



**Kotzebue Schools
Advisory School Council
Tuesday, March 11th, 2025
6:00 PM KMHS Library or Via Teams / Call in Audio**

The public can also join the Kotzebue ASC meetings via TEAMS meeting.
Please see the call in information below.

1. Calling of meeting to Order 6:08pm, Roll Call
2. Establishment of Quorum
 - a. Bree Swanson
 - b. Jade Hill – Absent
 - c. Kris Rose
 - d. Ashley Madison
 - e. Ray Troyer
 - f. Victoria Ferguson - Excused
3. Approval of the Agenda: Ashley Madison Motion, Kris Rose Second
4. Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence
5. Introduction of Guests
 - a. Terri Walker
 - b. Cory Jackson
 - c. Jessica Heisler
 - d. Corey Shepherd
 - e. Joe Groves
 - f. Marjorie Baker
 - g. Terry Cooper
 - h. David Cooper
6. Correspondence
7. Accept Resignation of Member / Swear in Seat G
 - a. Cory Jackson Swore In by Kris Rose
8. Reports
 - a. Principal and Activity Reports:
JNES Presented by Corey Shepherd & Marjorie Baker
 - Kris: Thinks the sign up for Lions Club parent involvement is good. Would like to see that style more often from teachers. How will you help in the classroom?
Does not force involvement but opens the door.
KHMS Presented by Jessica Heisler
 - Kris: Was Mr. Kerber's departure a surprise? Jessica: It was not pre-planned but worked out for Mr. Kerber's personal situation.
STAR of the Northwest Magnet School, ATC, Homeschool Presented by Joe Groves
 - b. Discussion Items
 - i. Consider reorganization at next meeting.
9. Action Items
 - a. Facility Use Agreements Approve as a block: Ray Troyer Motion, Bree Swanson Second
 - i. Arctic Circle Racing Association (approved by email)
 - ii. KMHS Weight Room
 - iii. Wrestling Club

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#) on your
computer or mobile app

[Alternate VTC dialing instructions](#)

Or call in (audio only)

1-907-308-3192

ID: 187 082 131#

- iv. Alaska Humanities Forum film showing
 - v. Men's and Women's City League
 - b. KMHS / JNES demographic shift- 6th grade: Unanimous Approval
 - Faith Jurs: Elementary Pre-k – 6th grade and KMHS 7th – 12th grade. 6th grade pod potentially be utilized as a day care center.
 - Kris Rose: Timeline for demographic shift? Faith: Next year.
 - Funding: overall JNES funding increase, KMHS funding decrease due to shift in location where children and staff are housed.
 - Kris: 7th & 8th graders: What is their identity? Jessica Heisler: We try to be one school, limit separation between middle and high school.
 - Bree Swanson: 6th graders tend to be more immature. Keeping them in elementary gives them that one extra year in maturity.
 - Faith: 5th graders are anxious to have lockers.
 - Ashley Madison: What is the plan for staffing. Would KMHS teachers move to elementary? Faith: opinion – 6th grade teachers trained as elementary teachers would be ideal as it is self contained classrooms. Jessica: developmentally it would be good.
 - Cory Jackson: Daycare side of it: insurance or liability wise is there a concern? Would that be higher or separate? For the 6th grade switch, yes for it.
 - Ray Troyer: Would this allow 7th & 8th to have more time in arts or gym activities? Jessica: The schedule could stay more consistent for those students.
 - c. ASC Training – 4/16 – 4/17 – two members needed
10. Items for ASC Consideration
- a. Board Policy Revisions and/or new policies
 - i. Corey Shepherd: Student/ Parent handbook does not address that you must be in school on X day in order to attend sports events that night. It is a good practice, it is difficult to enforce but we do our best. Jessica Heisler: there are logistical areas to look into.
 - b. Old Business
 - c. New Business
11. Public Comments
- a. Terry Cooper: Thank you for allowing the public to be in attendance, especially my son. Thanks to Corey for the transparency and breakdown of the funding. This helps build trust and faith to those who want to help with programs. Question with policies: What type of policies does ASC revise or establish? Do they look into employee work policies? Bree: We do not deal with personnel issues. Terry: likes the idea of child care. Thinks people would find it welcoming and equitable. More of an opportunity to have teachers able to bring their children to help with sports. How can we be more aware of ASC meetings? Is there a way to push out more publicly with parent and community involvement, saying what we do. Can ASC be somehow more user friendly. Kris: We can try harder to let people know where the meetings are. Corey: Can send a text out once a quorum is present.
 - b. Terri Walker: Lobbying team meeting with, including Corey, a couple of principals and a business director. As it looks right now, if we were to receive \$0 funding for next year would have to cut \$10 million dollars. We have been cutting every year, chipping at areas. This would mean we would have to really cut things that would hurt. Two bills: House bill 69 that has an increase of \$1000 inside the BSA. Senate bill 82, Governor has a lot of stipulations surrounding what the money can be used for. Suggest parents call on Thursday 3/13 4:30-6:30 into a Senate Finance Committee meeting. This group determines the whole budget for the state. Bree: Very important for everyone to speak up to support funding for education.
12. Council Comments
- a. Bree: Appreciate the reports. Exciting to see stuff come together. Excited to know we do not have a turnover in the high school next year. Glad Jessica and other teachers are

