



Yukon Koyukuk School District
4762 Old Airport Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Kerry Boyd
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Telephone: (907) 374-9400
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365th Regular Board Meeting (Thursday, 21 May 2020)

1. PRELIMINARIES

Procedural: 1.1 Call to Order 10:16am

Maurice McGinty, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. on 21 May 2020 Virtual Meeting due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Procedural: 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Procedural: 1.3 Roll Call Conducted by Superintendent Kerry Boyd

Maurice McGinty, Chairperson, Present
Fred Bifelt, Vice Chairperson, Present (10:17am)
Gloria Patsy, Treasurer, Present
Shirley Kruger, Secretary, Absent
Wilmer Beetus, Member, Present
Dian Gurtler, Member, Present
Ruth Folger, Member, Present

Procedural: 1.4 Introduction of Guests Conducted by Superintendent Kerry Boyd

Kerry Boyd, Superintendent
Kristen Winters, Chief Financial Officer
Chane Beam, Director of Teaching and Learning
Patty White, Assistant Superintendent
Gina Hrinko, Director of Federal Programs
Patty Woody, Career and Technical Education Coordinator
Richard Wilkin, III, Board Secretary
Daniel Barnes, Technology Supervisor
Kathy Christy, Capital Project Manager
Brad Kennon, Technology Coordinator
Colleen Savoie, Principal Account Executive (Parker, Smith, and Feek)

Informational: Procedural: 1.5 Board Goals and Mission Statement ~Superintendent Kerry Boyd

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (ACTION)

- A. Dian Gurtler moved to approve
- B. Gloria Patsy seconded
- C. Approved 5-0



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3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA (ACTION)

- A. Dian Gurtler moved to approve; Wilmer Beetus seconded motion.
- B. Maurice McGinty: Query on Personnel Actions;
- C. Update provided by Superintendent Kerry Boyd;
- D. Approved 5-0

ACTION (CONSENT): 3.1 How the Consent Agenda Works

ACTION (CONSENT): 3.2 Minutes from BM 363

- Minutes from Board Meeting 364 16 April 2020~Virtual

ACTION (CONSENT): 3.3 Personnel Action

- Update from Kerry Boyd on leaving of teachers; hiring of new staff, transfers, and current openings.

ACTION (CONSENT): 3.4 Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Revisions

- Kristen Winters updated budget revisions and transfer of \$10,000 from Board Travel to Superintendent's budget due to increase in legal fees.

ACTION (CONSENT): 3.5 FY 2020 POs over \$40,000

- Kristen Winters updated POs over \$40,000 (Allakaket Art Project)

4. COMMUNITY COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

PROCEDURAL: 4.1 Community Comment on Agenda Items

- None

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

REPORTS: 5.1 Superintendent's Report

- Congratulations to all of the 200 plus graduating seniors of our River Schools and Raven School. Thank you to our teachers and especially parents!
- Graduations and Promotions: Although they are different this year due to COVID-19, the students, families and staff worked together to make graduations meaningful. Our Pre-K, K, and 8th graders will have their promotion ceremonies celebrated in the fall.
- Congratulations to our retiring staff Kristen Winters our CFO and Theresa Miller, our Juneau Raven Teacher. We wish you the best in your retirement.



