



**Association of Alaska School Boards
Board of Directors
REGULAR MEETING
April 1, 2017
Baranof Hotel, Gastineau Suite**

CALL TO ORDER

President Pete Hoepfner called the regular meeting of the Association of Alaska School Boards to order at 8:32 am.

ROLL CALL

Pete Hoepfner	Present	Mike Swain	Present
Angie Washington	Excused	Tiffany Jackson	Present
Charlene Arneson	Present	Ignatius Chayalkun	Absent
Sarah Welton	Present*	Barb Amarok	Present
Tammy Pound	Present	Clarence Daniel	Present
Dana Mock	Present	Kathleen Plunkett	Present
Cass Pook	Present	Andi Story	Present
Penny Vadla	Present		

** Sarah Welton was present by teleconference*

ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by President Hoepfner.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A Moment of Silence was observed by the Board of Directors.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA MOTION

Andi/Charlene moved/seconded to approve the agenda.

By a roll call vote of 13-0, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION

Tammy/Penny moved/seconded to approve the November Board of Director's Meeting Minutes as stated.

By a roll call vote of 13-0, the motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

There were no visitors.

BOD WORKSHOPS AND ATTENDANCE

Tables for free workshops and board attendance for 2016 were included in the BOD packet for review.

Discussion of the board followed.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was correspondence in the form of an article on Unalaska School District's strategic planning and a letter to the Anchorage School Board on a webinar presented by AASB's Timi Tullis and Bristol Bay Supt. Bill Hill.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

President's Report

President Hoepfner briefly highlighted a couple of things about the NSBA Annual Conference from his written report. His remarks included:

- Attended the delegates assembly at NSBA Annual Conf. in Denver with Michael Swain. Three board policies were discussed: equity of employment, nondiscrimination, and access to educational opportunities. Each had a gender identity component. None passed, but they did get more support than previous year. Perhaps next year they will pass.
- The resolutions process at the NSBA Annual Conf. was extensive and a bit problematic with voting clicker device issues / while standing vote would remove anonymity.

Discussion of the board followed. Barb Amarok brought up the Equity-Mode Questionnaire and User Guide mentioned in the report and asked if/how AASB was going to be using it. Norm Wooten responded that with it's impact for the board's Goal #1, it is an obligation and privilege to use this resource. AASB is working to incorporate it into various future trainings.

Executive Director's Report

Norm Wooten, AASB Executive Director, referred to his written report included in the board packet. He highlighted the following:

- There are four documents that guide Norm as the Exec. Director and guide the work of the AASB office – two from the Board of Directors (Board Policy and Board Goals) and two from the AASB Delegate Assembly (Constitution and Bylaws and the Resolutions). He wanted to share the importance he and staff put into that, and let the board know that is how he frames this report.

Discussion of the board followed, including a question from Barb on increasing educator requirements specifically around Alaska and Alaska Natives. Norm Wooten talked about his participation on the AK Civics Task Force and mentioned that this and related topics are on the radar of the State Board of Education and the department and will be addressed soon. A follow-up comment from Andi related to the Alaska Education Challenge

and inserting our voice to make sure we're helping to influence the conversation and outcomes as it pertains to teacher qualification and readiness. Norm explained that the commissioner was adamant that school board members participate on the committees, to shape a state plan to transform education for Alaska.

<https://gov.alaska.gov/administration-focus/alaskas-education-challenge/>

AASB's 30-second 'Gavel Alaska' TV Announcements Feature District Innovations and Efficiencies

<http://aasb.org/new-aasb-gavel-alaska-spots-feature-district-innovations-efficiencies/>

Annual Audit Review

Topics related to the Annual Audit were discussed fully with auditors Karen Tarver and Theresa Harris from Elgee Rehfeld Mertz. Financial reports were shared and walked-through with the board. There were no issues or findings for this year's audit. Diana Miller (AASB Business Manager) and Norm Wooten were available for any questions about the AASB audit process.

As was done last year, AASB staff stepped out of the room so the board could freely ask questions and make comments with the auditors.

Discussion, comments and questions by the board followed.

