

**Board Legislative Committee Meeting
by Video Conference
December 9, 2020
5:30-7:00 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/87279098906>

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: 872 7909 8906

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
 - To Be Filled, Parent 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 - ** November 18 Meeting Notes
5. Current & Future Legislation
6. Education Issues
 - a. AASB Positions (Where We Stand Statements)
7. 2021-2022 Legislative Priorities Work
 - a. Draft Legislative Brochure Content
8. Adjournment

Upcoming Committee Meeting:

- January 11, 5:30-7:00 p.m. by video conference

**Board Legislative Committee Meeting
by Video Conference
November 18, 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

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

Timothy Doran, Committee Chair & Board President
Erin Morotti, Committee Representative & Board Treasurer
Dr. Karen Gaborik, Superintendent
Jasmine Adkins-Brown, ESSA President
Sarah Gillam, FPA President (joined the meeting at 5:39 pm)
Sandi Ryan, FEA President
Robert Kinnard, Community Representative

Excused:

Chrya Sanderson, Committee Representative & Board Clerk

Recruiting:

Parent Representative

Staff Present:

Andreau 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 [0:01:11]

KINNARD MOVED, ADKINS-BROWN SECONDED, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AND THE MEETING NOTES OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2020 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

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

Current and Future Legislation [0:01:41]

Sandi Ryan, FEA president, and Jasmine Adkins-Brown, ESSA president, assisted by a couple of other committee members who had also been able to listen in, provided an overview of the recent Education Committee meeting. Committee discussion ensued on:

- Covid-19 recovery;
- Putting students first;
- Middle college program;
- Teacher training and education programs; and
- Transportation.

Education Issues [0:11:04]

Committee members discussed education issues, including:

- Supplemental funding;
- Covid recovery funding;
- State and local funding;
- Fund balance spend-down and previous discussion of borough assistance;
- State Hold Harmless Clause; and
- CARES funding.

2021-2022 Legislative Priorities Work [0:26:33]

The committee reviewed the text drafted for the 2021-2022 Legislative Priorities, based upon the committee's discussion and input from the November 4 meeting. Superintendent Dr. Gaborik facilitated the committee's review of the draft text.

Committee members commented and provided input on several sections, including:

- Covid-19 recovery;
- Success in a year of Covid-19;
- Social Emotional Learning and Supports;
- Recruitment and retention; and
- Medical advisory team.

The committee had suggested Covid-19 recovery as the district's number one budget priority, as Covid-19 had affected every aspect of the school district and education. Committee members provided several recommendations and input as they reviewed and refined each section. They selected the following operational topics to focus on:

- Enrollment & Fiscal Impact;
- Staff Resignations and Retirements;
- Economic Impact on the Borough;
- Capital Projects and Deferred Maintenance;
- Internet Connectivity and Devices; and
- CARES Funding.

The priorities brochure would also include information on district demographics and staff recognition and awards.

Committee members asked questions and shared input on:

- The importance of having a consistent message, not only from within the district, but within the state, specifically the Big 5 districts.
- The effect of reduced enrollment, not only for districts in Alaska, but throughout the nation.
- Necessary budget reductions.

The committee thought it would be helpful to know and somewhat align to the other Big 5 districts in regard to legislative priorities, budget needs, etc. They also asked for information on the position statements and resolutions approved through the Association of Alaska School Boards (AASB) at its Annual Conference, related to Covid-19, funding, or other issues Alaska districts were dealing with. Chair Doran would get the information and provide it to committee members.

Dr. Gaborik would continue to work with Rebecca Hurbi, executive director of communication, development, and engagement, to edit the text, and not only bring back an updated dated of the text, but perhaps even a draft of the design layout. Once the committee had a final draft of the priorities completed, it would be taken before the full board for consideration and approval.

It was suggested another committee meeting be scheduled for early January for a final review, prior to submitting the document to the board for consideration. Chair Doran would look at the calendar and schedule another meeting. The committee was working to have the document ready in time for the school board's next Regular Meeting, January 19, 2021.

Committee Comments/Announcements [1:22:53]

The committee's upcoming scheduled meeting:

- December 9, 5:30-7:00 p.m. by video conference

The committee meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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

AASB Position Statement Information

At the last Legislative Committee Meeting, the question came up about stances taken by Alaska Association of School Boards (AASB) relative to the current situation. Chair Doran reviewed AASB's "Where We Stand" document and highlighted some of what was passed at the Annual Conference Delegate Assembly.

