

**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."

<p>President Margaret Hansen called the 434th Regular meeting of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Board of Education to order at 4:01 p.m. on <i>Tuesday</i>, February 25, 2025, in Kotzebue Alaska.</p> <p>Board Members present were:</p> <p>Millie Hawley Tillie Ticket Carol Schaeffer Marie Greene Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus Alice Adams Shannon Melton Joanne Harris Alice Melton-Barr Margaret Hansen Zamara Ticket</p> <p>A quorum was present.</p> <p>Observed.</p> <p>Carol Schaeffer made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Marie Greene seconded the motion. The agenda was approved by voice vote.</p> <p>Staff present: Terri Walker-Superintendent; Jeff Alexander, Assistant Superintendent; Kathryn Self, HR Director; Perrian Windhausen, Director of Student Services; Joy Cogburn-Smith, Director of State & Federal Programs; Natalie Dickie, Director of the Administrative Services; Tracy Bell, Director of Curriculum; Brenda Noe, Deering Principal; Patricia Houser, Guest; Joseph Groves, ATC Director; Dena Strait, Capital Projects Manager; Jamie Cowart, Selawik Principal; Jessica Heisler, Kotzebue Middle/High School Principal; Shayne Pungowiyi, Executive Assistant.</p> <p>No public comments.</p> <p>School Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Deering School <p>The February 2025 Employees of the Month awardees that were recognized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Patricia Houser, Deering 2nd & 3rd grade teacherAutumn Simmons, Kiana Pre-K & 1st grade teacher aideJackie McManus, Kobuk Pre-K & 2nd grade teacherChelsie, Morris-Heath, Kobuk Migrant Ed teacher, SecretaryBeverly Woods, SPED AideDawn Davis, Shungnak 3rd, 4th & 5th grade teacher <p>Superintendent Terri Walker presented her report.</p> <p>Carol Schaeffer made a motion to go into Executive Session, Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus seconded the motion. The board went into Executive Session at 4:31 p.m.</p> <p>Executive Session ended at 5:11 p.m.</p> <p>Carol Schaeffer made a motion to adopt the consent agenda, with a request to table Memorandum 25-086, Millie Hawley seconded the motion. Passed by rollcall vote.</p> <p>Margaret Hansen, for memorandum 25-086 what is the wishes of the board. Carol Schaeffer moved to table memorandum 25-086 until the April 29th Board Meeting, Millie Hawley seconded the motion. Passed by rollcall vote.</p> <p>Approval of November 19, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes, January 20, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes, and January 22, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.</p>	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>ROLL CALL</p> <p>MOMENT OF SILENCE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</p> <p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p>INTRODUCTION OF STAFF/GUESTS</p> <p>PUBLIC COMMENTS</p> <p>RECOGNITION AND AWARDS</p> <p>SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p>ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA</p> <p>APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES</p>
--	---

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the second reading of the proposed revisions to BP 5121 Grades-Evaluation of Student Achievement within the Students series. This policy update reflects AASB's determination that automatically assigning failing grades to students for truancy is not in best practice. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes and recommends approval. The administration recommends the Board approve the second reading of the proposed revisions to BP 5121 Grades-Evaluation of Student Achievement as presented.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
TO BP 5121 GRADES-EVALUATIONS OF
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT; SECOND
READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5125.3 Withholding Grades Diplomas or Transcripts within the Students series. This policy update reflects AASB's determination that BP 5125.3 Withholding Grades, Diplomas, or Transcripts be removed from this policy manual in its entirety. As with BP 5121, AASB believes this policy, which permits the withholding of grades, transcripts, and diplomas if a student is indebted to a district for lost or damaged items, does not reflect best practice. AASB recommends removing and archiving this policy in its entirety for the following reasons:

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
BP 5125.3 WITHHOLDING GRADES
DIPLOMAS OR TRANSCRIPTS; SECOND
READING

- a. Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts can have significant long-term consequences for students and their post-secondary employment or education opportunities, and in turn, for their families and communities.
- b. Students earn their grades and diplomas by demonstrating mastery of the content. If a student has earned their grades or diploma, they should not be withheld as a punishment or deterrence.
- c. School districts have other means to seek reparations or recover losses from equipment or property damages, rather than withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts.