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- We held our second district-wide call using Bluejeans, the same platform being used for the board meetings. There are over 100 people joining each meeting. We can use this same format for meetings with CSCs and community members when needed.
- Budget: Thank you again to our CFO for finalizing the FY21 Budget Book and to the State. With the CARES act funding and the upcoming audit, there is always work to do.
- CARES Act – Education Stabilization Fund: Federal funding that is funneled through a State’s department of education, which will then distribute 90% of the funds to public school districts based on their proportional allocation of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act’s Title I Funding. YKSD is expecting to receive \$350,000. The funding can only be used to support COVID-19 response activities, such as technology to support online learning for all students, supplies and services to clean and sanitize all buildings, and mental health support services for students and/or staff. These funds are not available for general operations.
- School Enrollment: Current enrollment for Raven is 1700 with River expected to increase slightly over 300 due to the pandemic.
- Boarding home students have returned to their perspective communities with no known decision as to whether they will enroll locally or with the boarding home.
- Position Vacancies: There are several position vacancies across the district. The teams are actively interviewing candidates. The positions are listed out in the presentation for the board meeting. In the presentation for the May 21 board meeting, the Organizational Chart is listed.
- The Iditarod Book: Ten Feet Tall and Bulletproof Alaska Natives: Blazing the Iditarod Trail is ready for publishing!
- Our food service program ends on May 19th with the last day of school on May 21. This provides time for cleaning and for conducting a thorough inventory summer meals to youth. There will be food service in each of the schools providing summer school instruction pending the type of instruction.
- River School Staff are busy closing out the end of the year with student grades, recognition and also with cleaning the campus grounds and classrooms.
- Governor Dunleavy’s Health Mandates Related to Public Schools Health Mandate 1.2: Any missed student contact days during this time are waived meaning they do not need to be added back into the school district’s 2019-20 calendar or next year.
- Maintenance and Capital Projects: The maintenance department has been working with communities to ensure that we have properly working sewage and water systems in place at the schools at all times. All regulatory work is being conducted throughout the summer with proper safety precautions in place for travel.
- Health Mandate 13: The remote learning requirement for public school districts is extended until the end of school year, as designated on each district’s 2019-20 calendar. While the travel mandates have been loosened for traveling on the road system, remote



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communities continue to be restricted until further notice. The Commissioner of Education stated that he would be relying on school districts to implement the start of reopening schools aligned with the CDC guidance. Reopening will require a significant discussion by the Board in line with CDC guidance.

- Congratulations to YKSD and Raven Homeschool graduates.
- Special recognition of retirements and staff members who have offered excellent service.
- Recognition of employees of the year.
- Recognition of employees who have offered significant service to the district in terms of length of service.
- CAP community payments mentioned and amounts disclosed.
- Summer activities mentioned.
- Unveiling of YKSD/Raven Homeschool masks.
- Draft of updated organizational chart shown
- Report on Raven Homeschool
- **Board Comments:**
 - Reflection from Maurice McGinty about whether or not the district has done the best it can for the students;
 - Reflection from Superintendent Boyd regarding both successes and ways to improve;
 - Maurice McGinty—discussions with Mr. Healy about the effectiveness of Acellus and how it is being unfair to our students. We need to examine this closely and reflect upon this if we can use different methods of offering math;
 - Gloria Patsy—This is something that we have failed with as parents. Our kids were in tears; I had chosen to not home school my own kids. I have a 9th grader and a 2nd grader. We have to have a plan in place for the fall.
 - Kerry Boyd: We are taking this feedback seriously and putting things in place to make it different for next year.
 - Ruth Folger: Different people in the community are taking the homework at different levels of seriousness. Students and parents are not taking the work seriously because the material was not being graded.

Executive Session scheduled for 9.6 entered into at 11:06am; Concluded at 11:35am.

Break: 11:35-11:45

REPORTS: 5.2 CFO's Report

- Since pandemic began, 800+ meals per day being served;
- FY expenditure report is included in the report;
- Budget revision removed from Board Member travel to Superintendent's budget to cover legal costs;



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- Alaska Art Colony--\$42,000 for Allakaket Art project;
- Student Activities Budget covered as per report attached.

REPORTS: 5.3 Directors' and Coordinators Reports

- Reviewed and accepted

REPORTS: 5.4 Principals' Reports

- Reviewed and accepted

6. INFORMATION

6.1 Community Communications

- None

6.2 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA): Student Achievement

- Indian Education monies to be spent...I was up and down during this brief chat and only caught the end of this...

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 CTE Program Update Ongoing

- Presentation by Patty Woody
- Update on the EXCEL programs. All 4th quarter camps and all of the camps in June are cancelled. They are tentatively planning on offering 2 CTE camps for Culinary Arts, Construction, Aviation, or Health Care in July. With the Math Science Expedition for 7-12th graders in July and the George River Internship for 11th-12th graders also in July.
- EXCEL proposed the budget you previously presented at the Rampart board meeting. This budget focused on hiring and training staff through EXCEL so that, in partnership with YKSD, an interior EXCEL program would be developed. Since then we have been working on a counter proposal with a goal of ensuring our staff is prepared to provide intensive CTE related camps and to have the appropriate facilities in order for the camps to be successful. We have been reviewing the budget and determining what is necessary. The proposal EXCEL presented us with involved a five-year plan with the first year focusing on training for the staff with 1-2 camps in Fairbanks. The following years it would ramp up with more camps each year in Fairbanks until the Fairbanks YKSD EXCEL was fully functional.



