

NNS and NMHS Joint Site Council Meeting

April 12, 2017

Call to order at 3:55 by Karen Pala

Roll Call-Sean Dusek, Dan Carstens, Margaret Gilman, Koleen Whitmer, Ellen Kenna, Karen Pala, Brian Lyke, Tanya Erwin, Anna Widman

Approval of Agenda Brian Lyke, seconded by Koleen

Nikiski Middle/High School

- Certified Member Report-Anna Widman reported on Soccer in full swing for boys and girls. Girls are playing Kenai this afternoon. Track and Field, Prom last weekend, Fine Arts Night on Saturday the 22nd. One concert remaining for this year.
- Classified Member Report- at other commitments and unable to attend
- Parent Report-Parents are at other commitments and unable to attend
- Community Member Report- at other commitments and unable to attend
- Principal's Report-Dan returned from Juneau last night. They talked with some of our legislators. Dan stressed the importance of parents and teachers reaching out to tell our stories. Nikiski is going through the hiring process but it's challenging without knowing funding. Nikiski and Kenai High will be cooperating in hockey, baseball and softball. Thanks to Al Fields and Amy Stock. Dan Carstens set many personal goals and one was to be outside greeting parents and students every morning that he was present at school without a pressing issue. He met that goal and appreciated the connections he made in the process.

Nikiski North Star

- Certified Member Report-Kindergarten has a field trip to the Nikiski Fire station and Nikiski Park in May. Ranger Michelle is returning for a visit. Kinders are growing flowers and vegetables in their classes. 1st Grade is visiting the Kenai Police Department, Kenai Library and the Post Office at the end of April. It will cover their listening and speaking standards as well as Social Studies/Community. 2nd Grade will dig for dinosaurs from their earth excavation kids to partner with their story The Dog that Dug for Dinosaurs. They will also be Skyping with an astrophysicist when they read Working in Space. Their field trip this year is to the Salmon Celebration. 3rd and 4th grade have finished PEAKS testing. Things went very well. Bostic's class will PEAK Thursday and Friday of this week and 5th graders PEAK next week. All of 5th grade participated in the Wax Museum, which went very well. The Peninsula Clarion reported. Maritime National Wildlife Refuge presented to Bostic's class in preparation for their field trip to Homer on Wednesday to visit Mud Bay and Islands and Oceans.
- Classified Member Report-Brian Lyke's last day is on Friday. He will be staying at home with his newborn daughter as his wife returns to work.
- Parent Report-Koleen reported that some parents are feeling that they are unaware of what's going on in classrooms, that communication is not happening enough. All classrooms are still sending home paper newsletters, but it may be weekly, every 2 weeks or monthly. Is there a possibility of a parent liaison who could better communicate?

- Community Member Report-Margaret said she has a person who may be willing to fill this position next year.
- Principal's Report-394 students enrolled, including PreK, high of 405 students, surge between Thanksgiving and January. Finished 4th grade and 3rd grade PEAKS testing. 5th grade next week. Minor tech glitches that were quickly resolved. Staffing for next year, no certified staff layoffs; we will full time Title I and Interventionist staffing. Losing ELL (Tamera Stearns) position. Multiage will continue next year with Adrienne Bostic in that position. School goals regarding math and social/emotional engagement. Math scores showed tremendous improvement. We are always looking more ways to get more students engaged. 80 students in modern/rock band. Girls on the Run, Young Writer's Club. Karen Pala will be moving to Utah so her position will be opening up.

Report from Superintendent Dusek-Just returned from Juneau. Education funding is needing engagement from parents and staff. Goal of 1,000 emails sent by the end of this week. Staff is not to engage in political activity during work hours or using district materials. We are focused on maintaining high quality education. While Superintendent Dusek is not telling anybody what to say, information is coming out with facts. State Income Tax is now called Education Funding Act. PFD reduced for education funding. Proposed mill rate increase for education funding as well. The Senate proposed a \$5 million cut, which will then also limit the Borough's contribution. Additionally, it is difficult to make decisions without a fiscal plan in place.

Next meeting May 8 at 3:45.

Brian moved to adjourn, Koleen seconded.

Respectfully submitted by Tanya Erwin, Site Council Secretary