The language suggesting that students who are unable to pay for assessed damages should provide voluntary work instead is inequitable. Voluntary work and community service can be an appropriate assignment for all students. Those students whose parents can afford to pay for damages should not be exempt from community service if the district deems this an appropriate response to property or equipment damage. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes and recommends approval. The administration recommends the Board approve the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5125.3 Withholding Grades Diplomas or Transcripts as presented.

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5131.1 Bus Conduct within the Students series. This minor update revises the language of the policy to clarify expectations for students riding the bus. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes and recommends approval. The administration recommends the Board approve the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5131.1 Bus Conduct as presented.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
BP 5131.1 BUS CONDUCT; SECOND
READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5131.5 Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti within the Students series. This policy has been updated to reflect the removal of BP 5125.3. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes and recommends approval. The administration recommends the Board approve the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5131.5 Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti as presented.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
BP 5131.5 VANDALISM, THEFT AND
GRAFFITI; SECOND READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5131.6 Alcohol and Other Drugs within the Students series. This revision updates BP 5131.6 to be in compliance with House Bill 202, which passed the legislature and became law this summer. The bill will become effective in December of 2024, but this policy revision may be made now. The bill and policy update requires that districts have opioid overdose drugs available at each main school building and at school-sponsored events. It also requires that a district have at least one person trained to administer the drugs at each main school site. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes and recommends approval. The administration recommends the Board approve the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5131.6 Alcohol and Other Drugs as presented.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
BP 5131.6 ALCOHOL AND OTHER
DRUGS; SECOND READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5141.3 Health Examinations within the Students series. This minor update revises language regarding health examinations for students and clarifies that districts may require health examinations for student participation in extracurricular activities. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes and recommends approval. The administration recommends the Board approve the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5141.3 Health Examinations as presented.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
BP 5141.3 HEALTH EXAMINATIONS;
SECOND READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5141.31 Immunizations within the Students series. This update clarifies that under state law, personal or philosophical opposition to vaccinations is not sufficient to receive an exemption from the state's mandatory vaccination requirements for students. The only exemptions permitted are for medical or religious reasons. The update also provides that students who are considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act may be provisionally admitted to school even without a vaccination record. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes and recommends approval. The administration recommends the Board approve the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5141.31 Immunizations as presented.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
BP 5141.31 IMMUNIZATIONS; SECOND
READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5141.51 At-Risk Youths within the Students series. This minor update updates the model policy on At-Risk Youths to utilize best practice language and clarify districts should be an active participant in identifying students in need of aid. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes and recommends approval. The administration recommends the Board approve the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 5141.51 At-Risk Youths as presented.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
BP 5141.51 AT- RISK YOUTHS; SECOND
READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 8120 Elections within the Advisory School Council series. This update includes 2014 AASB revision recommendations on qualifications and procedures. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes and recommends approval. The administration recommends the Board approve the second reading of the proposed revisions BP 8120 Elections as presented.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
BP 8120 ELECTIONS; SECOND READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9020 Board Standards within the Board Bylaw series. This model policy was adopted by AASB in 1992 and is new to the NWABSD. The NWABSD Board Policy Committee recommended reviewing it. This update further includes culturally responsive language. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes, recommends approval and to open for public comments. The administration recommends the Board approve the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9020 Board Standards as presented and open for public comments.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
TO BB 9020 BOARD STANDARDS; FIRST
READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9223 Board Vacancies within the Board Bylaw series. This update includes updates from AASB from 2007. The bylaw was reviewed at the recommendation of the board. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes, recommends approval and to open for public comments. The administration recommends the Board approve the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9223 Board Vacancies as presented and open for public comments.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
TO BB 9223 BOARD VACANCIES; FIRST
READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9270 Conflict of Interest within the Board Bylaw series. This update includes the word "immediate" before family and defines immediate family. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes, recommends approval and to open for public comments. The administration recommends the Board approve the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9270 Conflict of Interest as presented and open for public comments.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
TO BB 9270 CONFLICT OF INTEREST;
FIRST READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9320 Meetings within the Board Bylaw series. This update includes additional language to clarify that poll voting by a school board is not permitted and all official board action must be taken in an open meeting. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes, recommends approval and to open for public comments. The administration recommends the Board approve the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9320 Meetings as presented and open for public comments.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
TO BB 9320 MEETINGS; FIRST READING

