

**Association of Alaska School Boards
Board of Directors
REGULAR MEETING
July 18-20, 2014
Land's End Hotel
Homer, Alaska**

Friday July 18, 2014

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the AASB was called to order by President Sunni Hilts at 8:30 am.

Roll Call

Sunni Hilts	present	Andi Story	present
Tiffany Jackson	present	Michael Swain	present
Lon Garrison	present	Ignatius Chayalkun	present
Cass Pook	present	Sarah Welton	present
Charlene Arneson	present	Sue Hull	excused
Peter Hoepfner	present	Richard Mauer	excused
Angie Washington	present	Debby Edwardson	excused
Kathleen Plunkett	present		

Establish Quorum A quorum was established.

Pledge of Allegiance The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by President Hilts.

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

Approval of Agenda

MOTION Andi/Tiffany moved/seconded to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION Lon/Charlene moved/seconded to approve the March 22, 2014 regular meeting minutes.

Motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

President Hilts recognized Sean Dusek, Asst. Superintendent of the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. Mr. Dusek shared some information on the district including how they are utilizing SCCS data.

BOD WORKSHOPS AND ATTENDANCE

The Board of Directors referenced the two documents (with tables/checklists) tallying attendance and remarks were positive.

CORRESPONDENCE

The board and Joseph Reeves made mention and were appreciative of the various pieces of correspondence that AASB received, from JNMS recipient Thank You letters to district and partner news.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

PRESIDENTS REPORT

President Hilt's written report was included in the board packet. Highlights were:

- Attended Pacific Region Meeting in Seattle. Lon and Sue represented us very well in their positions of Policy and Resolutions. Alaska is taking a lead role and making a difference nationally. We had two resolutions that will be forwarded to the National Resolutions and Policy Committee.

In terms of resolutions from Pacific Region, Alaska clearly led the organization. President Hilt's hopes that the dialogue will lend to a possible shift in NSBA thinking into a more positive, less aggressive, and less negative stance.

- Attended the NSBA Annual Conference in New Orleans. Great presentations, keynote speakers were outstanding and participated in some invigorating collaborative sessions.

"As I see the different issues unfolding in our state, I am more and more convinced that AASB needs to be in a very collaborative frame of mind, leading the conversation, while including our many stakeholders."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

- Huge turnover in superintendents this year - 17 positions filled. AASB assisted with eight searches. The majority of the new supts. have no central office experience. In light of this, AASB will be supporting an effort from the Alaska Council of School Administrators

(ACSA) on a series of webinars that brings in policy and board work that AASB has expertise in.

- Although we've experienced some transition and structural changes over the last year, our financial reports show that we are on track and doing well.
- We were successful in starting the shift from an internal to a grassroots lobbying effort this session. More board members offered testimony this year than every before.

AK SCHOOL ACTIVITIES REPORT

Pete Hoepfner referred to his written report included in the board packet. He highlighted the following:

- Alaska Association of Student Government (AASG) is struggling a bit with membership and financials. They also have a new executive director in Denise Greene-Wilkinson. Pete called on AASB to offer board/governance support if needed. Joseph offered the idea of a snapshot session at Annual Conf. to raise awareness of AASG.

Board discussion followed.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT REPORT

Norm Wooten, Director of School Improvement, referred to his report included in the board packet highlighting these items:

- AASB continues to work with Priority Schools (1-star) and Focus Schools (2-star) on governance best practice in partnership with EED. All AASB costs for in-district workshops are charged to the department. Staff has been contacting 1- and 2-star districts about the opportunity to take advantage of our services.
- Worked with Chevak board on goals for the coming school year.
- Board Book new subscriber – Lake & Peninsula School District.

Board discussion followed.

ALASKA ICE REPORT

Sally Rue, Director of Alaska ICE, referred to her report included in the board packet and chose to highlight:

- Have proposals to present at the NIEA meeting this fall in Anchorage, the Principals Conference on our School Climate Survey, and the Elders and Youth Conference at AFN.
- Partnering with the Alaska Afterschool Network (a statewide network to support before-, after- and summer school) to provide education and training to communities and districts, large and small, throughout the state. The goal is to strengthen quality and availability of these programs.
- Collaborated with EED on applying for a School Climate Transformation Grant on positive behavioral intervention supports. Our SCCS data would play a role.
- EED approached us and offered a substantial amount of funding (through Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention funds and the Choose Respect campaign) to help sustain the gathering of our statewide data for the SCCS statewide report.

