

**Board Legislative Committee Meeting
by Video Conference
January 22, 2021
1:00-2:30 p.m.**

Hosted from the Administrative Center, 520 Fifth Avenue

AGENDA

Zoom Meeting Information:

For Devices: Public Zoom Webinar Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89693676323>

Or by phone, please dial: +1 346 248 7799, +1 408 638 0968, +1 669 900 6833, +1 253 215 8782, +1 646 876 9923,
+1 301 715 8592, +1 312 626 6799, 888 788 0099 (Toll Free), or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free). Webinar ID: 896 9367 6323

1. Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement Statement: *As a committee of the school board, we would like to take this moment to respectfully acknowledge we are residing on the traditional land of the Dena (pronounced duhNAY) people.*
2. District Mission Statement: *Our Mission is to provide an excellent, equitable education in a safe, supportive environment so all students will succeed and contribute to a diverse and changing society.*
3. Roll Call
Committee Members:
 - Timothy Doran, Committee Chair & Board President
 - Erin Morotti, Committee Representative & Board Treasurer
 - Chrya Sanderson, Committee Representative & Board Clerk
 - Dr. Karen Gaborik, Superintendent
 - Sarah Gillam, FPA President
 - Sandi Ryan, FEA President
 - Jasmine Adkins-Brown, ESSA President
 - Robert Kinnard, Community Representative
- Staff:
 - John Ringstad, District Lobbyist
 - Andreau DeGraw, Chief Operations Officer
 - Mark Nilson, Executive Director of Facilities
 - Rebecca Hurbi, Executive Director of Communications, Development, & Engagement
 - Sharon Tuttle, Committee Administrative Support & Board Executive Assistant
4. Adoption of the Agenda with Consent Agenda Item
 - a. Consent Item - *December 9, 2020 Meeting Notes
5. Education Issues/Legislation
6. 2021-2022 Legislative Priorities Work
7. Adjournment

**Board Legislative Committee Meeting
by Video Conference
December 9, 2020**

Meeting Notes

Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement Statement

Through video conference, Chair Doran called the Legislative Committee Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He read the Land Acknowledgement Statement, "As a committee of the school board, we would like to take this moment to respectfully acknowledge we are residing on the traditional land of the Dena (pronounced duhNAY) people."

Mission Statement

Chair Doran read the district's Mission Statement: *Our mission is to provide an excellent, equitable education in a safe, supportive environment so all students will succeed and contribute to a diverse and changing society.*

Roll Call [0:00:35]

Committee Members Present & Comprising a Quorum: [0:00:31]

Timothy Doran, Committee Chair & Board President
Erin Morotti, Committee Representative & Board Treasurer
Chrya Sanderson, Committee Representative & Board Clerk
Dr. Karen Gaborik, Superintendent
Sarah Gillam, FPA President
Sandi Ryan, FEA President
Robert Kinnard, Community Representative

Excused:

Jasmine Adkins-Brown, ESSA President

Staff Present:

Andrea DeGraw, Chief Operations Officer
Mark Nilson, Executive Director of Facilities Maintenance
Rebecca Hurbi, Acting Executive Director of Communications, Development & Engagement
Sharon Tuttle, Executive Assistant to the Board & Committee Administrative Support

Adoption of the Agenda [0:01:28]

Asking for and hearing no objection to adopting the agenda and meeting notes from November 18, 2020, Chair Doran moved the agenda adopted and the meeting notes approved.

Current and Future Legislation [0:01:53]

John Ringstad, district lobbyist, and Dr. Gaborik, spoke to current and future legislation, including:

- SB 86: Alaska Reads Act;
- Governor's Budget to be released;
- Education funding;
- Legislator's vision for the state and how education fit into it and how districts could help achieve that vision;
- Bond debt reimbursement; and
- Hold Harmless Clause, due to the reduction of enrollment;

Chair Doran announced he, Dr. Gaborik, Mr. DeGraw, and Mr. Ringstad, had met with some members of the Interior Delegation, and would continue to meet with the remaining members as possible.