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- With our counter proposal we have been looking at ways to reduce the budget, reviewing the staffing suggestions and timeline. With the counter proposal YKSD will play a larger role in the project, with the focus of EXCEL providing the training and support and YKSD having their own Interior program in the near future, while still receiving the benefit of the knowledge and experience and expertise of Alaska EXCEL.

7.2 Math Curriculum ~ Presentation by Chane Beam

- Data shows Acellus has worked to an extent and improved scores;
- Comparison of River Schools' scores vis-à-vis state scores and Raven scores shows that River schools have improved using Acellus.
- Task force studying ways forward.
- Proposal to take Grades 1-3 back to textbooks and hands on manipulatives supplemented by Acellus and with support from the new math specialist in an effort to give these students a strong foundation.
- 4th-5th grade would keep Acellus but also include textbooks and manipulatives at the center of the curriculum. A third focal point would be math facts practice. Small group teaching would be included and support from the math specialist.
- MS/HS would have 3 centers each day: Acellus; pencil/paper practice; and real life math; tutoring and support from math techs; small group support and math tech support.

7.3 Summer School

- Presentation by Chane Beam
- Four schools to be involved: Rampart; Minto; Huslia; Hughes
- Program to be set by local teacher and reading specialist providing support via VTC.

7.4 Health Service Benefit Plan Options

- Presentation by Colleen Savoie
- Outline of various options for insurance for YKSD including

7.5 School Reopening Plans

- Updates and thoughts from the Superintendent
- Key question is when does school begin?
- This may need to fluctuate. The Superintendent's recommendation is stick with the August 17, 2020 date. We will need some training on social distancing; hygiene practices; screening; etc. Flexibility is of paramount importance as we do not know where the pandemic will lead.
- Suggestion to schedule a meeting July 9, 2020 to further discuss.



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7.6 Head Start/Pre-K Program FY21

- Presentation by Gina Hrinko
- Currently provided for 3-4-year-old students
- Outline of services currently provided and differences between Head Start and current YKSD early education program in Nulato
- Pre-K grant has ended but we need to apply for FY21 funding.
- Question from Maurice McGinty: Who runs the Head Start program? Who teaches it here in Nulato?
- Wilmer Beetus: Question about other communities being involved in pre-K programs;
- Gina Hrinko: If a community has a Head Start program, then the district needs to work with that program. If a community does not have a program in place already, districts are allowed to create their own program.

7.7 River School Community Internet Infrastructure **more to add**

- Presentation by Brad Kennon on improving internet infrastructure in order to improve future needs of communities;
- Gloria Patsy: We need to have something in place by fall.

7.8 YKSD 6-year CIP by Kathy Christy

- Update on projects
- Minto is still on the list;
- Koyukuk's boiler is not eligible to remain on the list;
- Building committee will examine this in the fall and update the list.
- Dian Gurtler: Does Koyukuk need to reapply for a boiler?
- Wilmer Beetus: We have not had a building committee meeting for quite some time. We may need to have one before our next board meeting. We need to keep the Rampart School renovation question in mind; something that goes along with getting them into our district; Hughes: we came close to getting flooded again this spring. We were lucky this year but keep in mind that our school needs to be elevated and we would like a full-court gym as possible CIP projects.
- Kathy Christy: The district's focus has been on one project per year. Rampart is selected for FY23. We are moving ahead but COVID-19 is slowing the progress of this application. Hughes is slated for FYY24.
- Kerry Boyd: We need to have a building committee meeting before the next meeting. We need to discuss this at our August meeting.
- Kathy Christy: Minto has been re-ranked and is high on the priority list.
- Fred Bifelt: Is the square footage for Minto inclusive of the gym?