Board policy revisions require Board approval. The Superintendent/designee presents drafts or suggestions for board policy revisions when the law changes or specific needs occur. Policy revisions shall normally be given two readings prior to adoption by the Board. This is the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9322 Agenda/Meetings Materials within the Board Bylaw series. This update clarifies that a board president and superintendent may reject community requests to place an item on the board agenda. The Board Policy Committee reviewed the proposed changes, recommends approval and to open for public comments. The administration recommends the Board approve the first reading of the proposed revisions to BB 9322 Agenda/Meetings Materials as presented and open for public comments.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS
TO BB 9322 AGENDA/MEETINGS
MATERIALS; FIRST READING

Expenditures over \$50,000 require the approval of the Board. E-Rate Central provides consulting services to ensure the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) programs are followed and all proper documentation is filed in a timely manner when procuring qualified services. The district is applying for funding under E-Rate services for the 2025-2026 school internet. The E-rate program provides funding for 90% of our school internet charges. E-Rate Central supports timely and accurate filing of required E-Rate paperwork, program integrity assurance, and audit support. E-Rate Central has successfully supported the district in this capacity since 2012 with no increase to our annual costs until this year. The amount of E- Rate funding the district has sought from the Federal Government has increased from roughly \$4M to over \$19M in the past 13 years. Consequently, due to the requested high dollar amounts, the district has been subject to more audits, Payment Quality Assurances (PQAs), and heightened scrutiny, which require more senior resources from E-Rate Central. The E-Rate Central 2025-2026 MOA is \$89,000 for E-Rate consulting on school internet. The administration recommends Board approval of the E-Rate Central Consulting Services MOA for \$89,000 as presented.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT; E-RATE CENTRAL CONSULTING SERVICES

Board approval is required for purchases exceeding \$50,000. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted the E-Rate Modernization order in July 2014 to assist school districts in providing internet. A five-year funding cycle for Category 2 for hardware that supports the internet began in 2021 and runs through 2025. From October through December 2023, the NWABSD went through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process for Category 2 items to supplement the regional Meraki infrastructure. The improved infrastructure allows more devices to connect to the internet simultaneously and have a higher- quality network connection. As a result of the RFP process that included a bidding matrix that weighed the cost, compatibility, technical ability, past performance, and manufacturer experience, Intellitech was awarded the bid by the NWABSD. From this process, the district submits the request for funding to USAC so the Federal Government can commit to paying 85% of the needed hardware cost to continue upgrading our Districtwide Infrastructure. USAC provides funding to improve the infrastructure of all schools in our region through Category 2 proportionate to the student count at each school. Category 2 funding is the partner to USAC's E-Rate funding that supports the internet for our District. The district anticipates an E-Rate discount of \$100,726.13 for this equipment such that the total district cost will not exceed \$18,316.87. Funds will come from the available Technology Capital Improvement Project fund balance. The district anticipates receiving the Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) from USAC later this spring. The purchase of this equipment is contingent on-Board approval and the USAC funding award and would expend all remaining Category 2 funding allocated to the district for the 2021-2025 window. The administration recommends the Board approve the purchase of network infrastructure equipment for the amount not to exceed \$119,340.00, with the district's obligation not to exceed \$18,316.87 contingent on E-Rate funding as presented.

PURCHASE AWARD; E-RATE

Margaret Hansen: Thank you all for being here and working through these items. We truly appreciate it, advocating for our kids. March

BOARD COMMENTS

March 24th is the budget work session, April 17th will be the public hearing, The next Regular Board meetings of the NWABSD Board of Education will be held on April 28 & 29 in person.

DATE/TIME OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tillie Ticket moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Millie Hawley.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion passed with unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Tillie Ticket, Secretary

Shayne Pungowiyi, Recording Secretary