

**Board Legislative Committee Meeting  
December 18, 2019**

**Meeting Notes**

Wendy Dominique, school board president and legislative committee chair, called the Legislative Committee meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. in the board room of the FNSBSD Administrative Center at 520 Fifth Avenue.

**Committee Members Present & Comprising a Quorum:**

Wendy Dominique, Board President & Committee Chair  
Timothy Doran, Board Vice President  
Jennifer Luke, Board Member  
Dr. Karen Gaborik, Superintendent  
Shawna Henderson, FPA President  
Sandi Ryan, FEA President  
Jasmine Adkins-Brown, ESSA President  
Robert Kinnard, Community Representative

**Absent:**

None

**Vacant:**

Parent Representative  
Student Representative

**Staff Present:**

John Ringstad, District Lobbyist  
Andrea DeGraw, Chief Operations Officer  
Mark Nilson, Executive Director of Facilities Maintenance  
Rebecca Hurbi, Digital Communications Manager  
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board & Committee Administrative Support

**Adoption of Agenda & Approval of Consent Item** [0:00:46]

DORAN MOVED, LUKE SECONDED, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA WITH CONSENT  
ITEM, THE NOVEMBER 20, 2019 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES.

Asking for and hearing no objection, Chair Dominique moved the agenda adopted and the November 20, 2019 meeting notes approved.

**Lobbyist Update on Current Legislative Activities** [0:01:09]

John Ringstad, district lobbyist, provided an overview of current legislative activities, including the release of Governor Dunleavy's budget. Education was flat-funded, which would mean approximately a \$3.0 million hit to the district. The Governor indicated he was interested in reviewing and reworking the funding formula for education, but if it happened, it would probably be a two to three-year process.

**Education Issues/Legislation**

Committee members discussed the Governor's proposed budget, the funding formula, unfunded mandates, forward funding and the court's ruling, tribal compacting, state expenses associated with natural disasters, and the Permanent Fund Dividend.

Dr. Gaborik spoke to a letter some Alaska superintendents had signed in support of grade level reading by the third grade. Dr. Gaborik had not signed the letter. While she certainly supported literacy, she had reservations and questions on the legislation. It was noted NEA had pulled the Education Bill of Rights Initiative.

### **2020-2021 Legislative Priorities Work** [0:19:56]

Superintendent Dr. Gaborik walked the committee through the draft 2020-2021 Legislative Priorities. She would take the committee's feedback and suggestions, and work with Ms. Hurbi to make any edits as needed.

Committee members discussed many topics including the strategic plan goals; expanding the explanations on some programs; deleting and/or reducing the information related to some topics; prioritizing priorities; inflation and benefit costs; graduation and dropout rates; the Alaska Education Challenge; the Cycle of Continuous Improvement information/graphic; equity and inclusion; and clarifying staffing numbers. The committee had several suggestions in regard to the layout and photos.

Ms. Adkins-Brown arrived at 5:57 p.m.

After the committee's careful consideration, there was general committee consensus on focusing the priorities on:

- Forward Education Funding;
- Statewide Deferred Maintenance Program;
- Support for Social Emotional Learning (SEL);
- Formula Funding that kept pace with increasing costs; and
- Support for Expansion and Innovation within districts.

Mrs. Luke left the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Dr. Gaborik would make the committee's suggested edits and have another draft ready for the committee's final review at its next meeting. The committee set its next meeting for January 13, 2020 at 5:45 p.m. The priorities would then go before the full board for approval at the board's January 21, 2020 Regular Meeting.

### **Committee Comments/Announcements** [1:31:06]

None

The committee meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Submitted by Sharon Tuttle, Board of Education executive assistant & Legislative Committee administrative support.