



SOUTHEAST ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Board Report February 20, 2019

Workshop

Lucienne will review adjustments to the budget for the current school year.

Kasaan Fire

We were very lucky with the fire that consumed the wood-fired boiler building in Kasaan. The fire could easily have spread to the school. Only through the efforts of many people in the community was the school saved. SISD is having a dinner and event at the café in Kasaan on March 9, 2019 to honor the volunteers who fought the fire and saved the school.

Property Lines in Kasaan

The fire brings up issues that we have been kicking down the road for 20 or 30 years. Property lines do not match building placement. Some of these issues involve the City of Kasaan and some involve the Organized Village of Kasaan. This is a more pressing issue because the placement of the wood-fired boiler should have been further from the school rather than sitting on a road right of way. We have funding to build a covered play area over a basketball court. Neither can proceed without agreements with these two parties. We hope to have a proposal for the next Board meeting.

South Side Landslide

We may be able to have a better idea of when the slide will be cleared by the time of the board meeting tonight. Having students transported by boat has worked very well. Obviously, the one-lane bypass road around the slide is not very safe with snow and recent temperatures. We will need to extend the transportation contract.

Strategic Plan and Budgeting for Next Year

Our new Superintendent, Sherry Becker, will participate in strategic planning and budgeting for next year. She will work with each site to develop site priorities for budgeting and overall direction for the district. These meetings will happen prior to several days of intensive work on our strategic plan this coming May.

Teacher Openings

We are seeking one elementary and one secondary teacher in Hyder. One will need to have a Special Education endorsement. We need one elementary teacher in Port Alexander. A Special Education endorsement would be a bonus. Naukati seeks an elementary or secondary teacher with a Special Education endorsement. Thorne Bay is seeking a secondary English teacher. We may have one or two more openings in addition to these. As always, we look for teachers with multiple attributes who can

provide interesting opportunities for students. At sites with greenhouses, teacher interest or greenhouse-related attributes are also desired.

We have also posted the opening for a State & Federal Program Manager and grant writer. With the funding cuts that are expected from the Governor's plan, this position is critical to our future.

Legislative Action

I am in Juneau this week to meet with legislators. I will have met with several today and will have something to report during the meeting. It is still early in the session and I am anxious to hear if legislators expect any softening of the anticipated 25% reduction in funding. At the very best, we are not likely to really know what next year's funding will be until summer. Even if the Legislature passed a budget that was more favorable, the Governor has the ability to use line item vetoes after the legislative session ends.

9. B. 3rd Reading, AR 3580.1, Criminal Justice Information Security

Chris can speak to this issue. **I recommend approval.**

10. A. Certified Staff Request for Extension to Leave of Absence

Megan Fitzpatrick had been our science teacher at Thorne Bay. She also has been involved with SCUBA, Spanish and the greenhouse. Issues have made it difficult for her to commit to a regular contract. She currently works with the greenhouses and is based in Coffman Cove. Megan is a highly valued employee and we very much would like her to be a teacher in our district when her issues are resolved. We are not obligated to a specific teaching position. With approval of this request, we are obligated to find a position for her for the following year if she give notice that she will return by February 1 of the year she is on leave. I enthusiastically **recommend approval** and would encourage the board to continue this arrangement until such time as Megan is prepared to return to the classroom full time.

10. B. Approval of FY19 Budget Revision

This was addressed during the Board Workshop tonight. **I recommend approval.**

10. C. Approval of 2019-2020 Calendar for All Schools

Alan Schwab will speak to the calendar choice. **I recommend approval.**

10. D. Memorandum of Agreement for Strategic Planning Services

We last made a review of our Strategic Plan 11 years ago. Where we are reflects my interpretation of that plan. We are overdue for a review, as our world has continued to change. If we are going to do it, we should get professional guidance just as we did 11 years ago. **I recommend approval.**

10. E. Resolution 2019-02: CAPSIS Capital Project Funding Requests

The legislature runs on a two-year cycle. The funding crisis does not bode well for funding any of these projects this year. We are more likely to get some attention next year. Some of these projects recognize site interests and some are my thoughts of projects that would benefit a site. The last one is not really even our business, but may assist a worthwhile project. Legislators can pick and chose from the list and they have

done so in the past. There is no logic to that except that one might catch their eye and benefit a school or community in their district. Over the years, we have done well through this process. **I recommend approval of this resolution.** Any item can be removed from the list at your pleasure or if a site does not wish funding for a specific project. No new items can be entered before next January.

10. F. Resolution 2019-03: Kasaan Library Redevelopment

We own the library building in Kasaan. Despite our best efforts, we cannot get the city to take ownership due to the burden asbestos presents. No one can modify the building or even dispose of it without dealing with the asbestos issues. The roof is failing. There needs to be some interior structural adjustments and the heater is failing and inadequate. We cannot proceed without addressing the asbestos. This resolution allows us to seek financial assistance for the removal, which has to be conducted by professionals and is expensive. We have also included this project in a CAPSIS request. We are far more likely to get the issue resolved through this grant. **I recommend approval.**

10. G. Extension of Transportation Services Agreement with Silverthorn Charters

Following is an excerpt from a public notice sent out by Sara Yockey, Landslide Incident Commander: *"The Organized Village of Kasaan (OVK) was successful in obtaining funds through the Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads Program (ERFO). The request has been submitted for a Quick Release of funds for immediate repairs to the Kasaan Road for restoring essential travel. In order to acquire the additional funds awarded a Damage Survey Report (DSR) will be completed and submitted for approval. The DSR will detail the scope of work to be followed for any permeant repairs to the road. My hope is to receive funding and be able to begin the clean up before the end of the month, but it is tough to predict as there is a lengthy process to follow. It was also acknowledged that the USFS is the owner of the section of the roadway where the slide occurred."* Landslide information can be found on the City of Thorne Bay website at: <http://thornebay-ak.gov/south-tnb-kasaan-road-landslide-news/>. As of this writing, we do not know when to expect the landslide on the southside road to be cleared. Chris should be able to speak to this tonight. **We seek a week-to-week extension of the contract based on the best information we have at this time.**

10. H. Proposal to Obtain Property in Kasaan

There are several issues that make the purchase of property behind the school attractive. Placement of the wood-fired boiler is best done on this site to remove the threat to the school building. We have insurance money to rebuild a teacher housing unit. If we place the unit where the current unit sits, we complicated placement of the basketball court structure. There is a one-bedroom home on this property that could be used for staff housing and there is room to construct the replacement teacher housing unit we have funding for. **I recommend approval for the superintendent to enter negotiations for the property.** No purchase would occur without Board approval.

Sincerely,



Lauren Burch

Superintendent