



**Association of Alaska School Boards
Board of Directors
REGULAR MEETING
March 19, 2016
Baranof Hotel, Gastineau Suite**

CALL TO ORDER

President Tiffany Jackson called the regular meeting of the Association of Alaska School Boards to order at 8:33 am.

ROLL CALL

Tiffany Jackson	Present	Pete Hoepfner	Excused for a.m.
Mike Swain	Present	Andi Story	Present
Charlene Arneson	Present	Ignatius Chayalkun	Present
Sarah Welton	Present	Angie Washington	Present
Tammy Pound	Present	Clarence Daniel	Present
Dana Mock	Present	Kathleen Plunkett	Present
Cass Pook	Present	Debby Edwardson	Present
Sue Hull	Present		

ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by President Jackson.

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 with the addition of the 2016 Budget revision. (Section H. under Action Items)

With no objection, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION

Charlene/Debby moved/seconded to approve the November 9 (Reg. meeting), Nov. 30 (Exec. Comm.), Dec. 4 (Exec. Comm.), and January 4 (Special meeting) Board of Director's Meeting Minutes as stated.

Tammy Pound made note of a typo in the Jan. 4 minutes roll call. AASB staff will take care of this error.

Motion carried unanimously.

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 letters to Commissioner Mike Hanley, Dr. Susan McCauley, and several notes to AASB and staff.

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Policy Committee Meeting minutes from Tuesday, February 23, 2016 were shared in the board packet. The Committee reviewed Policy Section 4 (Personnel), Section 5 (Finance), and Section 6 (Miscellaneous) in addition to several policy changes recommended by staff.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

President's Report

President Jackson gave an oral report. Highlights included:

- the NSBA Advocacy Institute was postponed due to weather and rescheduled to June 10. Tiffany, Andi, and Norm will be representing AASB.
- Tiffany being assigned to Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) committee to shape ESSA implementation.
- She is looking forward to the summer board meeting in Sand Point.

Discussion of the board followed.

Executive Director's Report

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

- Breaking down silos and integrating work of Alaska ICE, CDL, and Governance with districts. Timi, Lori, and Bob continue to work together to improve services to boards and districts.
- Moving along with Tiffany Jackson's candidacy with NSBA Board of Directors – aligns well with our Board Goal #1.
- Timi is taking Norm's place at the NSBA Annual Conference as it occurs during the last week of legislative session and important for Norm to be in Juneau.

Discussion of the board followed. Tammy Pound and others commented on NSBA's American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) caucus. In order to grow

the caucus, the board directed Norm to send a membership invite to all Alaska school board members.

Alaska ICE Report

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

- Hiring Konrad Frank to a temporary position (thru December). He will work with community engagement and cultural connectedness.
- Offering a new service with the School Climate and Connectedness Survey that integrates work with CDL and sharing data. Two data-snapshot examples were included in the packet. Districts can choose two data sources + school climate data and we will put it together in an easily digestible snapshot document.
- Refresh with Helping Kids and Helping Little Kids Succeed books. We will be digitizing them for online use and all electronic publishing formats. There will also have some video and audio clips and some social media components so that we can do/share more about how people can take an active role in building assets/protective factors for students.
- The biggest project for ICE is the i3 grant. It is basically there on the full financial funding match (lots of smaller contributions) and we will be moving forward with working in seven districts.
- ICE grant will be ending in August, so have been talking about how we partner with districts going forward (will districts take the lead?) in continuing community engagement work.

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. Highlights from Angie's report included:

- She has had two Board meetings since joining the board
- Going through and learning about ASAA policies. They are specifically looking at the TAD policy (Tobacco, Alcohol and Controlled Substances) for students. It used to be that if you get 4 strikes against you as a freshman or sophomore, you were out the rest of your h.s. career. There is now a possibility for students to reenlist in sports after various offerings including counseling, a certification program, and community service. There are still inconsistencies among schools and districts as it's up to the school to report.
- ASAA is strapped for funding, as many small orgs. are at this time.

Discussion of the board followed.

Board Development & Field Services Report

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

- Working with the Anchorage School District to put on an APC charter school training. (10 charter schools attended) It was a great success.

