

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 11, 2025
5:31 pm
NES Library/Zoom

Member Tahbone called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm Tuesday, November 11, 2025 with a quorum present.

Member Tahbone led the Pledge of Allegiance in Inupiaq.

Member Tahbone read the Nome Public Schools Mission Statement.

School Board Members Present:

Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone	Darlene Trigg	Jon Gregg
Nancy Mendenhall	Sigvanna Tapqaq (excused)	
Student Representative, Sara James		

Others in attendance included:

Jamie Burgess	Alisha Papineau	Genevieve Hollins (via Zoom)
Karen Dixon (via Zoom)	Laurie Grassgreen (via Zoom)	Ryan Horton
Ariana Crockett O'Harra	Elizabeth Korenek-Johnson	Jonathan Duarte
Michelle Carton	Jennifer Shreve	Keith Morrison
Emily Annas	Holly Harlow	Teriscovkya Smith
Ryan Horton	Stan Burgess	Mary Donaldson
Richard Sargent	Donna James	Richard Sargent
Penny Olanna		

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Trigg moved to approve the agenda as presented.

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

Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone: yes	Darlene Trigg: yes	Jon Gregg: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Sigvanna Tapqaq: (excused)	
Sara James (Advisory Vote): yes		

SWEARING IN OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

Superintendent Burgess swore in Darlene Trigg to serve a three-year term on the Board of Education until October 2028.

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: Darlene Trigg Representative 2: Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone	Equity Committee: Primary: Sigvanna Tapqaq Alternate: Nancy Mendenhall
Northwest College Advisory: Primary: Nancy Mendenhall Alternate: Jon Gregg	NACTEC: Primary: Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone Alternate: Jon Gregg

Other Roles

Recruitment/Job Fair: Primary: Jon Gregg Alternate: Sigvanna Tapqaq	
NEA Negotiations: Primary: Darlene Trigg Alternate: Nancy Mendenhall	Calendar Committee: Primary: Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone Alternate: Sigvanna Tapqaq

CONSENT AGENDA

Member Gregg moved to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting: September 9, 2025; Regular Meeting: October 14, 2025; the October 2025 disbursements; the October 2025 Gifts, Grants and Bequests; and the October 2025 personnel report; with corrections being made to the board minutes. Discussion followed.

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

Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone: yes	Darlene Trigg: yes	Jon Gregg: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Sigvanna Tapqaq: (excused)	
Sara James (Advisory Vote): yes		

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence included was a letter to the school board from Mason Janke requesting early graduation.

INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

NONE

STUDENT CELEBRATIONS

NBMHS Principal, Teriscovkya Smith and NBMHS Assistant Principal, Holly Harlow celebrated student Jasmine Nguyen's achievements.

PRESENTATION

Laurie Grassgreen from AASB presented the Alaska Family Engagement Center.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

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

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Student Representative, Sara James reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

NEA Representative, Ryan Horton reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes.

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

ACSA Principal, Emily Annas 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 SPED, Mary Donaldson 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 Facilities, Jonathan Duarte reported. The report is attached to the original of these minutes. Discussion followed.

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

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

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Parent and community member, Penny Olanna informed about a couple of situations during the parent teacher conference that had upset her. She gave suggestions on how to integrate Indigenous culture into science for the students. She also expressed how she felt the Migrant Education program wasn't being utilized to its full potential.

Music Teacher, Richard Sargent thanked the administrators for doing whatever they could to help support the music program. He shared some audio clips of the students playing at concerts. Mr. Sargent explained the bad condition the school's music instruments are in. Even with a new repair kit he expects he'll still need to request more instruments.

ACTION ITEMS

Member Trigg moved to approve the ratification of Ms. Sigvanna Tapqaq's appointment to fill Seat B of the Nome Public Schools Board of Education until the expiration of the original term in October 2026.

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

Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone: yes	Darlene Trigg: yes	Jon Gregg: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Sigvanna Tapqaq: (excused)	
Sara James (Advisory Vote): yes		

Member Gregg moved to approve the FY26 Budget Revision #1.

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

Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone: yes	Darlene Trigg: yes	Jon Gregg: yes
Nancy Mendenhall: yes	Sigvanna Tapqaq: (excused)	
Sara James (Advisory Vote): yes		

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Representative, Sara James said she was happy to be on the school board.

Member Gregg said he was glad Sara James was there with them and offered his support.

Member Gregg requested an update on ANSEP.

Member Mendenhall expressed her concern with overloading students per classroom.

Superintendent Burgess responded that classroom sizes aren't ideal for SEL but it's not unbearable currently.

Member Trigg welcomed Sara James to the school board.

Member Trigg expressed her concern about students still being hungry after lunch and requested Superintendent Burgess look more into it.

Member Trigg updated on what's going on at AASB. They are looking into changing the title Portrait of a Graduate to Our Children, Our Way of Life to better reflect supporting students at all grade levels. The AASB annual conference would be taking place that weekend. The full AASB board meets after the conference. Member Trigg continued to participate in several committees for tribal consultation and compacting over public education. She has also started to sit in on the National Association of School Boards meetings.

Member Tahbone was asked to participate in the AASB Budget Committee and attended a meeting last week.

Member Tahbone welcomed Sara James to the school board.

Member Tahbone gave her appreciation to the music department and the heads up that they will be asking for more instruments.

Member Tahbone gave her thanks for the public comments.

Superintendent Burgess said she was excited to have Sara James on the school board and was impressed by her report.

Superintendent Burgess requested to be put on the agenda and participate in a future Student Council meeting.

Superintendent Burgess was pleased to attend the last community gathering.

Superintendent Burgess informed she had been helping with interviews for the Migrant Education program this year.

Superintendent Burgess said she was pleased about the work the Principals and Assistant Principal have been doing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday, November 25, Work Session, 5:30 pm, NES Library
- Tuesday, December 9, Regular Meeting, 5:30 pm, NES Library/Zoom
- Tuesday, January 13, Regular Meeting, 5:30 pm, NES Library/Zoom
- Tuesday, January 27, Work Session, 5:30 pm, NES Library

ADJOURNMENT

Member Tahbone moved to adjourn at 8:27 pm.

Marjorie Kunaq Tahbone Date
President, Board of Education

Darlene Trigg Date
Vice President/Clerk, Board of Education