Board discussion followed.

RECESS - 9:30am
RECONVENE - 9:35am

CDL REPORT

Bob Whicker, CDL Director, referred to his report included in the board packet as a *Tale of Two Cities report*. It's the best of times and, while not the worst of times, a challenging time for CDL. He highlighted the following:

- CDL contractor Chris Romine has visited 12 districts to assess readiness in critical areas for possible partnership. These assessments have led to CDL providing 3 districts with technology support in multiple areas, and have become an income generator already.
- Received an extension to the Broadband Strategies grant. It is expanding into 7 additional communities next year. The digital workshops are community engagement to the max, and provide schools with two days of professional development.
- America Bridge project is expanding. Three districts will be adopting these projects into their regular curriculum. Two districts are entering into the earthquake forecasting projects in partnership with NASA.
- Received a CLIA Award from Alaska Center for the Book for work with the Kashunamiut School District in developing an interactive children's book series into the Chevak region's Cup'ik language.

Board discussion followed.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE UPDATE

Timi Tullis, Director of Membership Services, referred to her report included in the board packet. A few highlights include:

- The theme of the 61st Annual Conference will be *Stand, Speak, Soar* and all sessions are in place. There will be an app for conference, new this year.
- We have secured both keynote speakers: (Fri) Liz Medicine Crow: Pres/CEO of First Alaskans; (Sat) - Doug Eadie: Pres/CEO of Doug Eadie and Co., a consulting firm focused on developing capacity for school boards and superintendents.

Timi went through the schedule by day to give the board a feel for what topics will be covered and what to expect.

Board discussion followed, including ideas for highlighting native language and culture on Friday of conference.

RECESS - 10:15am
RECONVENE - 2:10pm

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee was designed to offer assistance (and not direction) to Norm since we already have guidance in terms of our resolution priorities, and to provide a resource for perspective and feedback.

Board discussion concentrated on the goal of the association to form a membership-based advocacy group, and furthermore to utilize school board members' existing relationships with legislators and strategize our advocacy efforts.

CHARTER SCHOOL TRAINING AND MEMBERSHIP

AASB is involved with Academic Policy Committees (APCs) or Charter School Boards through a couple of training or planning sessions each year. Occasionally, APC members participate in our regular program offerings and phone consultations.

This past legislative session focused on charter schools to a large extent, and there is potential for a number of new Charter Schools to be added in the near future. This begs the questions: Should we increase our marketing and training opportunities for APCs; Should associate membership be offered to APCs?; and Should the AASB governance structure be revised to include participation by representatives of APCs?

Discussion of the board followed. The board was in agreement that we continue our involvement with APCs and look at ways to better market and provide our support.

RECESS - 3:50pm
RECONVENE - 8:40am

SATURDAY JULY 19

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION

Lon/Charlene moved/seconded to enter in to executive session to discuss matters of personnel.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Board of Directors of the Association of Alaska School Boards entered into Executive Session at 8:45 a.m.

MOTION

Andi/Charlene moved/seconded to come out of executive session at 1:03 pm.

Motion carried unanimously.

A. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S EVALUATION

There was a positive discussion about the evaluation and the board looks forward to a productive year.

B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS SELF-ASSESSMENT

The Board held a discussion about their roles in furthering the mission of AASB and in continuing improvement of the board.

“Are there opportunities for development and growth for our board?” was a question posed to staff. (some time on Friday of summer meeting dedicated?) They also looked at an opportunity to socially engage new members of the board prior to the summer meeting in order to make them feel welcomed and a real part of the group. (evening before the March meeting begins?)

To learn more about each other, the board also took turns answering the questions: “Why are we school board members and what’s important to us?”

BLN REPORTS

The Board Liaison Network (BLN) has been in place since 1994 as a means of connecting the AASB Board more directly to our members.

The board engaged in a brief discussion about goals, successes, and general concerns shared by district contacts. See BLN report for details.

STAND UP FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

The NSBA launched the advocacy and information campaign “Stand Up 4 Public Schools,” featuring celebrities who credit public education for helping them to start a successful life. Their focus is print ads and social media.