- Tracking the number of phone calls/questions that she, Lon, and Norm field on a monthly basis from districts dealing with board issues (not including Community Engagement topics). Showing that AASB is a “go-to” organization in the state for our members. (Jan. – 34 phone calls from 15 districts, Feb. – 30 phone calls from 16 districts)
- A big project of working on developing interactive Online Modules in lieu of posting up informational webinars for members to just listen to.
- A lot of work going on around the Board Goal of Equity. She and Lori Grassgreen sit on the First Alaskans Alaska Native Dialogues on Racial Equity (ANDORE) statewide project team. Timi also attended the Arizona School Board Association’s Equity Conference and gave two workshops and attended several others. Idea to have our Winter Academy be our Equity Academy, or at least one full day devoted to equity issues.

Annual Conference Planning

Timi Tullis, Director of Board Development and Field Services, referred to her report and made mention of a few key items:

- There were great evaluations for last year’s conference.
- AASB will not be using the Hilton for breakfast or snacks at conference. It will save us money. She and Ryan are negotiating with the Hilton and will make this work.
- The keynotes for this year will be Thomas Alsbury and Gene Tagaban, familiar faces from last year’s conference.
- Academy for Experienced Board Members will focus on personalized learning

The board also held discussion of a conference theme for next year and decided on: *Every Student, Every Story*.

Potential options for youth entertainment this year are from Sitka, North Slope and Mat-Su.

The board also talked about various sectional ideas, including:

Personalized Learning, History/Identity, District Best Practices and Innovations, Social Media and Tech tips, and Freedom Writers.

The board discussed ideas to share at Conference on District Best Practices:

- Clarence presented at the NSBA conference on LKSD Best Practices,
- Mike and Bristol Bay discussing CTE consortium with Lake and Peninsula and Southwest Region -- sharing resources and cost savings (Dillingham has interest in joining).
- ANSEP and GEOFORCE summer programs for students
- Sitka’s partnership with Mt. Edgecumbe High School, sharing grant money, classes, sending students to lobby in Juneau

Timi discussed a few new items for this year’s conference:

- There will be a new app from a different company than last year
- There will be a new flow to the afternoon schedule with students visiting for the roundtable discussions. (Students will stay for lunch with board

members, go right into roundtable discussions, then leave for YLI upstairs, while the board mems move into forums)

RECESS: 10:00 am
RECONVENE: 10:15 am

AASB Performance Review

Max Mertz, of Elgee Rehfeld and Mertz visited with the board to give an update on AASB's audit performance over the last year as a 501c3 nonprofit. Norm Wooten opened with a few comments about increasing transparency with the organization and appreciating the work of the association's auditor.

Max Mertz provided documentation and comment to the board on the federal audit and financial statements of AASB and included these items:

- There was a federal finding within the ICE program related to procurement and sole source v competitive bid with regard to our AASB policy. Our policy states that when a contract is over \$25,000, you have to have competitive bid. Even though we had undergone several discussions to this effect, there was no documentation to prove that we had gone out for bid with the American Institutes for Research (AIR) in 2005. On top of this fact is that the contract was for over \$25,000 (a figure that AASB came up with in the 80s (and approved in policy) prior to any idea we would be receiving grants or earmarks, etc). So, we were in violation of our own policy and thus, the finding.
- We didn't have the correct documentation in place that shows how we are recovering our costs through the grants process. Their research showed that we weren't doing anything wrong (i.e. over-recovering funds) but Max Mertz suggested that AASB evaluate our rates for services and develop the documentation to support the fact that we are only recovering our costs.
- We showed a few unallowable grant expenses, which are very common, small mistakes. One example given was gift cards that were purchased as prizes for use at district/community workshops. Gift cards are precluded from federal grants.
- We had a clean audit (no significant mistakes on our part with regard to our financial statements), very good liquidity (assets versus expenses and paying upcoming bills), and good capitalization (over 6 months of operating expenses in reserves is good. We have over 8.33 months in reserves.)

Note: After Max Mertz's presentation, the staff excused themselves from the room to allow time for the board to address any issues or ask any questions of their auditor without staff presence.