Acceptance of Audit Report

MOTION

Tammy/Cass moved/seconded to approve the 2016 audit report as presented.

Pete Hoepfner – Y	Mike Swain – Y
Angie Washington – Excused	Tiffany Jackson - Y
Charlene Arneson – Y	Iggy Chayalkun – Absent
Sarah Welton – Y	Cass Pook - Y
Andi Story – Y	Kathleen Plunkett –
Barb Amarok – Y	Tammy Pound - Y
Clarence Daniel – Y	Dana Mock – Y
Penny Vadla- Y	

By a vote of 12 ayes, 0 nays the motion carried.

NSBA Report

Tiffany Jackson remarked on a few items from her written report.

- The idea for the board's consideration to allow the Secretary/Treasurer to serve as an alternate at the NSBA Annual Conference. Not paying their way, but serving as an official alternate gives them a seat at the table and opportunity to vote if our President or President-elect needed to step away from the meeting.

- Lucy Gettman is resigning and Kim Richey will be taking over as NSBA's Chief Advocacy Officer.

- The Alaska Native/American Indian caucus is taking steps to get a voting seat at NSBA. As a first step, the board gave Norm Wooten and staff direction to draft a resolution that the board would vote on at the July meeting and take to the delegate assembly in November.

Board discussion followed, including President Hoepfner's suggestion to provide an Alaska Native/American Indian caucus report at each board meeting, beginning in July.

CDL Report

Bob Whicker, Director of the Consortium for Digital Learning, referred to his written report. He made mention of some things since the report was written, including:

- Conversation on and about digital learning is advancing, which is encouraging. Greater use of technology in the state's education model has been a big topic for discussion in the legislature this session.
- Bob has given testimony at the capitol to the Senate and House education committees.
- Established a cooperative agreement with DEED to provide districts technology services in the areas of broadband, technology implementation, and CTE/Career Technology.
- Gave an analysis of SB 96 to Senator Hughes and her office, outlining the strengths and weaknesses of the proposed language that is in the bill in terms of virtual education.
- Technology mentoring services are in discussions with several districts for next year implementation.
- Digital book for Yukon Koyukuk School District and Allakaket School is nearing completion. All students at the school participated in the project.
- Our policy services are continuing to grow. Two workshops are coming up in Aleutians East and Anchorage. Also progressing on our district self-service model online through Microscribe that we are piloting with Alaska Gateway School District.
- 2017 annual policy updates are in and we will be sending them out soon.

Board discussion followed.

Alaska ICE Report

Lori Grassgreen, Alaska ICE Director, referred to her written report included in the board packet. Highlights of the report included:

- Excited about the work they are starting with Nome, Yukon Koyukuk, and Southwest Region School Districts through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant. This will be focused on cultural safety and education.
- Transition to Panorama with the School Climate survey has gone well. Cost savings, ability for districts to work with their data online, and clean data reliability are a few advantages.
- Staff changes to ICE team: Mark Calvert and his wife Sarah had a son, and he will be starting a business in Juneau. Claudia Plesa was hired and will start this coming Wed. She has experience working with youth, knows and has worked in a lot of the communities in Alaska, and she has great evaluation skills.
- A lot of time and effort has gone in to Culturally Responsive Embedded Social Emotional Learning (CRESEL) work. Starting to share those efforts with the seven districts on our website. All districts are doing things a little differently, but it's all focused on SEL in a way that fits with community context.

- Hosting a pre-Conference day in November that will be around trauma informed schools. Starting to put that together.

Discussion of the board followed.

Alaska School Activities Association Report

The Alaska School Activities Association (ASAA) is the governing body that regulates interscholastic activities, contests and programs statewide. A board that is elected from their association membership and includes a voting representative from the AASB Board (Angie Washington) governs ASAA.

Angie was excused from attending the board meeting due to illness, so the board referred to her written report and meeting minutes in the packet.

Discussion of the board followed, including conversation around certified staff and coaches within school districts.