Board discussion focused on adapting this campaign for use in Alaska, including recruiting accomplished Alaskans as advocates / spokespeople. Ideas included engaging senior citizens, using multi-generation/family, and people that youth know/relate to. Some names included: Pamyua (culture/music), John Baker (musher), Kikkan Randall (xc skier, Olympian), Carlos Boozer and Mario Chalmers (nba), Willie Hensley, Parker Schnabel (Gold Rush Alaska tv show), Hillary Lindh (alpine ski racer, Olympian), Scott Gomez (nhl), and Eowyn Ivy (author).

ACTION ITEMS

A. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S CONTRACT

MOTION Mike/Andi moved/seconded to approve a three-year contract to Joseph Reeves with a salary being \$145,000 for the 2014-15 budget year.

DETAILS:

Joseph Reeves was offered a three-year contract at \$145,000/annually for 220 days/year (with other recommendations) that is reviewed annually. (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016)

A roll call vote was taken:

Sunni Hilts (LAST)	Y	Andi Story	Y
Tiffany Jackson	Y	Sue Hull	n/a
Debby Edwardson	n/a	Ignatius Chayalkun	Y
Lon Garrison	Y	Sarah Welton	Y
Richard Mauer	n/a	Charlene Arneson	Y
Peter Hoepfner	Y	Michael Swain	Y
Angie Washington	Y	Cass Pook	Y
Kathleen Plunkett	Y		

Motion carried with a 12 to 0 vote.

B. NSBA Recognition Award Nominations

The board held a discussion on 10 names to move forward to the NSBA for recognition.

MOTION: Lon/Charlene moved/seconded to forward the list of candidates selected to NSBA.

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Selection of Executive Director

The board requested staff propose a process for selecting an Executive Director. AR 4.102 outlines a procedure for recruitment and selection without obligating the board to conduct a search.

MOTION: Mike/Charlene moved/seconded to adopt AR 4.102.

The board had some discussion on the topic.

A roll call vote was taken:

Sunni Hilts (LAST)	Y	Andi Story	Y
Tiffany Jackson	Y	Sue Hull	n/a
Debby Edwardson	n/a	Ignatius Chayalkun	Y
Lon Garrison	Y	Sarah Welton	Y
Richard Mauer	n/a	Charlene Arneson	Y
Peter Hoepfner	Y	Michael Swain	Y
Angie Washington	Y	Cass Pook	Y
Kathleen Plunkett	Y		

Motion carried with a 12 to 0 vote.

RECESS - 2:30pm
RECONVENE - 2:40pm

HOT TOPICS

Several topics to place on the AASB radar were introduced by the board, including:

- Increase collaborations with organizations around Alaska
- Promoting the message that public education is not failing
- Broadband connectivity in rural Alaska
- Student preparedness for college
- Open discussion on Native entities taking over public schools as governmental entities
- Growing pool of qualified superintendents
- Support for youth with regard to drug use, homelessness, bullying and suicide prevention
- Legalization of marijuana and how schools can be prepared
- Equity of use of school property/facilities (sports teams, etc.)
- 40% of workers come from outside Alaska. How to address giving our districts can give skills that our kids need to fill the workforce.
- Looking at standards placed on districts and how schoolbooks need to reflect standards
- Getting student input on their 'hot topics', things they see as issues.

RECESS - 3:05pm
RECONVENE 8:40am - SUNDAY JULY 20

C. CORE RESOLUTIONS FOR 2014-2015

Each summer the board reviews the prior year's adopted resolutions to identify those they feel should be considered as priority core resolutions by the membership at the next Annual Conference in November.

Joseph, Norm, and John led the background and process discussion of the core resolutions. The Board's recommendations go on to the resolutions committee that convenes at the Annual Conference in November.

Resolution Title	Sunset in 2014?	AASB Board Action 7/20/14	Your Board Action
1.1 Mandated consolidation	No		
1.2 Mandated boroughs	No		
1.3 Charter Schools	No	Amend	
1.4 Vouchers	No	Amend	
1.5 Centralized treasury	No		
1.6 NCLB/ESEA	No		
1.7 Students Outside System	No	Amend	
1.8 Compulsory attendance age	No		
1.9 Student attendance	Yes	Continue	
2.1 Sustained funding/fiscal plan	No		
2.2 BSA	No	Amend	
2.3 Secure Rural Schools Act	No		
2.4 Grants for School Improvement	No		
2.5 IDEA	No		
2.6 Funding Early Learning	No		
2.7 Intensive Needs post count	No		
2.8 CIP List	No		
2.9 Basic Need	No		
2.10 Education endowment	No		
2.11 Instructional technology	No		
2.12 School debt retirement	No		
2.13 Revenue sharing	No		
2.14 Pupil Transportation	No		
2.15 Boarding Schools	No	Amend	
2.16 Transient	No		