coming back. It has been revolving, so very grateful to have solid stuff coming back next year. Even though there will be logistical areas to think about. Glad to see all of the activities going on, especially at ATC. Trades are so important. Some people don't want to leave the region so being able to be here for that is great.

- b. Cory Jackson: Good tonight. Thank you everybody. Good discussion. Really nice to see all the programs. Like the budget breakdown. Suggested doing a sport recognition, recognize our kids and all of our hard work. Jessica: 6th – 11th grade May 19th sports recognition. Seniors will be done at the senior banquet.
- c. Ray Troyer: Thank you for the reports. Great to see that attendance is holding steady. Interested to see what it looks like next month after the sickness. Valentines day at ATC was great. It was really good. Would do it again.
- d. Ashley Madison: Thank you for all the programs starting with our younger ones and through those who attend ASC. I really appreciate all of the effort going into our programs and our kids. Thank you for the support of our Kotzebue Lady Huskies as they are making their way to State. They request a banner to show their accomplishment.
- e. Kris Rose: Fun to see from the little ones all the way up to the older ones. Thank you for the conversation for the 6th grade, we all agree. Glad that worked out and bodes well for the group.

13. Date for Next Meeting- April 22, 2025 at KMHS

14. Approval of Minutes Bree Motion, Ray Second

15. Adjournment 7:40pm

BP 8321 The Advisory School Council may not hold executive sessions.

ASC Members 2024-2025			
Bree Swanson	Seat A 2025	Victoria Ferguson	Seat E 2027
Jade Hill	Seat B 2027	Ray Troyer	Seat F 2025
Ashley Madison	Seat C 2026	Cory Jackson	Seat G 2026
Kristofer Rose	Seat D 2027		

MEMORANDUM

TO: NWABSD Board of Education
Members

DATE: March 24, 2025

NUMBER: 25-091

FR: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: Approval of site grade
level changes: JNES/KMHS

STRATEGIC PLAN/BOARD GOAL:

Student Learning: Strengthen Student Progress Monitoring

ABSTRACT:

Board approval is required to make grade level changes (changes in school membership/demographics) at sites within the district.

ISSUE:

School membership(demographic) changes at Kotzebue Schools. Proposed changes: June Nelson Elementary school to include the sixth-grade cohort as part of their school membership. Kotzebue Middle/High School student demographics would change to 7th-12th grade students. This change to be initiated in the 2025-26 school year.

BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:

The leadership at the June Nelson School and Kotzebue Middle/High School discussed changes to the student grade cohort and brought their proposal to the March 11th ASC meeting. A proposal was made to move the 6th grade to JNES so the sixth grade students could be served within an elementary school setting. See attached meeting notes. The local ASC unanimously supported this proposed changes to start next school year (2025-26).

A district can request an amendment for school membership (grade levels served) to be adjustment for individual schools' sites, however this request must be made in writing to the commissioner's office. For the requested grade changes the following must be submitted to the commissioner office.

1. A copy of the local school board minutes approving of the grade change.
2. A written request for the Commissioners approval

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the proposed JNES and KMHS grade level changes as presented.
2. Disapprove the proposed JNES and KMHS grade level changes as presented.
3. Take no final action.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends board approval of the proposed JNES and KMHS grade level changes as presented.