



**Association of Alaska School Boards
Board of Directors
REGULAR MEETING
March 22, 2014
Baranof Hotel, Gastineau Suite**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Sunni Hilts	Present	Andi Story	Present
Tiffany Jackson	Present	Debby Edwardson	Present
Charlene Arneson	Present	Ignatius Chayalkun	Present
Sarah Welton	Present	Angie Washington	Excused
Pete Hoepfner	Present	Lon Garrison	Present
Richard Mauer	Excused	Kathleen Plunkett	Present
Cass Pook	Present	Mike Swain	Present
Sue Hull	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

Charlene / Lon moved/seconded to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**November 11, 2013 – Regular Meeting
January 21, 2014 – Special Meeting**

MOTION

Lon / Charlene moved/seconded to approve the November Board of Director's Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Andi Story added a correction/clarification to the January 21, 2014 special meeting minutes (for transparency purposes) referring to staff raises.

Lon / Charlene moved/seconded to approve the January Board of Director's Special Meeting Minutes as corrected.

A voice vote was taken. 13 ayes, 0 nays.

Motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

There were no visitors.

BOD WORKSHOPS AND ATTENDANCE

A table of workshop attendance was included in the BOD packet for review.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

President's Report

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

- The importance of participating in the regional and national meetings. Our voice and involvement is crucial.
- Alaska as a spokesperson for local control, individuality. Sometimes we think differently than other boards, and have to educate them to our point of view in school boards and especially in leadership.
- Feb. AASB Fly-in was extraordinary. Well attended and a very good session.

Discussion of the board followed.

Executive Director's Report

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

- New AASB employee, Mark Calvert, through the ICE grant.
- Photo of former school board members working at legislature.
- New rental space at the AASB office is ready to lease. Currently seeking like-minded organization to take the space.
- Due to low attendance, the idea is to put webinar info on website rather than hold them live.
- Superintendent searches – lots of changes coming to Southeast, AK districts.

Discussion of the board followed.

Consortium For Digital Learning Report

Bob Whicker, CDL Director, reported on recent CDL activities. Highlights of the report were:

- Speaking in various meetings on CDL and 1-to-1 at the capitol.
- 1-to-1 initiative is included in SB 100, which has moved to the finance committee.
- Contracted with Chris Romine to assess district readiness for digital learning projects. So far he has visited with seven districts. The goal is to reach 15 districts by year-end.
- Broadband strategy workshops involve working with schools to have an interface between schools and the community.

- Talk Story, Write Story workshops (aimed at helping students apply for and win scholarships), which is an offshoot from the Broadband grant, are continuing this year. Goal is to get 100 teachers trained. For more info on TS,WS visit cdl.aasb.org or www.talkstorywritestory.com.

Discussion of the board followed.

School Improvement Report

Norm Wooten, Director of School Improvement and Governmental Relations, reported on recent School Improvement related activities with the current School Improvement districts. Highlights included:

- AASB provides assistance on Advisory School Board Training, goal setting, and governance issues with schools identified by the state under the intervention contract. Norm has done workshops under this contract with Lower Yukon, Yukon-Koyukuk, and Kashunamiut School Districts.
- Travelling to Fairbanks to participate in the Tanana Chiefs Conference Educational Summit.

Discussion of the board followed.

**RECESS at 9:32am
RECONVENE at 9:37am**

Board Liaison Network (BLN) Reports

AASB Directors contacted 30 districts during this round of BLN calls. They were:

AK Gateway	Juneau	Hydaburg	Hoonah	Craig
Haines	Chatham	Chugach	Copper River	Unalaska
Cordova	Galena	Delta/Greely	Denali	
Fairbanks	Iditarod	Kashunamiut	Yakutat	
Kenai	Northwest Arctic	Sitka	Yukon Flats	
Mat-Su	Pelican	Lower Yukon	Dillingham	
Petersburg	Valdez	Ketchikan	Southwest Region	

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 governs ASAA. Pete Hoepfner was reappointed to a two-year term to represent AASB in November 2013. Highlights included:

- Smooth transition of Executive Director from Gary Matthews to Billy Strickland
- Moving forward with media; New website and app (www.asaa365.com and mobile app up and running)
- Pete is working with Joseph Reeves to develop policy with regard to transgender students

Audit Report

Max Mertz, a partner with Elgee, Rehfeld, Mertz, AASB's auditor, and Helen Hesson, an audit manager at the firm, presented the 2014 audit report. He reviewed the Management Letter, the Letter to the Board of Directors, the Financial Statements and Schedule for 2013 and 2012, and the Federal Financial Awards Reports and Schedules and answered questions.

