

**Unofficial Minutes**  
**KuspuK School District REAA #5**  
**August 11, 2020 Board of Education Meeting on Zoom**

**9:07am** President Hoffman called the meeting to order. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call:** Teresa Simeon-Hunter, present      Dwayne Hoffman, present      Phyllis Evan, joined 9:26am  
Susan Hoeldt, present      Harvey Hoffman, present      Adrian Boelens, present  
Alyssa Gregory, joined 9:12am

A quorum was present. Also present: James Anderson, Superintendent; Martha Morgan, Business Manager; Jeromy Hoeldt, Maintenance Director & Facilities Coord; Emerie Fairbanks, MKEA Teacher Rep; Jodi Darling, teacher; Community Member: Wayne Morgan; and Edith Morgan, Recording Secretary.

**Approval Of The Agenda:** Teresa Simeon-Hunter made a **Motion** to approve the August 11, 2020 agenda. Seconded by Sue Hoeldt. Roll Call Vote Teresa Hunter Yes; Dwayne Hoffman Yes; Phyllis Evan Absent; Sue Hoeldt Yes; Adrian Boelens Yes; Alyssa Gregory Absent; Harvey Hoffman Yes. **5 yes votes 2 absent, the motion carried.**

**9:12am** Alyssa Gregory joined the meeting

**Approval of June 2, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes:** Sue Hoeldt made a **Motion** to approve the minutes of June 2, 2020, Regular Meeting, seconded by Adrian Boelens. Roll Call Vote Teresa Hunter Yes; Dwayne Hoffman Yes; Phyllis Evan Absent; Sue Hoeldt Yes; Adrian Boelens Yes; Alyssa Gregory Yes; Harvey Hoffman Yes. **6 yes votes 1 absent, the motion carried.**

**Presidents Report:** During his opening remarks Harvey Hoffman welcomed everyone back for a new school year, he encouraged everyone to work together to address the challenges of opening school during the covid 19 pandemic, saying open communication is crucial and every interaction should be treated with patience, understanding and kindness. He expressed condolences for their loss to the families of Sam Savage of Lower Kalskag; Willie Kameroff of Lower Kalskag; Warren Vaska of Aniak; and Jacob Wise of Crooked Creek.

**Public Comments Regarding Agenda/Non-Agenda Items:** President Hoffman read the rules for public comments. Wayne Morgan, Aniak Tribal Chief, spoke in support of a face-to-face start for students, the challenge of bringing kids back up to level, communities are not ready to see Covid 19 here and he hoped staff are trained in dealing with communities as panic will lead to rumors and social media attacks, everyone needs to address that and give out information to prevent it, he hoped there would be no disciplinary actions for things like refusing to wear mask or not remembering to use hand sanitizer. YKHC and the Aniak Tribal Council have resources on how to address Covid 19 in the community. He said all the rules for keeping the kids separate during the school day would't apply after school as they are all connected after school, he said lets all be proactive and make it a good year.

**9:26am** Phyllis Evan joined the meeting

**9:28am** Executive Session. Teresa Simeon-Hunter made a **Motion** to go into executive session for administrative matters. Seconded by Dwayne Hoffman. All were in favor and the motion carried. **9:59am** Teresa Simeon-Hunter made a **Motion** to return to regular session, seconded by Phyllis Evan. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Approval of FY21 Resignations: Connie Apodaca-West, SpEd Teacher Gr. 6-12, GMSHS**

Adrian Boelens made a **Motion** to approve the resignation of Connie Apodaca-West. Seconded by Sue Hoeldt. Roll Call Vote Teresa Hunter Yes; Dwayne Hoffman Yes; Phyllis Evan Yes; Sue Hoeldt Yes; Adrian Boelens Yes; Alyssa Gregory Yes; Harvey Hoffman Yes. **7 Yes votes, the motion carried.**

**Approval of FY21 Contract Offers: Contract Offers:** Carol Wilson, Billijo Mills, Tony Wilson, Christa Jones, EXCEL; Sue Macy, SpEd Teacher Gr. 6-12, GMSHS; Dr. Wallace Abernathy, Elem K-8 Teacher, GMS  
Sue Hoeldt made a **Motion** to approve the FY21 contract offers as listed. Seconded by Adrian Boelens. Roll Call Vote Teresa Hunter Yes; Dwayne Hoffman Yes; Phyllis Evan Yes; Sue Hoeldt Yes; Adrian Boelens Yes; Alyssa Gregory Yes; Harvey Hoffman Yes. **7 Yes votes, the motion carried.**