Education Issues [0:11:01]

Committee members received the Association of Alaska School Boards' position statements and resolutions.

2021-2022 Legislative Priorities Work [0:12:31]

The committee reviewed the text drafted for the 2021-2022 Legislative Priorities, based upon the committee's discussion and input from the November 18 meeting. Superintendent Dr. Gaborik facilitated the committee's review of the draft text. She noted the text needed to be refined and reduced to fit into the brochure.

Committee members commented and provided input on each of the brochure sections. A final draft would be available for the January 11 Legislative Committee Meeting. The committee's draft priorities were scheduled to go before the full board for approval at its January 19, 2021 meeting.

Covid-19 recovery was the focus of the district's priorities, as it had affected every aspect of the school district and education. The committee's recommendations would be incorporated into the next draft of the brochure. The priorities brochure would also include information on district demographics and staff recognition and awards.

Dr. Gaborik would continue to work with Rebecca Hurbi, executive director of communication, development, and engagement, to finalize the text. Ms. Hurbi would work on the layout and design for the committee's consideration at its next meeting.

Committee Comments/Announcements [1:32:03]

Chair Doran thanked committee members for their input. The committee was scheduled to meet to finalize their final draft of the priorities on January 11, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

The committee meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

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



Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

Academic Year 2021-22

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT, EQUITABLE EDUCATION IN A SAFE, SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT SO ALL STUDENTS WILL SUCCEED AND CONTRIBUTE TO A DIVERSE AND CHANGING SOCIETY.

2020-25 STRATEGIC GOALS

- ▷ **Student Success:** Increase academic achievement and social emotional well-being for all students.
- ▷ **Equity & Inclusion:** Provide equitable opportunities and an inclusive environment where all students and staff are respected and feel welcome, safe, and supported.
- ▷ **Communication & Engagement:** Ensure students, staff, families, and the community are informed, connected, and engaged with the district.
- ▷ **Workforce & Organizational Excellence:** Create an environment that supports the strengths and needs of staff so they can create a safe climate where students thrive.

RESILIENCE IN A YEAR OF COVID-19



- 48% growth in eLearning enrollment to 1000+ students
- Distributed 6500 devices to families
- 260% increase in BEST Homeschool enrollment to 1000+ students
- 2 all-staff events & 1400 individual staff trainings in social emotional support practices since March
- 450+ teachers trained in online/remote teaching strategies since March
- 172,400 meals delivered spring 2020 by Nutrition Services and Transportation
- Districtwide Design team of administrators, teachers, and support staff developed Green, Yellow and Red Zone school access plans for 9300+ students

Social Emotional Learning Needs & Supports

- Increased family outreach to gather parent/guardian feedback about gaps in learning opportunities
- Data reviewed to identify student needs at schools through a combination of: Professional Learning Community meetings, staff meetings, parent-teacher conferences, Student Support Team meetings, and other school data review meetings.
- District level identification and monitoring of student subgroups at higher risk for dropout
- Project AWARE Grant - \$3.16 million over five years
 - Expand social emotional learning, restorative practices, and trauma-engaged practices
 - Increase capacity to meet the mental health challenges through additional staffing
- School mental health providers at West Valley HS, North Pole HS, North Pole MS, and Tanana MS
- Early Warning System developed by Dr. Ellis Ott tracks students based on a variety of risk factors including graduation, dropout and attendance rates, GPA, NWEA MAP growth, and PEAKS proficiency
- Social service managers, counselors, support staff connecting families with resources