Recess: 10:30
Reconvene: 10:50

Board Development & Field Services Report

Timi Tullis referred to her written director's report and wanted to highlight some other things, including:

- AASB conducted and completed superintendent searches for Kodiak and Copper River School Districts. Hoonah just filled out a contract and Lon Garrison will take the lead on their search. Kuspuk is facilitating their own search, but AASB staff is helping out with phone calls.
- Charter School Academies (led by Lon with support from Timi) over the last two years have been fruitful and continue to benefit school districts with charter schools and the association. Timi will lead a training with a Palmer charter school next weekend. More important than the revenue, it has been great to build relationships with the charters. They now know that they are associate members and can come to AASB with questions.
- Each summer for the last three years, the last full weekend in June, the trainers work-alike group (100-150 total) gets together. This year they will meet in Biloxi, MI, but it's set for Juneau, AK in 2018.
- Tracking calls from district admins and board members on a monthly basis. AASB is assuming an advisory role of support for superintendents and board members and the numerous calls and visits reflect that.

Board discussion followed, including delving deeper into topics that the charter trainings have covered and taking advantage of this previously untapped opportunity to work together. Kathleen also made the suggestion to track legislative calls into our office.

Annual Conference Planning

Timi Tullis, Director of Board Development and Field Services, referred to her report and mentioned the fact that we were down in numbers this past year, especially with youth at the Youth Leadership Institute. This was due to the loss of the ANE grant funding that would go to districts to help bring students.

Board discussion followed, including comments around continued focus on equity and curriculum pieces at conferences/workshops. The idea of the importance and benefits of continuing education as board members attending AASB meetings was also discussed.

The board also held discussion of a conference theme for next year and tentatively decided on: *Empowering the Whole Child*.

The board talked about various sectional ideas/topics, including:

- Discover your potential (vocational, CTE options for students)
- Aligning the Educator's Rising Standards with our own framework and goals -- Cultural competence (*Vision*), Collaboration (*Structure*), Reflective practice (*Accountability*), Relevant education (*Advocacy*), Child Advocacy (*Conduct and ethics*)
- American Indian/Alaska Native caucus discussion or roundtable
- Polaris K-12 roundtable (from Anchorage SD)
- Digital media citizenship (appropriate use of technology)
- Ways to bring CTE programs to your district (led by Mike Swain?)
- Useful Apps roundtable (led by Angie Washington?)
- Conducting successful board meetings; best practices for board members
- Open Meetings Act
- How to better prepare students for college-level coursework (from university and school district point of view) and What some successful districts are currently doing (dual credits, interventions with students to increase skills, partnering with universities, aligning curriculum)
- Building partnerships locally and between school districts due to budgetary constraints
- Addressing the cultural and community wellness piece of helping to foster the proper raising of children
- How to prepare people/school districts that are housing students that visit communities, problem solving when students travel
- Racial identity (sectional at NSBA was powerful)

Ideas for Keynote speakers included:

- Russell Quaglia (focus on student voice, creating welcoming environments as first step in child's education)
- Governor Walker as a keynote with a focus on CTE
- President of NSBA Kevin E. Ciak as a keynote, to get the national presence and connection

Board discussion followed, including the suggestion for board members to personally invite legislators to the conference. AASB does this each year, but a personal call or email from the board might increase attendance.

Recess: 12:00
Reconvene: 12:10

Board Liaison Network (BLN) Reports

AASB Directors reach out to school boards to discuss successes and challenges in their districts and to offer support. A report of these conversations is included in the packet.

Board discussion followed on some of the efforts/issues that districts are putting forth/facing this year.

**Executive Director's
Evaluation Process**

Mike Swain commented on the background of the Executive Directors evaluation process that will be taking place at the summer meeting in Cordova. He stressed the importance of everyone's input in completing the evaluation. The evaluation comes to the board in digital form through Survey Monkey.

AASB Board Self-Assessment

Tiffany Jackson highlighted the importance of the practice of assessing the work of the board. She too stressed the importance of 100% participation and shared that this assessment will go out to the board through Survey Monkey.

Board discussion followed. Tammy encouraged the board to post comments on the surveys (positive and negative) where they feel necessary. It adds to the process and helps the board figure out where they are doing things well and where they could improve.

