitution and Bylaws are not quite ready. NSBA is undertaking a in-depth strategic learning process, trying to identify needs within NSBA. The new Executive District Anna Chavez is a really exciting leader. NSBA is currently offering a continuation of dismantling education leadership meetings monthly. The next upcoming meeting is December 17th.

F. AIAN Report

Speaker(s): Michael Swain

Continues to implore the Board of Directors and all school board members around the State to become members of AIAN, and all the councils. He is now a member of all three councils, AIAN, the National Black Council and the National Hispanic Council. All of our districts have students represented. There has been misinformation at times that you needed to be Alaska Native or American Indian to be a part of these councils. That is not true. It is to give a voice to the students we represent. Please consider joining if you are not a member. NSBA has made it easier, you can do it online by visiting their website. The membership fee is \$75 a year.

Pacific Region information: California will be rejoining NSBA after Anna Chavez the NSBA Executive Director did a lot of work with California's Executive District. He is looking forward to his first NSBA Board of Director meeting on December 17th. He is several as chair and on the NSBA Board of Directors until April of 2023. If there is anything you would brought to the Council or to the Board of Directors please contact him. Discussion followed.

G. AASB Review

Speaker(s): Katie Oliver / Timi Tullis

The Board of Directors orientation booklet that was sent out provides valuable information. Page three is important to take a look, it covers AASB Board travel and training. This page is also gone over with all your district Executive Administrators to outline the process for compensation for the Board, and what we cover at certain meetings. If you need a reminder, please read through page three of the Board Member Booklet. Timi will meet with the three new board members by phone to walk through some of these things. The Code of Ethics was included, please sign this and return it to us electronically. The job description there are a reminder because everyone is so busy, and we know that you have taken on this commitment to be on our board. At Lon's suggestion the Code of Ethics will be converted to a google form and if you will acknowledge you have read it by adding your initials and return it to us.

H. Associate Director's Report

Speaker(s): Timi Tullis

Tiffany Jackson has accepted the position to backfill into Lon's position when Lon moves into the Executive Director position in January. Staff is really excited Tiffany joining the AASB team. Right now, there are a lot of school board trainings happening. It is surprising because of the pandemic but it feels like there is more of connection. There are a lot of good questions coming from school boards. A reminder that if your district board signed up for Annual Conference every single board member has access to the

trainings and videos. There were some sessions at Annual Conference that were not able to be offered, but in January there will be a series of those sessions. Discussion followed.

I. Alaska ICE Director's Report

Speaker(s): Lori Grassgreen

Written report was provided in the board packet

J. Membership Services Director's Report

Speaker(s): Lon Garrison

Would like to highlight some things. Stating within Resolutions, keeping it simple worked well, thanks to everyone that participated. There seemed to be more board members in attendance. The Delegate Assembly went well, and tremendous thanks to President Oliver for providing a really great example of how good meeting facilitation can keep things moving along. Members were thankful for the opportunity to have debate, and in the end, we came out with an excellent document.

Policy services, he has been working hard to make sure that the policy services are an excellent value for each and every district. There are a couple new districts that have signed up for Policy online. He has been working with a taskforce from ALASBO reviewing business policies. He is looking forward to reviewing the policy manual.

Superintendent searches, there are currently three searches, in Unalaska, in Wrangell and in Sitka. 6 to 10 Superintendent searches in the coming year. Rich Carlson will not be continuing on with AASB. AASB will miss Rich's perspective.

The Carl Rose Leadership has been hard to keep track of, but with the amazing Heather Shaw, it will be easier to keep track of. He is looking forward to passing the torch to Tiffany.

Steve Nelson, Heather Shaw, and Laurie Miller really put the JNMS auction together.

Pretty happy with the results of the JNMS Auction. JNMS applications will be released soon. Mostly likely there will be a virtual review and selection again this year.

Transition has been going well, an hour is being spent daily on the transition plan. He is thankful for Norm's knowledge. With Di's retirement her position has been posted, Laurie Miller has agreed to take on some of the HR pieces Di had been doing. This elevated Laurie to an Administrative Coordinator position. There is going to be an interim person in the financial office. Lon has been meeting with every employee, and getting to know every employee and it has been wonderful to have conversations with staff. He has been reaching out to other organizations across the State.

Discussion followed. A written report was provided in the board packet.

K. Administrative Services Director's Report

Speaker(s): Diana Miller

Kudos to the admin team, really the entire staff as well. The admin team has been helping with Diana's transition.

L. ASAA Report

Speaker(s): Clarence Daniel

There was a November meeting with Basketball classification. The proposed basketball classification. Primarily 3A boys' basketball. ASAA has been trying to address this. The classification was passed at the November meeting. It was given to a committee. The committee took all of the input from the board. The committee attempt to address everything with a solution and accomplished what was given to them. The classification that was proposed was a very equitable solution for all schools. It has a series of two filters that schools can through to see if they would remain within a classification. If you are not familiar with the classification or have not read the minutes provided, the classification takes five areas that are automatically going to be placed into the 4A classification: Anchorage, Soldotna, Matsu, Fairbanks, and Juneau. There are two filters,

and a series of criteria points. It is like a living classification, things can shift and change over the years. There was a discussion about creating a 5A classification in basketball, it is supposed to come up for a vote at the next meeting. Many of the activities have been changed based on Covid-19 precautions. There is discussion about when wrestling will be held, the State competition should be held in the first week in May. To push wrestling back would be an equity issue. ASAA has six regions. Regions are split primarily by school size. We at AASB, our local school boards and student education in general, we focus on equity and when it comes to student sports the same thing has to be done. If not, the same students we are fighting for with equity in education are impacted by the inequities of sports activities.