**Superintendent:** Mr. Anderson's report was in the packet, he said KSD has a fantastic leadership team that put in untold extra hours to make sure this year goes smoothly. The foundation issues on the construction project have been resolved the initial estimate was \$300-400,000 but after an inspection by a structural engineer the estimate is

now less than 50,000 and repairs are in progress. They are a little behind schedule due to late start and barge delays, but they expect to make up the time. Regarding the purchase of a boat in Bethel, it was not in as good a shape as they'd been told so they denied the purchase of the boat. The plane is expected back today which will help with transportation in the absence of a boat. The Maintenance department has worked hard and is now off noncompliance and will be off of probation soon. Continued progress is being made with improving communications with school communities, cities and tribal councils. Staff has arrived and is in quarantine. The Alaska 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Grant has been received and is partly paying for the student services position. A current vehicle inventory and replacements need to be done. A school calendar waiver request has been made to add 5 professional development days in January due to Covid19 training needs. President Hoffman suggested creating an email server list for sending out emails for board meeting notices to all villages.

**Finance:** Martha Morgan reported on revenue and expenses as of August 11. She said they haven't received anything from E-rate yet but Elric Heckathorn is pretty sure we will get the e-rate grant. Discussion was held on the roll over amount; the audit; the time frame to implement new business office software and work being done with Tyler Technology to install it.

**Maintenance & Operations:** Jeromy Hoeldt working closely with Mr. Anderson they have made a significant amount of progress in all areas, he is now focused on getting the Aniak high school open and taking care of teacher housing issues in Stony River. Discussion was held on fuel storage and replacement of the Kalskag fuel tank.

**Board Reports:** Dwayne Hoffman welcomed everyone back saying the board should be meeting in person since we are opening up schools to our children; there have been concerns from parents about sending their kids to school; he wanted to assure parents we are doing the best we can and will act in a timely fashion if something does come up. He's looking forward to the school year but has concerns that students may be set back due to Covid19 and how to get them back up to their level. Adrian Boelens thanked the admin staff for their dedication and for putting in so much hard work over the summer for our children. Sue Hoeldt thanked staff for all their work over the summer to look at options and make sure of the best start possible, she welcomed new staff and urged them to talk to board members for help in getting situated in their sites. She appreciated the fact that the school district continues to stay flexible as things can change quickly, and the need to be strong on communications in different formats to combat rumor mill and is looking forward to a school year that offers learning through a lot of different formats. Teresa Hunter welcomed everyone, she is looking forward to the coming school year; she thanked younger school board members for always sharing and speaking up, she also agreed that school board members should meet face-to-face. Phyllis Even welcomed all new and returning staff back to school, she said some parents mentioned they don't want their kids to go to school and asked what the plan is for children who are not allowed to go to school. Alyssa Gregory lost connection briefly when their power went off.

**Policy Committee 2nd Reading:** BP 3510 Maintenance; BP 6114.4 Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies; BP 5111 Admission; BP 5123 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention; BP 5141.42 Professional Boundaries of staff w/students; BP 6115 Ceremonies and Observances; BP 6141.3 Culturally Responsive Education; BP 6142.4 Community Service; BP 6142.5 Environmental Education; BP 6143 Courses of Study; BP 8000 Concepts & Roles; BB 9321.1 Work Sessions  
Sue Hoeldt Moved to the Board Policies as listed. Seconded by Teresa Simeon Hunter. Roll Call Vote Teresa Hunter Yes; Dwayne Hoffman Yes; Phyllis Evan Yes; Sue Hoeldt Yes; Adrian Boelens Yes; Alyssa Gregory Yes; Harvey Hoffman Yes. 7 yes votes, the motion carried.

**Board Recognition Awards:** President Hoffman read the board recognition awards into the record for Briana Bobby; Arthur "A.J." Simeon; Trevor Morgan; Dylan Nicholson; Mason Dallman; Skye Morgan; Angela Hayden; Ben Stathis; and Claudia Goodwin. **Nominations:** Elric Heckathorn for work done on the school website it is really coming together; Tracy Simeon, Chuathbaluk tribal administrator for her ongoing efforts in applying for AVCP summer programs to provide summer jobs for the youth. Emily Vanderpool and Madeline Aguillard for working throughout the summer on the Smart Start in preparation for the school year.