Comments/Discussion:

The board expressed appreciation to Diana and the staff for all their work on the audit and to Max for his professionalism and thorough report.

NSBA Recognition Award Recommendations

Each year NSBA invites state associations to submit up to ten names of school board members whom they would like to receive special recognition for boardsmanship. The Board will narrow submissions down to ten at the Summer Board Meeting.

The AASB Board of Directors has done this for the past several years, and recognition is given in the form of a NSBA certificate awarded at the Annual Conference.

Recommendations from both board and staff are based on:

- Experience / longevity
- AASB participation (conferences, Fly-Ins, AASB committees)
- Exceptional local leadership demonstrated
- Exemplify Board Standards
- NSBA national Affiliate status is a consideration.

Annual Conference Planning

Timi Tullis, Director Membership Services, reviewed the 2013 Annual Conference report, which included registration, and financial information and evaluations of the programs. Highlights included:

- 346 attendees, an increase from last year
- 14 sectionals at conference, also an increase
- Great evaluations and positive reports all around

Board held discussion of a conference theme. The board decided on “Stand, Speak, Soar.” The board also discussed possible guest speakers and breakout session ideas.

RECESS at 11:35am
RECONVENE at 11:40am

Alaska ICE Report

Sally Rue, Alaska ICE Director, referred to the written report included in the board packet. Highlights of the report included:

- Youth Advocacy Institute had more students than ever before
- New staff member, Mark Calvert (formerly worked with AWARE shelter in Juneau)
- Recent community visits to Chevak and Metlakatla as part of the new 3-year partnership with each district
- ICE partner Spirit of Youth made impact for Alaska communities through radio stories and Youth Friendly Business campaign
- Declines in risk behaviors across Alaska markedly better than previous years

Discussion of the Board followed.

Executive Director’s Evaluation Process

President Hilts gave an overview of the Executive Directors evaluation process, alerting board members that the digital form (through Survey Monkey) would be coming to them the first week of June.

President Hilts also emphasized how critical it is that the surveys be turned in on time.

AASB Board Self-Assessment

Sue Hull and President Hilts mentioned to the board that the self-assessment piece and Exec. Director’s evaluation helped the board to better focus for the July BOD meeting. They reiterated that receiving it on time, as for the Executive Director’s Evaluation survey, is critical.

RECESS at 12:00pm
RECONVENE at 12:46pm

Constitution and Bylaws Report

Tiffany Jackson gave a brief overview of the committee meeting held March 5. There were no suggested changes to bylaws aside from the three issues forwarded on by the AASB Policy Committee.

Policy 306 – The committee sees no conflict with existing bylaws regarding the potential addition of a Nominating Committee. Though, if approved by the Board, it suggested adding a new Section C.

Policy 212 – The committee has no objection to including the BOD as a group who may propose resolutions.

Policy 209 – The committee has no objection to deleting the Site Committee, with the provision that it be retained and potentially reinstated should another Alaska city/venue become available to house the conference.

Advocacy Report

Lon Garrison referred to the written report included in the board packet and stated the focus of the relatively new committee: to serve as a support and point of communication for the exchange of information for the Director of Governmental Relations and the Executive Director, and not to give specific direction.

Norm Wooten spoke briefly on some particulars of AASB efforts this legislative session, including SB 100, the BSA increase, and one of the overall goals of the committee – to engage more school board members in the legislative process.

Acceptance of Audit Report

MOTION

Lon / Sarah moved/seconded to accept the 2013 audit report as presented.

Sunni Hilts – Y	Andi Story – Y
Tiffany Jackson – Y	Rich Mauer - Excused
Charlene Arneson – Y	Iggy Chayalkun – Y
Sarah Welton – Y	Cass Pook - Y
Peter Hoepfner – Y	Kathleen Plunkett – Y
Angie Washington – Excused	Mike Swain - Y
Sue Hull – Y	Lon Garrison – Y
Debby Edwardson - Y	

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

AASB Policy Revisions

MOTION

Andi / Charlene moved/seconded to delete Policy 209.

Discussion of the Board followed.

It is the wishes of members that if another location to hold the annual conference becomes available, the board will be able to address this situation in the future.

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

On behalf of the Policy Committee, the remaining policies were moved from committee by chair Sue Hull as follows:

MOTION

Policy 212 - Sue moved to add language that will provide for the AASB Board of Directors to introduce resolutions.