student funding			
2.17 Insurance costs	No		
2.18 RIFs	No		
2.19 PERS-TRS relief	No	Amend	
2.20 Minimum instructional expenditure (70%)	No		
2.21 Energy cost relief	No		
2.22 Ferry service	No		
2.23 Bypass mail	No		
2.24 Set BSA in advance	No	Amend rationale	
2.25 Public land trust	No		
2.26 STEM/STEAM	No		
2.27 Revise step-down in ADM	No		
2.28 Reduce ADM in K-6 & K-12	No		
2.29 Excess facility space	No		
2.30 Facility audits	No		
2.31 Funds for student travel	Yes		
2.32 Central purchasing AASB	Yes	Recommend sunset	
2.33 Career-Tech funding	Yes	Amend	
2.34 School meals	No		
2.35 Funding for schools w/ADM below 10	No		
2.36 Funding for K3 intervention	No		
2.37 Reduce need for remediation	No		
2.38 Energy plan	No		
2.39 District Cost Factor	No	Amend	
2.40 Alternative Transportation Funding	No		
2.41 Relief for	No		

Tustemena			
2.42 Physical Exams	No		
3.1 Child as top priority	No		
3.2 Promoting SEL	No		
3.3 Fetal alcohol & drug exposure	No		
3.4 Prevent access to pornography	No		
3.5 Violence in media	No		
3.6 Inhalant, alcohol, tobacco etc	No		
3.7 Cooperation among child agencies	No		
3.8 Suicide education & prevention	No		
3.9 Safe, caring & connected schools	No		
3.10 Student health services	No		
3.11 HIV/AIDS & STD education	No		
3.12 Human sexuality education	No		
3.13 Children's Trust	No		
3.14 Early learning	No		
3.15 Safe & Drug Free Schools	No		
3.16 Parental permission for surveys	No		
3.17 Student wellness	No		
3.18 Early brain development	No		
3.19 Schedule tests to miss major religious holidays	No		
3.20 Reducing loss of credit	No		
3.21 Restoring	No		

Denali Kid Care			
3.22 Students in interscholastic activities	No		
3.23 Immunization funding	No		
3.24 Tobacco free schools	No		
(New) 3.25 Sex Abuse prevention		Forward for member consideration	
4.1 Staff development	No		
4.2 National certification	No		
4.3 Mentoring	No		
4.4 Special education training	No		
4.5 Teacher et al shortages	No		
4.6 Repeal SS offset	No		
4.7 Restore defined benefit	No		
4.8 Health care costs	No		
4.9 Special services via technology	No		
4.10 Staff performance incentives	Yes	Continue	
4.11 Reinstate retire-rehire	No		
4.12 Alternative pathways to highly qualified	No		
4.13 Notification of teacher changes	No		
4.14 Teacher Tenure	No		
4.15 Teacher Evaluations	No		
4.16 Training for Superintendents	No		
5.1 Career exploration	No		
5.2 Curriculum	No		

expansion via tech			
5.3 Native language programs	No		
5.4 Community schools	No		
5.5 Increasing student contact time	No		
5.6 Modify certificate of student achievement	No	Discontinue	
5.7 Civic education	No		
5.8 Assessments in Native languages	No		
5.9 Career-tech centers	No		
5.10 ESEA flexibility for Native languages	No		
5.11 Universal access for 3 & 4 y.o.	No		
5.12 Family involvement by districts	No		
5.13 Alaska Native Education Act	Yes		
5.14 Post-secondary credit	Yes	Amend and continue	
5.15 HSGQE	No	Discontinue	
5.16 Graduation rates	No	Update and move stats to rationale	
5.17 On-line testing	No	Amend to delete reference to exit exam	
5.18 Library funding	No		
5.19 Displaced students	No		

RECESS - 11:15am
RECONVENE - 12:00pm

BOARD COMMENTS

Positive comments were shared with the board and staff over lunch. Some of the comments included:

- I appreciate this group and this association
- Proud of our Gates Scholarship recipients!
- Thanks to Sunni. She's been an exceptional leader for education in Alaska.
- I appreciate working with the board and the staff.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Andi/Mike moved/seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

President Hilts adjourned the regular meeting of the AASB Board of Directors at 12:30pm.

A True record.

ATTEST:

Secretary/Treasurer