Board discussion followed.

RECESS: 10:50 am
RECONVENE: 11:00 am

Board Liaison Network (BLN) Reports

AASB Directors had some difficulty in contacting districts during this round of BLN calls, so fewer districts are in the report.

Board discussion followed, including verbal reports from Charlene and Cass.

**Executive Director’s
Evaluation Process**

Tiffany Jackson commented on the background of the Executive Directors evaluation process that will be taking place at the summer meeting in Sand Point. She stressed the importance of everyone’s input in completing the evaluation. The evaluation comes to the board in digital form through Survey Monkey.

Board discussion followed, including the idea of adding to the Exec. Director self-evaluation any goals and recommendations from the previous year in order to see what items were discussed and if any progress was made on those items.

AASB Board Self-Assessment

Andi Story highlighted the importance of the practice of assessing the work of the board, not as individuals but as a whole. She mentioned that reviewing past goals/recommendations of the board is a good reminder and can help in looking forward to where we want to go. Notes and information on past self-assessments will be shared with the board when the notice for this year’s assessment goes out.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Long Range Plan

MOTION

Mike/Cass moved/seconded to approve the five goals with the accompanying objectives and strategies.

Board discussion followed, including a handful of editing ideas brought forward by Andi Story.

MOTION

Sue/Charlene moved/seconded to amend Goal 2, Objective 2, Strategy 2 to read: “Cite AASB resolutions for support or nonsupport when responding to requests.”

With no objection, the motion carried.

MOTION

Andi/Debby moved/seconded to amend Goal 3 to read: “Support local school boards in engaging parents, families, communities and policymakers in shaping and enriching the education of all of Alaska’s children.”

By a voice vote, the motion failed.

MOTION

Andi/Sue moved/seconded to amend Goal 5, Objective 2 to read: “Address the orientation needs of new school board members at the local, state and federal level.”

With no objection, the motion carried.

MOTION

Andi/Debby moved/seconded to amend Goal 5, Objective 3, Strategy 3 to read: "Review all workshops and board development programs and materials against the Board Standards framework.

With no objection, the motion carried.

Back to the main motion to adopt the five goals of the Long Range Plan.

With no objection, the motion carried.

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

AASB Scholarship Awards

Andi Story, Scholarship Committee Chair, reported the committee met March 18, 2016 to review applications for the June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Awards. The selection committee was made up of eight Board of Directors and Sheri Thomas from Bristol Bay Borough School District. Andi explained some of the background of scoring applications and the process the group goes through.

AASB received a total of 127 applications (up from 87 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

Mike moved to award the 12 scholarships to the individuals recommended by the scholarship review committee. (Coming from committee, it did not require a second.)

With no objection, the motion carried.

**Consortium For
Digital Learning Report**

Bob Whicker, CDL Director, referred to his report included in the packet. Highlights of the report were:

- Focusing on innovation in broad terms with technology supporting it as a tool (early learning and native language are just two examples)
- Starting to get traction with technology mentoring with districts in a few ways. 1) Leadership/innovation-type planning, 2) Technology mentorship package to address a tech/mentorship crisis in Alaska (districts in need of a tech director, whether locally or remotely), 3) Professional development foundations (series of workshops for teachers)
- Digital publishing projects (Steve Nelson) continue to take place with districts with Native language and culture, most recently with Kashunamiut.

- Continued search for funding (Two grants are currently out, there are two more to be written)

Discussion of the board followed.

Priority Issues for 2016

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 to be used with the legislature. They have been fleshed out by staff and organized with AASB’s resolutions attached to them. Norm thought it important to adopt the “whole package” that is before the group in the packet. He went on to mention how closely the priorities align with the State Board of Education’s strategic plan. The four priority issues are:

- 1) Raising expectations for all
- 2) Honoring Local Control
- 3) Investing in Alaska’s Future
- 4) Increasing Relevancy

MOTION

Sue/Sarah moved/seconded to approve the priority issues for 2016.

Board discussion followed, and included Debby bringing up the fact that under Priority #1, only resolutions about funding were present in this iteration. This was not the intention of the board or the staff. Raising expectations was also about teacher support and expectations for all students academically. Staff will add resolutions to this effect.

