

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2024
5:31 pm
NES Library/Zoom

Member Trigg called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm Tuesday, October 8, 2024 with all board members present.

Member Tahbone led the Pledge of Allegiance in Inupiaq.

Member Trigg read the Nome Public Schools Mission Statement.

School Board Members Present:

Darlene Trigg	Bob Metcalf	Marjorie Tahbone
Nancy Mendenhall	Jon Gregg	
Student Representative, Lyndsay Johnson		

Others in attendance included:

Jamie Burgess	Alisha Papineau	Genevieve Hollins (via Zoom)
Mary Donaldson (via Zoom)	Meghan Ten Eyck (via Zoom)	Cody Foret (via Zoom)
Heidi Secor (via Zoom)	Stan Burgess	Teriscovkya Smith
Karen Dixon	Nicholas Settle	Elizabeth Korenek-Johnson
Tricia Shambach	Jennifer Shreve	Anna Lionas
Jill Peters	Holly Harlow	Rhonda Sparks
Briana Piscoya	Pat Booth	Kristin McRae
Dani Smithhisler	Kim Erikson	

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Tahbone moved to approve the agenda as presented.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Jon Gregg: yes	
Lyndsay Johnson (Advisory Vote): yes		

SWEARING IN OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

Superintendent Burgess swore in Nancy Mendenhall and Jon Gregg to serve a three-year term on the Board of Education until October 2027.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REORGANIZATION

ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Member Mendenhall moved to nominate Member Trigg as Board President.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Jon Gregg: yes	
Lyndsay Johnson (Advisory Vote): yes		

Member Trigg was elected as the Nome Board of Education President.

ELECTION OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT/CLERK

Member Mendenhall moved to nominate Member Tahbone as Board Vice President/Clerk.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Jon Gregg: yes	
Lyndsay Johnson (Advisory Vote): yes		

Member Tahbone was elected as the Nome Board of Education Vice President/Clerk.

ELECTION OF TREASURER

Member Mendenhall moved to nominate Member Gregg as Board Treasurer.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Jon Gregg: yes	
Lyndsay Johnson (Advisory Vote): yes		

Member Gregg was elected as the Nome Board of Education Treasurer.

BOARD COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Board members had a discussion and came to a mutual agreement on the following committee representatives:

Committee Assignments

Board Policy: Representative 1: Marjorie Tahbone Representative 2: Nancy Mendenhall	Equity Committee: Primary: Darlene Trigg Alternate: Nancy Mendenhall
Northwest College Advisory: Primary: Marjorie Tahbone Alternate: Nancy Mendenhall	NACTEC: Primary: Darlene Trigg Alternate: Jon Gregg

Other Roles

Recruitment/Job Fair: Primary: Jon Gregg Alternate: (vacant)

<p>NEA Negotiations: Primary: Darlene Trigg Alternate: (vacant)</p>	<p>Calendar Committee: Primary: Marjorie Tahbone Alternate: (vacant)</p>
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CONSENT AGENDA

Member Mendenhall moved to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting: September 10, 2024; the minutes from Special Meeting: September 30, 2024; the September 2024 disbursements; the September 2024 Gifts, Grants and Bequests; the September personnel report; and the out of state travel requests. Discussion followed.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:
Darlene Trigg: yes Marjorie Tahbone: yes Jon Gregg: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes Bob Metcalf: yes
Lyndsay Johnson (Advisory Vote): yes

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence included was FY25 Nome SD monitoring report – Superintendent, and letter to members of Alaska’s Local Boards of Education.

INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

Superintendent Burgess introduced Student Representative, Lyndsay Johnson.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

NES SPED Consultant, Tricia Shambach advocated for IEP students. She explained the how student’s disabilities affect them and what they need to be successful. She said she doesn’t believe NPS is meeting the requirements for intensive need students. She said she was willing to train any paraprofessionals. She advocated paying classified staff and paraprofessionals a competitive wage. She feared that if the school district doesn’t increase wages and hire more staff that NPS will be faced with a lawsuit. She explained what an IEP is and said that IEP students would be able to meet their annual goals if there were more highly qualified and trained paraprofessionals.

NES teacher, Kim Erikson spoke to the board representing all the teachers. She informed that urban inflation in Alaska increased by 21% in 2020 and how the teachers only got a 5% raise at the end of the 2022 – 2023 school year. In negotiations the district said they’d like to pay teachers more but can’t. She went on to explain the options that were given to them for raises and a shared bonus among teachers. This was offered before the governor signed for one time funding. The governor signed the bill that gave \$700k more than what the district budgeted. The legislation stated that additional funds from the bill should go to teacher bonuses. She said the district still claims they cannot pay teachers more. The Union pointed out that the issue with staffing is that the district cannot retain staff with the pay offered.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Burgess reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Student Representative Lyndsay Johnson reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

NES Principal, Nicholas Settle reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

ACSA Principal, Lisa Leeper reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

NBMHS Principal, Teriscovkya Smith reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

Director of Technology, Jim Shreve reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes.