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- Kathy Christy: We are not moving the outside walls but functions of space will change. For example, the sprinkler will be converted to storage. The gym will be made more functional by eliminating traffic between the wings.
- Fred Bifelt: The community wants a full-court gym and more bleacher space. We need to just not take 'no' for an answer and proceed.
- Wilmer Beetus: The bleachers do not have enough space and there is not enough of a sideline. We need to expand that gym.
- Maurice McGinty: We need to meet with the CSC and community members to figure out exactly what the community wants.
- Kerry Boyd: This information is needed for our updated application.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None

9. NEW BUSINESS ~ Action

9.1 TCC Agreement/MOU

- Call for questions: Maurice McGinty
- Motion to Reject MOU: Wilmer Beetus
- Second: Dian Gurtler

- Gloria Patsy: Who will be responsible for maintenance and cleaning of school facilities;
- Dian Gurtler: The communities have halls that can be used. It's not incumbent on the schools to do this;
- Kristen Winters: The request is to use the schools to quarantine those who are infected with COVID-19;
- Ruth Folger: We should not agree to this. We do not know at this time how long surfaces would remain infected.
- Gloria Patsy: I agree with Ruth Folger's opinion on this.

Motion to reject MOU carried: 6-0

9.2 Board Recognition of Staff and Students

Motion to Adopt: Dian Gurtler

Motion Seconded: Wilmer Beetus

- Rebecca Agnes staff from Andrew K. Demoski
- Jessica Millsaps Juneau office



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- Peyton Bifelt Johnny Oldman School

Motion carried: 6-0

9.3 Allakaket Art Contract

- Motion to Adopt: Gloria Patsy
- Motion Seconded: Ruth Folger

Update from Superintendent

Presentation by Kathy Christy

- 0.5% of construction budget needs to be for art in new schools;
- Challenges revolving around community input;
- Updates on art
- Wilmer Beetus: We need community input;
- Kerry Boyd: Can we table this until August's board meeting?
- Kathy Christy: Possibly but the artists are in high demand and hoping for an answer. Do we want more photographic art from Kevin Smith or do we want to split this between photographic art and drawn art?
- Fred Bifelt: If we need a special meeting to approve this over the summer, we can do so but I cannot see anything right now.
- Maurice McGinty: This is not impressive. Can we redo this?
- Kerry Boyd: Part of this can be approved but we can table some of this.
- Gloria Patsy: Can we send this to the Allakaket Tribal Council and get their input.
- Kathy Christy: We can go back to other proposals we've received and have them reexamine this.

Motion to approve photography portion of art project but table artwork and get more proposals and feedback from Allakaket community.

Approved 6-0

9.4 Board Meeting Calendar FY21

- Question called for: Fred Bifelt
- Motion to Approve: Gloria Patsy
- Seconded by: Dian Gurtler

Changes

- August 15, 2020 to Hughes

Approved 6-0



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9.5 YKSD Board Scholarships

Call for Questions: Maurice McGinty

Motion to Adopt: Wilmer Beetus

Motion Seconded: Ruth Folger

- Update on scholarships from Superintendent Boyd.
- Amount to be \$2000

Motion Approved: 5-0 (Fred Bifelt not present for vote due to technical issues.)

9.6 Executive Session (moved into executive session began at 11:00am with session last from 11:06 until 11:35 followed by 10-minute break)

10. CLOSING ITEMS

10.1 Future Agenda Items

Please let Kerry Boyd or Richard Wilkin know.

10.2 Community Comment on Non-Agenda Items

- NONE

10.3 Board Closing Comments

Gloria Patsy: With COVID-19, we may be holed up in the villages for 2-years. It's hard to figure out what we are talking about without documents without documents in front of me. I am wondering what our schools will look like. We have a big class of 8th graders but we need to know what is happening in Nenana and Mt. Edgecombe.

Wilmer Beetus: There is discussion right now about the Ambler Road. It is going in. We need to look at the Borough feasibility study again.

Ruth Folger: We need to improve the technology to make the meetings more efficient.

11.1 Date and Place of Next Meeting
(Special Meeting on reopening)
July 9th, 2020 10am



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11.2 Motion to Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn: Wilmer Beetus
- Motion seconded: Gloria Patsy
- Meeting adjourned 3:07p.m.