With no objection, the motion carried.

Annual Audit

Diana Miller and Norm Wooten were available for any questions about the AASB Annual Audit process. Topics related to the Annual Audit were discussed fully earlier in the meeting with auditor Max Mertz.

Acceptance of Audit Report

MOTION

Dana/Kathleen moved/seconded to approve the audit report as presented.

Tiffany Jackson – Y	Pete Hoepfner – Y
Mike Swain – Y	Clarence Daniel - Y
Charlene Arneson – Y	Iggy Chayalkun – Y
Sarah Welton – Y	Cass Pook - Y
Andi Story – Y	Kathleen Plunkett – Y
Angie Washington – Excused	Tammy Pound - Y
Sue Hull – Y	Dana Mock – Y
Debby Edwardson - Y	

By a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays the motion carried.

Note: The board was thorough in their review of the budget. It was a clean audit. Details/notes on the audit can be found in these minutes above, on Page 5 under the “AASB Performance Review” heading.

2016 Budget Revision

Diana Miller explained the background and rationale for the budget revision. At the November 2015 board meeting, staff presented the board with a request to take \$112,200 out of reserves to balance the budget. The intent was to cover staff members (who were originally covered through grant funding) and to maintain the integrity of the staff in order to continue to offer AASB’s services. There were also two grants pending at the time – CDL i3 and Alaska ICE i3. One of those came through, thus the need to revise the budget and reduce the original request out of reserves. We will still need \$26,670 from reserves – a reduction of \$85,528.

MOTION

Sarah/Kathleen moved/seconded to approve the budget revision as presented.

Board discussion followed.

Tiffany Jackson – Y	Pete Hoepfner – Y
Mike Swain – Y	Clarence Daniel - Y
Charlene Arneson – Y	Iggy Chayalkun – Y
Sarah Welton – Y	Cass Pook - Y
Andi Story – Y	Kathleen Plunkett – Y
Angie Washington – Excused	Tammy Pound - Y
Sue Hull – Y	Dana Mock – Y
Debby Edwardson - Y	

By a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays the motion carried.

**Summer Meeting
Location and Date - 2017**

President Jackson asked the Board for recommendations for the 2017 Summer Meeting Location and Date.

There was board discussion to hold the meeting in Cordova on July 21-23 or July 28-30 depending on the availability of facilities.

Discussion of the Board followed.

MOTION

Mike/Tammy moved/seconded to have the 2017 summer board meeting in Cordova, July 21-23.

With no objection, the motion carried.

AASB Policy Revisions

Andi Story referred to some background on the work of the policy

Committee in the Feb. 23, 2016 minutes provided in the board packet. Two issues that the committee assigned the staff to look into and get back to the board before the July meeting are: Insurance and the health care plan (Policy 4.401) and Bereavement Leave (Policy 4.404.1).

The Policy Committee took action on Policies 306, 323, 4.111, 602 at the Feb. 23 meeting and were the focus of board discussion today.

MOTION

Policy 306 was moved by committee for board approval as revised.
(Committee Revision: changes to Board procedures for selecting the officers of the board of directors.)

There was board discussion on Policy 306.

MOTION

Sue/Charlene moved/seconded that we postpone to the summer board meeting Policy 306 to allow time for the staff to craft some provision that would enable board members up for election (whether on the AASB board or their local board) to be considered as candidates for executive positions on the AASB board.

With no objection, the motion to postpone carried. (Policy 306 is postponed until the July meeting.)

MOTION

Policy 323 was moved by committee for board approval as revised.
(Committee Revision: for board members to be responsible for costs associated with a board member's guest.)

With no objection, the motion carried. (Policy 323 is approved)

MOTION

Policy 4.111 was moved by committee for board approval as revised.
(Committee Revision: to ensure airfare tickets are purchased with AASB credit card so mileage is accrued by the Association.)

Discussion of the board followed.