ACTION ITEMS

New BOD Photos and Bios

Timi Tullis led a brief discussion encouraging directors (if they haven't already) to provide photos and bios for our website and publications. Additionally, both items can come in handy for NSBA conferences and school board members who might need to connect.

**Summer 2018 Meeting
Location and Date**

Ryan Aguilar and Tim Tullis provided options and asked the Board for recommendations for the 2018 Summer Meeting location and date.

King Salmon is particularly busy that time of year, making board travel difficult. There was board discussion to hold the meeting in Girdwood on July 20-22 or 27-29 and direction for staff to continue searching for other options.

Discussion of the Board followed, including some logistics and activities for the 2017 Summer meeting in Cordova. Timi Tullis also posed to the board the idea of hosting one fly-in per year instead of two. The staff was directed to provide the board with options from which they could derive a pros and cons list at the summer meeting. Analysis would include registration numbers for both fly-ins, take into account district budget constraints, scheduling legislative visits on different days, and surveying board members for their input.

Ratification of Exec. Cmte.

Norm Wooten began by providing background on an enhanced policy service with Microscribe that we will offer to districts. The update will provide a self-service model (if districts so choose), along with other tools to make the process more efficient and effective. There would be an initial \$3,000 to implement the service that we will recoup through service fees. Norm wanted to be up front and transparent about the

expenditure and not leave room for questions in the budget, so he felt it best to call an executive committee meeting. Alaska Gateway will serve as the pilot district for the self-service model.

Board discussion followed.

MOTION

Tammy/Penny moved/seconded to ratify the executive committee's action on January 23, 2017.

By a roll call vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays the motion carried.

**Recess: 1:05pm
Reconvene: 1:25pm**

Policy 504

Tiffany Jackson led the group in talks on Policy 504, Purchasing Authority. Changes to Policy 504 were recommended by the U.S. Dept. of Education to be in compliance. More changes will be forthcoming, but these changes were approved by the committee at this time.

MOTION

Tiffany moved from committee to adopt the changes you see in the policy before you in the packet.

Board discussion followed.

By a vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays the motion carried.

Priority Issues for 2017

Norm Wooten led the discussion of priorities and direction of the Association for this year. The board constructed and adopted four priority issues from the resolutions at the post-annual conference meeting in November to be used in visits with legislators. They have been fleshed out by staff and organized with AASB's resolutions attached to them.

The four priority issues are:

- 1) A Solid Foundation through Investment
- 2) Community Ownership through Local Control
- 3) A Relevant Education for Students Pre-K to 12
- 4) Child Advocacy through Community Health & Wellness

Board discussion followed.

Dues request - Lake and Peninsula School District

Norm Wooten shared with the board a letter from Lake and Peninsula Superintendent Ty Mase asking AASB for a reduction in dues. Mr. Mase's reasoning was that Lake and Pen accessed few of the services from AASB.

With Board Policy 200 as written, the authority resides with the delegate assembly to make any changes to the dues structure, so any requests would have to come before the delegate assembly.

Board discussion followed, including direction for staff to draft a letter

to the district with a list of member benefits, a breakdown of the dues structure, and services that we offer Lake and Pen and member districts.

AASB Scholarship Awards

Tiffany Jackson, reported the committee met March 31, 2017 to review and judge applications for the June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Awards. The selection committee was made up of six Board of Directors, two board members, and four AASB staff. Tiffany explained some of the background of scoring applications and the process the group goes through.

AASB received a total of 178 applications (up 55 from last year). Funds were available to award 12 scholarships this year. (10 new, 2 returning)

The Committee recommends the AASB Board of Directors award the selected slate of students the June Nelson Memorial Scholarship. Committee report is attached.

Board discussion followed and included a previous scholarship committee suggestion from a few years ago to provide up to two awards to Alaska Native students, up to two awards for Career/Technical students, and up to two for return applicants.

MOTION

Tiffany moved from committee to award the 15 scholarships to the individuals recommended by the scholarship review committee. (Coming from committee, it did not require a second.)

Board discussion followed.

By a roll call vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays the motion carried.