Director of SPED, Mary Donaldson reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

Director of Facilities, Jonathan Duarte reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes.

Director of Federal Programs, Karen Dixon reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

CFO, Genevieve Hollins reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Members of the Parent Voices Advisory Committee, Dani Smithhisler and Briana Piscoya explained the many roles within the committee. Dani said they need to be more inviting to have more public involvement and figure out how to best use the funds. She also informed how the funds were not completely spent this year and they lost money due to that. Reallocations of funds have brought concern to parents. The committee would like to be able to see the grant agreements that they are over seeing and implementing requirements for. She also talked about concerns of families not being contacted and recertified in Migrant Education this year so funding may be lost.

Parent and community member, Rhonda Sparks thanked Mr. Settle for over seeing his staff. She commented that her child is enjoying the culturally relevant STEM program. She explained the hardships of paraprofessionals and their critical role. She hoped the high school had a cultural week like NES and ACSA did. She was part of a parent symposium where multiple parents were concerned about how the Migrant Education program is being ran and about the tribal consultations. She asked Student Representative, Lyndsay Johnson what the education goals for students are and where they want to see themselves in the community. She also asked about NBMHS dropout rates and what the plans were to minimize drop out rates. She asked if there was a correlation between suspensions and chronic absentees.

NBMHS teacher, Sarah Liben discussed curriculum and how it's built. She said new teachers have no curriculum or lesson plans to go by when they are hired and have to do hours of work developing it from scratch.

She talked about her collaboration with other teachers in NBMHS to build curriculum that transitions into each other throughout the different grade levels. She is excited to hear that there's a potential for cultural professionals that can work along teachers and help develop a more culturally relevant curriculum. She also would like to see new teachers given lessons to use when they are first hired to help them.

NES paraprofessional, Stan Burgess shared his point of view of how every student has to be approached a different way and it could become overwhelming with a room full of SPED students. He advocated for the work and training Tricia Shambach provides.

8th grade DC trip organizer, Jill Peters was told there would be no funding provided by the Migrant Education program this year for the trip.

ACTION ITEMS

Member Mendenhall moved to approve the second and final reading of BP 5123, BB 9320 and BB 9322.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Jon Gregg: yes	
Lyndsay Johnson (Advisory Vote): yes		

Member Tahbone moved to declare Seat B vacant effective November 15, 2024 and hold interviews and selection of a replacement candidate at a future determined time. Discussion followed.

The motion carried by a roll call vote with the following results:

Darlene Trigg: yes	Bob Metcalf: yes	Marjorie Tahbone: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Jon Gregg: no	
Lyndsay Johnson (Advisory Vote): yes		

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Member Mendenhall commented it was fruitful meeting. She hoped the board thinks about the public comments made and how it all works together.

Member Mendenhall looked forward to a work session where it could be further discussed.

Member Metcalf commented there were a lot of good remarks made during public comments.

Member Tahbone apologized for not attending in person the last few meetings and will be traveling for the next couple of meetings so she will need to continue attending via Zoom.

Member Tahbone thanked the community for all their comments and encouraged them to keep speaking to the board about their concerns.

Member Gregg said there was some optimism and momentum being made.

Member Gregg welcomed Student Representative, Lyndsay Johnson and encouraged her in her role.

Member Gregg gave gratitude to Board Secretary, Alisha Papineau for her work.

Member Gregg gave his appreciation to Member Metcalf for his hard work and service on the school board.

Superintendent Burgess said she appreciated the public comments.
Superintendent Burgess gave her appreciation to Member Metcalf’s work on the school board.
Superintendent Burgess was grateful that Member Mendenhall and Member Gregg are remaining on the school board for another term.
Superintendent Burgess said she felt the meeting showed the district is going through changes in a positive direction.
Superintendent Burgess said she looks forward to the Portrait of a Graduate.
Superintendent Burgess clarified that she is fully aware and legally required to participate in the tribal consultation and didn’t intend to make it sounds like she wasn’t.

Member Trigg welcomed Student Representative, Lyndsay Johnson.
Member Trigg congratulated Member Mendenhall and Member Gregg for being reelected on the school board.
Member Trigg congratulated Member Tahbone and Member Gregg for their new roles on the school board.
Member Trigg thanked Member Metcalf for his support in her leadership role on the school board.
Member Trigg said she was happy to hear from the principals and their alignment to the school board goals.
Member Trigg complimented Superintendent Burgess for the last work session.
Member Trigg said the energy from public comments was great and further encouraged it.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday, October 22, Work Session, 5:30 pm, NES Library
- Tuesday, November 12, Regular Meeting/Executive Session, 5:30 pm, NES Library/Zoom
- Tuesday, November 19, Work Session, 5:30 pm, NES Library
- Tuesday, December 10, Regular Meeting, 5:30 pm, NES Library/Zoom

ADJOURNMENT

Member Gregg moved to adjourn at 8:31 pm.

Darlene Trigg Date
President, Board of Education

Marjorie Tahbone Date
Vice President/Clerk, Board of Education