Discussion Followed – ASAA November meeting minutes were provided in the board packet.

M. Report of Forum Meetings

Speaker(s): All Directors

Discussed under 8(E)

N. BLN Reports

Speaker(s): All Directors

Reports were not presented based on a decision to not pursue BLN contacts in advance of the virtual meeting. BLN contact information discussed under 8E.

Meeting recessed at 11:05 a.m. for a short break.

Meeting called back to order at 11:19 a.m.

8. Action Items

A. Approval of 2021 Budget

Speaker(s): Diana Miller / Norm Wooten

Diana explained the budget documents included in the board packet were similar to the documents provided to the budget committee. Discussion followed.

Dana Mock motioned/Penny Vadla seconded to approved the 2021 budget as presented, Discussion followed.

Director	Yea	Nay	Absent
Margo Bellamy	x		
Deena Mitchell	x		
Dana Mock	x		
Chrya Sanderson	x		
Brian Holst	x		
Penny Vadla	x		
Clarence Daniel	x		
John Mark	x		
Barb Amarok	x		

Muriel Brower		x
Tillie Ticket	x	
Michael Swain	x	
Marie Greene	x	
Peter Hoepfner	x	
Katie Oliver	x	

Motion carries 14-0

B. Approval of Policy 4.203

Speaker(s): Katie Oliver

The policy committee met October 2, 2020. The committee was chaired by Tiffany Jackson, Committee members included Katie Oliver, Deena Mitchell, Tillie Ticket and Dana Mock. The committee considered amendments to one policy at the October 2nd meeting, it was substantial amendments to policy 4.203 on harassment. The impetus for amendments to the policy was not in response to any internal issues but rather recognition that there had been no changes to the policy since the mid-90's. Michael Swain motioned/Peter Hoepfner seconded to approve policy 4.203. Grammatical changes were suggested for the fourth paragraph to include a comma after the word gender and under harassment fifth paragraph adding a possessive. Amended policy carries.

C. Approval of Pete Hoepfner's floor nomination for NSBA BOD

Michael Swain moved/Margo Bellamy seconded to approve nomination for Peter Hoepfner to the NSBA Board of Directors. Discussion followed. Motion carries.

D. Developing AASB Partnerships

Speaker(s): Norm Wooten / Timi Tullis

Norm gave an overview of the current partnerships we work but there are additional opportunities to work with other organizations. It may be beneficial if the Board would give their support for AASB to develop relationships with other partners. This would further benefit Alaska students. Michael Swain motioned / Peter Hoepfner seconded to direct staff to assess the advantage of creating tribal partnerships and move forward.

Discussion followed.

Michael Swain moved/ Margo Bellamy seconded to amend the motion allow staff to assess the advantage of creating partnerships outside traditional educational entities and move forward. Amended motion carries.

E. Priority Issues for 2021

Speaker(s): Timi Tullis / Lon Garrison/ Norm Wooten

Lon explained how like size district forum lead the path for the Legislative priorities. Norm gave a brief planning overview for the upcoming Legislative session. Discussion followed.

F. BLN assignments

Speaker(s): Katie Oliver

President Oliver explained BLN contacts assignments and provided an overview of the history of connecting with School Board Presidents as an AASB Board of Director. Discussion followed.

G. Committee Appointments

Speaker(s): Katie Oliver

President Oliver gave an overview of the AASB Committees, encouraged everyone to review the committee information in the Board of Director Handbook and requested volunteers for the committees. Discussion followed. Committee assignments were established.

H. Fire Grant

Speaker(s): Norm gave a description about the HHS FIRE grant and Policy 504. Motion by Marie Greene and Seconded by Penny Vadla to approve the sole source contract for the HHS grant for assessment purposes. With no objection the motion passes.

9. Board Comments

Board comments are as follows:

- Well organized meeting
- Thank you to everyone for all your hard work
- Missing seeing everyone in person
- Gratitude for Norm Wooten and Diana Miller who are retiring
- Thank you to Laurie Miller for taking on more leadership roles
- Congratulations to Lon Garrison and Tiffany Jackson on their new positions
- Healing thoughts for Tillie Ticket and her father
- Welcome to the board to Margo Bellamy, Muriel Brower, and John Mark
- Pleased that the national conversation is focused on opening schools
- Have a safe holiday season
- Tremendous thanks to AASB staff
- Thank you to the Board for agreeing to move the date of the Board of Directors meeting
- If able please check out the Awesome Alaska Kids, it is set in Bethel and stars a young man from Bethel. When you get to the Kodiak episode, the young man is President Oliver's nephew.

10. Future Business

The Spring Board meeting will be virtual, however hopefully by Summer the Board of Directors will be able to meet in person for the summer meeting July 16-18. The Executive Committee will meet to go over the Summer meeting.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Michael Swain/Deena Mitchell seconded.

Motion to adjourn carries. Meeting adjourns at 3:51 p.m.