Staff Recruitment & Retention

- Team Optimizing Project: Proactive approach to leadership, workforce engagement, and employee retention
- Supplemental Retirement Benefit
 - District matches up to 1% of the certified teacher's annual salary into a supplemental 403b retirement account
 - Teachers may cash in sick leave to contribute to 403b
 - Tier III, IV certified staff may cash in personal leave to contribute to 403b plans
- Human Resources Outreach
 - Job Fairs: Ft. Wainwright, UAF, Education Week Virtual, Dept. of Labor Virtual, and more!
 - Social Media: HR Facebook page, Employee weekly spotlights, School video spotlights
 - Resume, Interview and Application Assistance, Dress for Success Clothing Drive
 - Substitute employee recruitment events



Medical Advisory Team

Thanks to a partnership with Foundation Health Partners and Public Health, the superintendent convened a Medical Advisory Committee that meets frequently to advise district leadership and the Board of Education regarding COVID-19 health and safety data and protocols.

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT



- 2020 Outstanding District Practice Award
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Award: Demonstration of the highest commitment to hiring people with disabilities.
- Dr. Karen Gaborik: Alaska After School Champion Award
- Amy Gallaway: Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence (national award)
- Robyn Taylor: Alaska High School Principal of the Year
- Clarice Mingo: Alaska Assistant High School Principal of the Year

18 Elementary Schools • **8** Secondary Schools • **10** Schools of Choice

ENROLLMENT

Grade	2020-21
Elementary (Pre K-6)	5,677
Middle/Jr High (7-8)	1,355
High School (9-12)	4,228
Total	11,260

TARGET CLASS SIZE

Grade	2020-21
Kindergarten	22.5
1st - 3rd	24.0
4th - 6th	26.0
7th - 8th	27.0
9th - 12th	29.5

FAST FACTS

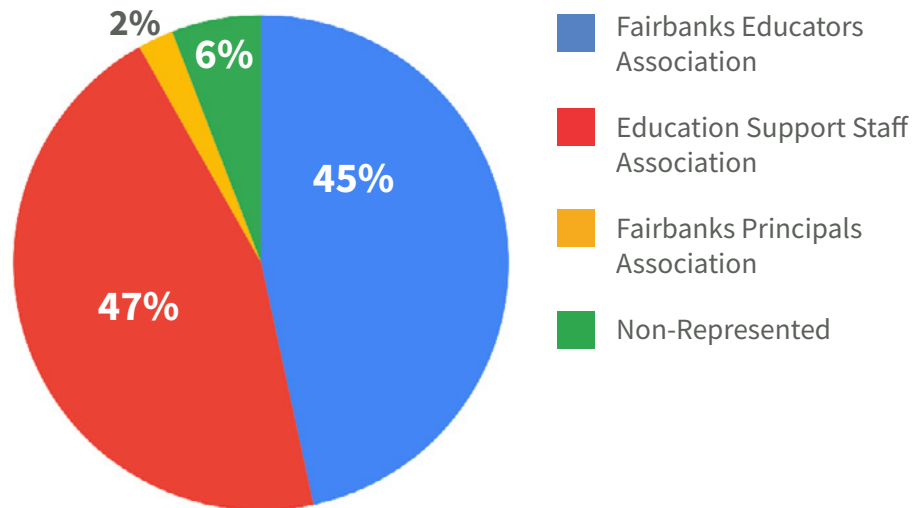
- 2,774 students, or 24.6%, are economically disadvantaged
- Over 21% of students are military connected
- The 2019-20 4-year graduation rate was 78.4%
- Districtwide attendance is 92%
- 87% of the district's operating fund is spent on employee salaries and benefits

ETHNICITIES

Includes students who identified as an additional race or ethnicity.

- **78.1%** - Caucasian
- **25.0%** - Two or More Races (*includes students who also identified as Hispanic*)
- **20.7%** - Alaska Native/American Indian
- **10.4%** - African American
- **9.6%** - Hispanic
- **8.9%** - Asian/Pacific Islander

DISTRICT STAFF



LANGUAGES

There are **over 69 different heritage languages** spoken in our students' families across the school district. Approximately 10% of all students have a heritage language.



The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District is an equal employment and educational opportunity institution, as well as a tobacco and nicotine-free learning and work environment.