**Approval of KSD Lawyer Transfer** President Hoffman said an email was sent to board members and asked for a motion to approve. Adrian Boelens made a Motion to approve the KSD Lawyer transfer. Seconded by Sue Hoeldt. Mr. Anderson explained the lawyers used for years by KSD have transferred to a new law firm and board approval is required to continue to use their services. Roll Call Vote Teresa Hunter Yes; Dwayne Hoffman Yes; Phyllis Evan Yes; Sue Hoeldt Yes; Adrian Boelens Yes; Alyssa Gregory Yes; Harvey Hoffman Yes. 7 yes votes, the motion carried.

**Approval of the Boat Purchase Approval from CIP Fund - Reaffirmation of Poll Vote Done on 7/27/2020**

Mr. Anderson informed the board that the boat has not been purchased due to the fact that it was not in good condition. Discussion was held on voting for the record that the boat is not being purchased. Dwayne Hoffman made a **Motion** confirm the poll vote. Seconded by Sue Hoeldt. Roll Call Vote Teresa Hunter Yes; Dwayne Hoffman No; Phyllis Evan Yes; Sue Hoeldt Yes; Adrian Boelens Yes; Alyssa Gregory Yes; Harvey Hoffman Yes. **6 yes votes, 1 No vote, the motion carried.**

**Updating our Maintenance 6 year Plan** Mr. Anderson said since he arrived he noticed some schools upriver needed repairs and he spoke with DEED who asked if those repairs were listed on the 6-year plan. The only thing on the 6-year plan was Sleetmute's need for a new roof. He said it is very important that we look at the whole district and identify things that call for improvement, maintenance or replacement and add these items to the 6-year plan. Crooked Creek School needs foundation repair. In Stony River there is a building that is partly disassembled that needs to be completely disassembled. He said a work session should be planned to get all the information together. Harvey said the board also needs to have a session with AASB to follow up on the superintendent search and he asked the board to let them know what time would work for these sessions.

### **KSD Smart Start COVID Plan Summary, Low Risk Mitigation Plan, High Risk Mitigation Plan**

President Hoffman said a summary of the plan presented to the board during a special work session before it was submitted to the state is on the KSD website. Mr. Anderson said the State required board approval of the plan before submitting it to them, he thanked the board for taking time to review it. The plan was submitted and the state and Health Dept. have approved it. **It is posted on State and KSD websites and facebook. He briefly described how schools would open up in compliance with these plans. He thanked the clinic for their assistance with the plan. Due to poor phone connections everyone hung up and called back in. Discussion followed on kids still needing to wear a mask even though a site may be small and have no one traveling in and out because the plan has to be implemented district wide.**

**Strategic Plan Update** President Hoffman said the strategic plan was put on hold last spring due to the superintendent search and Covid19. Mr. Anderson said the strategic plan should be done every 5 years, he and his wife have done many strategic plans for schools and Madeline Aguillard is getting her doctorate in strategic planning so he felt this was something that can be taken care of in house. Discussion followed on what the savings would be if done in house. Harvey will gather information and report further to the board.

### **Custodial School Needs**

Mr. Anderson explained more cleaning is needed due to Covid19 he requested more hours for janitors to keep buildings sanitized through out the day. This would total \$90,000- 215,000 for payroll and benefits for this school year. The board agreed full time janitors are necessary to ensure schools are clean and safe during this pandemic and to evaluate it again at the end of the school year. Mr. Anderson said increased funding from the Cares Act should help with costs in addition to the State approved rollover of funds this year. Adrian Boelens **Moved** to suspend the rules to add hiring full time custodians for each school to the agenda. Seconded by Susan Hoeldt. All were in favor and the motion carried. Susan Hoeldt made a **Motion** to increase hours for all custodians at each site for this school year. Seconded by Phyllis Evan. Roll Call Vote Teresa Hunter Yes; Dwayne Hoffman Yes; Phyllis Evan Yes; Sue Hoeldt Yes; Adrian Boelens Yes; Alyssa Gregory Yes; Harvey Hoffman Yes. **7 yes votes, 0 No votes, the motion carried.**

### **General Communications:**

- a. State of Alaska Division of Elections Order & Notice of Election; Letter re: School Board Election info/dates.
- b. President Hoffman added information on AASB webinars on Covid 19, smart start, & schools opening.

**Time & Place of Next Meeting:** Tues. September 8, 2020, 9:00am, on Zoom. Sue Hoeldt made a **Motion** to have the next board meeting on Tues. Sept. 8, 2020 9 am on Zoom or in person if possible. Seconded by Adrian Boelens. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Adjournment 11:28am:** Teresa Simeon-Hunter made a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sue Hoeldt. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Phyllis Evan, Clerk Treasurer

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Edith Morgan, Recording Secretary