



## **SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT**

P.O. Box 19569, 1010 Sandy Beach Road Thorne Bay, Alaska 99919

(907) 828-8254 Fax: (907) 828-8257 E-mail: [sisd@sisd.org](mailto:sisd@sisd.org)

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**June 29, 2016**

### **Board Report**

#### **Staffing**

The potential of additional students who require intensive services in **Naukati** is adding pressure to add a teaching position there. I am quite nervous about waiting too long for this hire. Our success rate on late hires is not high. We already posted for another position in Naukati for FY17, so we can move quickly. Gambling on intensive services funding is stressful, as we do not know until November if funding for these services is approved. We also cannot know for certain those students will still be enrolled on the last day of count in October when funding is decided. All I can do is look at probability. If we feel we have a reasonable chance for funding, we will hire soon. If we wait until November, the time spent providing intensive services to multiple students will have impacted the education of the other students at this one-teacher site.

This issue is compounded with the teacher in Nepal and the principal in the far north. Neither one is available by phone to discuss or hire. I reviewed applicants and we had two interested. Both had to notify their employer by the end of June. After today the hiring pool is considerably smaller.

#### **Student Enterprises**

As we have discussed many times, it is my hope that various student enterprises can generate funds that can help to pay for individual student academic or sports travel. Calculations would be based on student effort on the specific activity and whether the effort generates income. The greatest potential comes from the Coffman Cove greenhouse and the Thorne Bay Café. After expenses, the greenhouse will generate at least \$20,000. I expect it to take off pressure for student fundraising for sports if students are involved in the greenhouse. The café may never be financial viable in the off-season. We continue to work with the organization, menu and staffing to improve the operation.

#### **8. A. SISD Pet Deposit**

We have decided to let the issue wait for contract negotiations expected during the 2016-17 school year. **I recommend we drop this issue and address it during the next contract negotiations with SIEA.**

#### **8. B. Memorandum with Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District**

We continue to strive to find economical ways to meet or technology needs. This provides support for hardware issues that are beyond our existing staff ability. It is only used as needed. **I recommend approval of the memorandum.**

### **8. C. Approval of FY17 Professional Services Agreement with Clearwater Computers**

This is our contract with the consultant providing Technology Coordinator services. The individual is performing well. **I recommend approving the agreement.**

### **8. D. Closure Plan for Port Protection School**

As of today, there are no school-aged children living in Port Protection or Point Baker that had any intention of attending school in Port Protection in the fall. I had hoped that something would happen to improve the situation, but there has been no progress. **I recommend approval of the closure plan.**

### **8. E. FY17 Superintendent Contract**

We prepared the budget with the superintendent going to less than a .50 contract. This will save the district \$94,000. If the superintendent contract remains at full time, we will have to make further cuts to the budget unless the student count increased. Retiring is not ultimatum. I am happy in my work and would enjoy more time off. I am seeing it as way to balance our budget at a time when Alaska cannot balance its own budget and will be looking at deeper educational cuts next year.

There is some possibility that Naukati will generate additional revenue, but that is likely to be absorbed by an additional teacher to cover the load. Alaska does not currently have a signed budget yet for the next school year.

Our attorney has been negotiating with the Division of Retirement and Benefits, but current language limits me to 80 days. We have agreement that the reduction can be in days rather a reduction in hours per day. Our attorney will prepare language that would change what half time is for a superintendent. Representative Kreiss Tompkins has agreed to forward that language in legislation, which might help the district in future years. **I recommend approval of the proposed contract adjustment.**

### **8. F. Americorp Position**

I hope to have more information by the time of the Board Meeting. We are looking at using an AmeriCorps position to assist with greenhouses in Coffman Cove and Naukati. If hired, we would be obligated to \$1,200 a month. This cost can be covered through greenhouse revenues from Coffman Cove, once it is operational. I would like permission to pursue this contract as it would occur before the next Board meeting. **I recommend approval of entering into a contract with AmeriCorps to fill this position.**



Lauren Burch  
Superintendent