With no opposition, the motion passed.

MOTION

Policy 306 – Sue moved to adopt the Nominations Committee process proposed by staff.

Discussion of the board followed.

AMENDMENT

Tiffany / Lon moved/seconded to amend the motion to change it from a five- member committee to a three-member committee.

With no opposition, the motion to amend was accepted.

With no opposition, the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Policy 323 – Sue moved to include funding travel for the AASB Board of Directors serving as an officer.

AMENDMENT

Sunni / Charlene moved/seconded to include language to #11 in the policy: “or on an NSBA National committee”.

Discussion of the board followed.

**AMENDMENT to the
AMENDMENT**

Sunni / Charlene moved/seconded to add the language “with approval of the Executive Committee”.

Discussion of the board followed.

With no opposition, the motion to amend the amendment was accepted.

With no opposition, the motion to amend was accepted.

#11 of Policy 323 to read:

“Any AASB Board member serving as an officer to the NSBA Pacific Region *or on an NSBA National committee, with approval of the Executive Committee.*”

With no opposition, the motion carried unanimously.

**Summer Meeting
Location and Date - 2015**

President Hilts asked the Board for recommendations for the 2015 Summer Meeting Location and Date.

MOTION

Sue / Mike moved/seconded to hold the meeting in Juneau on July 17-19, 2015 depending upon the dates of NSBA Pacific Region Meeting and availability of facilities.

Discussion of the Board followed.

Motion carried unanimously.

AASB Scholarship Awards

Sunni Hilts, Scholarship Committee Chair, reported the Committee met March 21, 2014 to review applications for the June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Awards. AASB received a total of 101 applications. Funds were available to award 11 scholarships this year.

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

MOTION

Sunni Hilts moved that the Board accept the Scholarship Committee recommendation and award the June Nelson Memorial Scholarship to the named students.

A voice vote was taken. 13 ayes, 0 nays.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMENTS

Comments included:

- Great discussion, great diversity that came to consensus
- Great direction we're heading in
- Appreciative of testimony from a diversity of people
- Thanks to all board members who've stepped up
- Congratulations to June Nelson Memorial Scholarship winners
- We need to continue to stand up for our kids.

FUTURE BUSINESS

There was none discussed at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Charlene/Andi moved/seconded to adjourn.

MOTION

President Hilts adjourned the regular meeting of the Association of Alaska School Boards at 3:04 pm.

A True Record.

ATTEST:

Secretary/Treasurer

2014 June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Award Selection Review Committee

Report to the AASB Board of Directors

On March 21, 2014 the Scholarship Review Committee met from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to review applications for the June Nelson Memorial Scholarship. The Committee consisted of the following board members: Sunni Hilts, Tiffany Jackson, Mike Swain, Sarah Welton, Cass Pook, Debby Edwardson, Sheri Thomas (Bristol Bay Board Member) and Jenni Lefing (AASB Staff Member) who joined the committee for the day. AASB Staff Kristen Plosay and Timi Tullis provided support to the Committee.

AASB received a total of 101 applications and the committee reviewed them all.

Scoring for the applications was based on the following criteria:

- 20 Points – Essay Writing Rubric
- 20 Points – Unique Circumstances
- 12.5 Points – Community Service
- 12.5 Points – Student Leadership
- 12.5 Points – Cultural Activities
- 12.5 Points – Student Activities
- 5 Points – Letters of Recommendation

The Committee was able to recommend a total of 11 winners this year. The scholarships are to be applied toward the recipients' post secondary education.

The Committee recommends the AASB Board of Directors award the following students the June Nelson Memorial Scholarship.

Student	High School	District
Matthew Covalt	Wrangell	Wrangell
Nianiella Dorvall	Nikolaevsk	Kenai
Nicole Eldred	South Anchorage	Anchorage
Charity Haskins	Unalaska	Unalaska
Mary Okitkun	Kotlik	Lower Yukon
Natasha Reams	Nenana	Nenana
Abigail Schierholt	Kenny Lake	Copper River
Courtney Stroh	Kenai Central	Kenai
Abigail Sweetman	Ketchikan	Ketchikan
Ted Walters	Chugiak	Anchorage
Justin Watanabe	Thunder Mountain	Juneau

The committee read 4 essays and would recommend 1 past winner as a scholarship recipient based on their essay.

Student	High School/college	District
Patricia Jackson	Unalaska/ UAA	Unalaska