2017 Budget Revision

Diana Miller explained the background and rationale for the budget revision. In November staff asked to take \$128,509 from another cash account (not reserves) to balance the budget. By receiving grant funds in December we are reducing this amount by almost \$56,000. Basically, we are reallocating funds from AASB core services to the i3 grant and the extension of the ANE grant.

Board discussion followed.

MOTION

Mike/Cass moved/seconded to approve the FY 2017 proposed revised budget.

Pete Hoepfner- Y	Mike Swain- Y
Angie Washington- Excused	Tiffany Jackson - Y
Charlene Arneson - Y	Iggy Chayalkun - Absent
Sarah Welton - Y	Cass Pook - Y
Andi Story - Y	Kathleen Plunkett - Y
Clarence Daniel- Y	Tammy Pound - Y
Barb Amarok- Y	Dana Mock - Y
Penny Vadla- Y	

By a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays the motion carried.

**Executive Session
MOTION**

Tammy/Charlene moved/seconded to move into executive session for personnel discussion.

By a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays the motion carried.

The board was in executive session from 2:15pm – 3:00pm.

BOARD COMMENTS

Comments included:

- Appreciate the board's passion and thoughtful discussion
- Enjoyed being on the scholarship committee, reading essays, and the process.
- Thank everyone (board and staff) for working together and our advocacy for our students
- You start to develop relationships with folks on the board and it's like a family
- Blessed to have the diversity that we have in our state and on our board

FUTURE BUSINESS

- Sending out surveys to the board (through Survey Monkey) prior to Summer BOD for Exec. Director evaluation and Board Self-Assessment
- Looking at pros and cons of offering one vs. two legislative fly-ins

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Mike/Tiffany moved/seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the Association of Alaska School Boards at 3:45 pm.

A True Record.

ATTEST:

Secretary/Treasurer



2017 June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Award

Fourteen Alaska High School Seniors and One College Freshman Awarded June Nelson Memorial Scholarships

On Friday, March 31, 2017 fourteen Alaska high school seniors were chosen out 178 applicants to receive a \$1,500 scholarship. One of those scholarships was awarded to an individual pursuing a credential in career and technical education (a skilled trade). In addition, one college freshman was awarded a \$1,500 scholarship for the coming year. Previous scholarship winners can compete for an additional award the following year.

The scholarship, named after a long-time Kotzebue school board member, is an annual tradition of the Association of Alaska School Boards. Each year the association's members, students and district superintendents gather to raise money that will be awarded to graduating seniors in Alaska.

This year the AASB June Nelson Scholarship Fund was able to award fifteen, \$1,500 scholarships. After a committee of 12 volunteers reviewed the applications based on grades, community service, student activities, cultural activities, letters of recommendation, and an essay, the group of over 178 outstanding applications was narrowed down to award the following students:

Student	High School	District
Alison Smith	Tanalian HS	Lake and Peninsula SD
Angelena Lekenof	Unalaska City HS	Unalaska City SD
Colton Mack	Sand Point HS	Aleutians East Borough SD
Garret Miller	Wrangell HS	Wrangell Public SD
Izabelle Ith	Petersburg HS	Petersburg SD
Lillian Vaughn	Ketchikan HS	Ketchikan Gateway Borough SD
Rylie Lyon	Bristol Bay HS	Bristol Bay SD
Samuel Blom	Tanalian HS	Lake and Peninsula SD
Sarah Mae Quiliza	Kodiak HS	Kodiak Island Borough SD
Savannah Rizzo	Nikiski Middle/Senior HS	Kenai Peninsula Borough SD
Serenity Melendrez	Mincto HS	Yukon Koyukuk SD
Shaelene Moler	Kake City HS	Kake City SD
Tasha Elizarde	Juneau-Douglas HS	Juneau SD
Toua Her	Bartlett HS	Anchorage SD

College freshman winner (previous JNMS winners)

Student	High School/college	District
Purevdulam Enkhat	Unalaska City HS/ UAA	Unalaska

The School Board President of their district or their designee will be asked to present these outstanding youth with a certificate of their scholarship award.