

**UNADOPTED MINUTES
OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Mission: "To provide a learning environment that inspires and challenges students and employees to excel."
Vision: "To graduate all students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for a successful future."

President Margaret Hansen called the 448th special meeting of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Board of Education to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, District Office Katima Room, 744 Third Avenue, Kotzebue, Alaska.

Board Members present were:

Tillie Ticket
Marie Greene
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus
Lawrence Jones
Erica Nelson
Margaret Hansen
Alice Melton-Barr

Board Members absent and excused were Alice Adams, Carol Schaeffer and Shannon Melton.

A quorum was present.

Observed.

Those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Staff and Guests present: Terri Walker, Superintendent; Perrian Windhausen, Director of Student Services; Natalie Dickie, Director of Administrative Services; Donavon Watkins, Director of Property Services; Joy Cogburn-Smith, Director of State and Federal Programs; Joe Groves, Director of Alaska Technical Center; Savio Dias, Director of Technology; Dena Strait, Capital Project Manager; Aerialie Johnson, Director of Curriculum; Kristen Walker, Executive Assistant.

Not needed at this time. The Board has decided to move on to the next agenda items unanimously.

Marrie Greene motioned to adopt memo 27-001 Approve Deering K-12 Replacement School Geotech Fabric. Millie Hawley second. Discussion called, Marie Greene and Tillie Ticket asked about the timeline for clarity. Motion passed by vote unanimously.

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus motioned to pass memo 27-002 Approval to ship battery storage training system from Kronus Engineering, seconded by Marie Greene, motion passed unanimously.

Board approval is required for purchases that exceed \$50,000. In August 2025, through memo 26-025 Board accepted FY26 DEED funding of \$1,666,667.00 and committed a match of \$333,333 for gravel design and stockpiling. This contract also includes finalizing legal control of the site, topographic survey, permitting and cultural resources studies. Geotechnical fabric is part of this work and funding. FY27 state budget included \$6M for Deering K-12 Replacement School. This will require \$2,571,429 in district match to be requested for acceptance in August. This funding will skip the stockpiling step and go straight to laying out the pad on the new site. It will also include taking design to 65% complete and installing the steel piles. Ak DOT is building a replacement road from Deering to the airport. Brice, Inc. is their contractor, thus is currently mobilizing to Deering and will be on site for the next two years. In order to be in sequence with that road work, thus keep costs low, the pad will be laid out in March/April 2027. The geotechnical fabric is laid down on the tundra before the gravel is placed. It needs to ship this barge season to be available next March. Waiting for Board approval to the end of August will cause us to miss the last barges. Board approval is required for purchases that exceed \$50,000. The administration requests the School Board's approval to ship a battery storage training system from Kronus Engineering to ATC in Kotzebue for the amount of \$65,000, with a note not to exceed \$71,500 (10% Buffer). The ATC is working in partnership with NANA and the NWAB to provide training on battery energy storage systems that are being assembled and installed throughout the region. Kronus Engineering has developed a small-scale battery storage system similar to the larger systems currently being deployed in regional communities. The Hewlett Foundation has awarded the ATC a workforce development grant focused on battery energy storage. The board has approved the purchase of the system training system. We are now requesting approval for the shipping cost of the battery system. This system will be shipped on this fall's barge. The battery system can only be shipped by ground. Funding: Grants: Hewlett Foundation. Funding: Grants: Hewlett Foundation.

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CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF/GUESTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MEMO 27-001 APPROVE DEERING K-12 REPLACEMENT SCHOOL – GEOTECH FABRIC

MEMO 27-002 APPROVAL TO SHIP BATTERY STORAGE TRAINING

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The next regular meeting of the NWABSD Board of Education will be held August 28, 2026, in person, with time at 4:00 p.m.

Tillie Ticket motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lawrence Jones. Motion passed with unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Tillie Ticket, Secretary

Kristen Walker, Recording Secretary

SYSTEM FROM KRONUS
ENGINEERING

DATE/TIME OF NEXT BOARD
MEETINGS

ADJOURNMENT