The following were worth noting:

- 2.48 (**Amended**) Increasing The Fund Balance Cap For School Districts
- 2.54 (**New**) Use of FY20 Student Adjusted Average Daily Membership
- Data To Hold District's Harmless In Loss Of Student Enrollment
- Related To Covid-19 During The FY21 and FY 22 School Year
- 2.55 (**New**) Requesting Dedicated Funding for School Health
- Professionals Outside the Foundation Funding Formula
- 2.56 (**New**) Support for Funding of COVID-19 Related Expenses for
- Education
- 2.57 (**New**) Addressing Equity Issues with Internet Access and Connectivity

While there were others within the document that called upon specific supports for children and students, the ones provided were the main ones brought forth at this year's conference to specifically address the impacts of COVID upon schools and districts.

Additional informational and the full-text was available on the AASB.org website under the tab "Where We Stand."

DRAFT CONTENT for November 18 Legislative Committee Meeting

Cover

Academic Year 2021-22

Legislative Priorities

COVID-19 Recovery (graphic to replace one picture)

Mission Statement

2020-25 Strategic Goals

Photos - family at home, kids working remote, kids at home learning

Left Inside Page

Success 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 last spring 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
- Commitment to Alaska Smart Start Framework Guidance health and safety protocols

Social Emotional Learning and 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

Recruitment and Retention

- Team Optimizing Project
 - Proactive approach to leadership, workforce engagement, and employee retention
 - Understand and track employee satisfaction
 - Share data with school leadership teams
 - Address concerns, increase success, reduce turnover
- 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 Roundup
 - HR Staff volunteered at Hunter Elementary Thanksgiving Event

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.

Right Inside Page

#1 Budget Priority: COVID-19 Recovery (Make this about \$\$\$)

Enrollment & Fiscal Impact estimates as of December 1, 2020

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| ● Enrollment Loss: | 1,962 Students, 14.8% Reduction |
| ● FY21 General Fund Revenue Loss | ~ \$4.5 million |
| ● FY21 Transportation Fund Revenue Loss | ~ \$2.3 million |
| ● FY21 Nutrition Services Fund Revenue Loss | ~ \$750,000 |
| ● FY22 General Fund Revenue Loss | ~ \$8.0 million |

Retirements and Resignations as of November 30, 2020

- Teachers: Trending below FY20
- School Administrators: Trending below FY20
- Support Staff: Trending above FY20
- Non-Represented: Trending above FY20

What has been the staffing impact? Number of retirements, resignations, etc. Number of positions that have been left open/unfilled?

Economic impact on FNSB - is there a published source we can reference?

Brittany Smart at FNSB's economic team - preliminary data available?

- anyway to know if people left completely?

Capital Projects and Deferred Maintenance

- Created statewide deferred maintenance fund for healthy and safe facilities conducive to learning
- \$265+ million deferred maintenance, expected to exceed \$300 million by 2023
- District Facilities Maintenance Reserve: Ben Eielson Jr/Sr room replacement \$4.6 million
- Fairbanks North Star Borough contributed \$3.9 million to finish Barnette Elementary in 2021
- Surplus bonds funds
 - \$2.9 million exterior renovations at Tanana Middle School

- \$359,000 complete interior renovations at Two Rivers Elementary
- \$2.2 million exterior renovations at North Pole Middle School

Internet Connectivity and Devices

- Include Virtual and/or Homeschools fully in the foundation funding formula
- 150+ (1.6 %) of district families have no connectivity
- 27% of families say internet access is a challenge that makes learning at home difficult
- 6500 devices provided to students that did not have the equipment necessary for remote learning
- Devices loaned to staff to allow working from home
- Poor internet connectivity geographically impacts employee effectiveness and student learning
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Back Cover

CARES Funds

- Smart Start Planning, XX Student Devices, XX MiFi, Paraprofessional Devices, Summer School, Social Emotional Learning Assessment Tool, Digital Content, Online Textbooks and Licenses, Occupational Health Nurse, PPE, Cleaning Supplies, Professional Development

Gold Stars

- Amy Galloway: Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence. One of 5 teachers nationwide. She received \$10,000 and will be a guest of honor at the NEA Foundation's Salute to Excellence Awards Gala.
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Award: Demonstration of the highest commitment to hiring people with disabilities.
- Dr. Karen Gaborik: Alaska After School Champion Award

District Demographics (bottom half of page)

- Enrollment
- Target Class Size
- Fast Facts
- Ethnicities
- District Staff
- Languages