With no objection, the motion carried. (Policy 4.111 is approved)

MOTION

Policy 602 was moved by committee for board approval as revised.
(Committee Revision: to approve an increase in the amount of June Nelson Memorial Scholarships from \$1200 to \$1500 as well as the number of scholarships.)

MOTION TO AMEND

Debby/Sue moved/seconded to add to the end of the third paragraph that the committee will consider statewide demographics in making scholarship awards.

Discussion of the board followed.

With no objection, the amendment carried.

MOTION TO AMEND

Dana/Sue moved/seconded to strike \$14,400 in paragraph two to read \$22,500 per year to reflect the new math in Policy 602 as revised.

With no objection, the amendment carried.

Discussion of the board followed, including Sarah wanting to add language pertaining to promoting career and technical aspects of the scholarships. (Of

the 127 applicants this year, only three were from future career/tech students.)

The board will work on language and bring this amendment forward at the July meeting.

The board came back to the main motion.

With no objection, the motion carried as amended. (Policy 602 is approved)

Carl Rose Governance Award

Tiffany Jackson led the discussion on the fact that 72% of the winners of the Carl Rose Governance Award have been sitting members of the AASB Board of Directors. There is some concern that the perception from member districts might be that you have to be a sitting member of the AASB board to get this award. Is this a message we want to send to prospective applicants?

Discussion of the board followed with valuable perspectives shared and consideration given to multiple aspects of the process from committee makeup to the nomination form to the selection of winners.

MOTION

Sue/Debby moved/seconded to send the application to the Awards Committee for consideration and receive their recommendations at the summer board meeting.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mike/Sue moved/seconded to send this to the Membership Committee for review and return at the summer board meeting.

With no objection, the motion to amend carried.

RECESS: 2:50pm
RECONVENE: 3:00pm

BOARD COMMENTS

Comments included:

- Thank you to Sue. Your service to your local board and the state for education is incredible.
- Optimistic about the outlook of the state, despite the fiscal situation.
- Passion of this board and school board members across the state serve the state well.
- Loss of language is the beginning of the loss of culture.
- This group is great to be with. Thoughtful. Hardworking.

FUTURE BUSINESS

- Clarence mentioned that he knows Leslie Harper (one of two Native Americans on ESSA Negotiated Rule Making) and if we have anything we need to input for negotiated rule making for the regulations on ESSA that we can contact her.
- Is there some way we can know if other school board members from Alaska will be at the NSBA Annual Conference? (Several other states have a gathering of their board members.)

- How do we evaluate the progress of our goals? What are the outcomes of our goals?

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Tammy/Dana moved/seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the Association of Alaska School Boards at 3:47 pm.

A True Record.

ATTEST:

Secretary/Treasurer



2016 June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Award

Ten Alaska High School Seniors and Two College Freshmen Awarded June Nelson Memorial Scholarships

Ten Alaska high school seniors have been chosen out 127 applications to receive a \$1,200 scholarship. In addition, two college freshmen were awarded \$1,200 scholarships for the coming 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. Previous scholarship winners can compete for and additional award the following year.

This year AASB members and friends raised enough money to award twelve, \$1200 scholarships. After a committee of 8 volunteers reviewed the applications based on grades, community service, activities, letters of recommendation, and an essay, the group of over 100 outstanding applications was narrowed down to the following students:

Name	School	District
Madison Attla	Jimmy Huntington (Huslia)	Yukon Koyukuk
Ellen Carty-Seccomb	Kodiak	Kodiak Island Borough
Jennifer DeGraffenried	West Anchorage	Anchorage
Purevdulam Enkhdat	Unalaska	Unalaska City
Jordan Finney	Ninilchik	Kenai Peninsula
Bernadette Franulovich	Ketchikan	Ketchikan Gateway Borough
Shirley Igkurak	Kwigillingok	Lower Kuskokwim
Julius Reed	West Anchorage	Anchorage
Sarah Tate	Petersburg	Petersburg
Emma Wetter	Dillingham	Dillingham City

College freshmen winners (previous JNMS winners)

Student	High School/college	District
Ciera Kelly	Thunder Mt.	Juneau
Kaya Duguay	Sitka	Sitka

These outstanding youth will be presented with the scholarship by the school board president of their district.