



# Denali Borough School District

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Denali Borough School District Board of Education  
Tri-Valley School, Healy, AK  
January 15, 2015**

1. ***Call to Order***

President Carlson called to order the Meeting of the Denali Borough School District Board of Education at 7:18 p.m.

Call to Order

2. ***Pledge of Allegiance***

President Carlson led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

3. ***Recording of Members Present***

Roll call was as follows, with a quorum present:

Recording of Members Present

Members Present:

Ryan Juszczak	Vernon Carlson
Trista Davis	Todd Shorey
Eric Warner	James Tench
Leroy Sutton	Jeff Yanuchi

Members Excused:

Jenna Hamm

Also Present:

Acting Superintendent Alesha Ferguson  
Interim Superintendent John Holst  
Tri-Valley School Principal Les McCormick  
Anderson Lead-Teacher Uwe Hoffman  
Mayor Clay Walker  
Student Representative Malia Walters

Approximately 25 other individuals were in the audience; staff members, students, and members of the community.

4. ***Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Consent Agenda***

Todd Shorey made a motion to adopt the agenda and approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Eric Warner. Todd Shorey made a motion to amend the agenda to include the minutes from January 8, 2015. The motion was seconded by Leroy Sutton. A show of hands vote was taken to amend the agenda. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0. A show of hands vote was taken to accept the amended agenda and consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Consent Agenda

5. **Public Comments on Agenda Items**

No comments.

Comments on  
Agenda Items

6. **Presentations**

Presentations

a. Recognition of Tri-Valley Teacher

James Tench presented a framed Resolution to teacher Kassandra Mirosh, which expressed the School Board's appreciation of her service to the student's.

Recognition of TVS  
Teacher

b. Recognition of Former PEAK Employee

President Carlson presented Peggy Menke with a gift of appreciation for her years of service to the Denali Borough School District.

Recognition of  
Former PEAK  
Employee

c. Student Council – AASG Resolution

Malia Walters presented on a resolution that was presented at the ASSG conference regarding the upgrading of the equipment in the weight room at Tri-Valley School. The resolution then needs to be presented to the School Board, the Superintendent, and the TVS Principal. The conservative cost to replace the damaged equipment is \$50,000.

Student Council –  
AASG Resolution

d. Career Service Presentation by Karen Martinsen of SERRC

Karen Martinsen from SERRC presented on the services that she would be providing the students regarding career guidance, on-site itinerant services, and career planning.

Career Service  
Presentation  
SERRC

7. **Comments from Denali Borough Mayor**

Mayor Walker thanked the board for their service.

He reported on:

- The Cantwell Sprinkler Grant
- The OHARA project asbestos management plan and the school maintenance team will need training.
- The hiring of a Facilities Director position
- A concern on a line item on the district budget that showed the moving of funds from the Capital Improvement Project fund, which has occurred the last two years.

Comments from  
Denali Borough  
Mayor

8. **Reports**

Reports

a. Board Committee Reports

Ryan Juszczak is looking forward to working with the board committees. Jeff Yanuchi thanked everyone for coming. He thanked Kassandra Mirosh and Peggy Menke for their contributions. Enjoyed watching the basketball tournament. Leroy Sutton welcomed everyone. Eric Warner thanked everyone for coming. Todd Shorey thanked everyone for coming. The superintendent search committee has meet a few time. James Tench discussed a previous board meeting, which met to approve funding to replace technology equipment that was damaged. Trista Davis welcomed everyone. Malia Walters commented on the basketball tournament and hockey, student lead activities, and the use of kitchen space for the students. Students attend the Fall Association of Student Government meeting and had two resolutions passed. A deal was made with Mr. McCormick, if they collected 1500 pounds of food he would spray his hair green. Close-Up is coming up. Vern Carlson commented on GCI working with our technology department and a construction company, which will need to be hired to complete repairs. He is pleased to announce a new Interim Superintendent is being hired. He attended a budget meeting in Cantwell. The Anderson and Tri-Valley financial meetings have taken place.

Curriculum Committee

Jeff Yanuchi reported that the curriculum committee was rescheduled.

Curriculum Committee

b. Tri-Valley Principal's Report

Les McCormick thanked his staff for the quick response to the water problem. Thanked Jeff Fisher, Anne Hjorth, Dwight Hjorth, Jo Kovach, Michelle Kovach, and Kesslyn Tench for their part in dealing with the crisis. It is coming together but it is going to be awhile before it is completed. The staff has been very understanding.

TVS Principal's Report

c. Tri-Valley CSC Report

Mr. McCormick commented that they would like to recommend a change in the discipline policy. The CSC would like to see a district-wide policy rather than individual schools.

TVS CSC Report

9. Superintendent Report

Acting Superintendent Alesha Ferguson reported they do plan on getting the Internet up as fast as possible. GCI is working on getting the equipment here. GCI came in quickly to address the Internet issue. Thankful of the board and staffs quick response to the crisis at Tri-Valley School.

Superintendent Report

**Old Business**

10. Old Business

a. Superintendent Search Committee

Todd Shorey reported the deadline has passed for accepting applications. There are several candidates and they will be looking at them in preparation for interviews. They have a great group of candidates.

Supt. Search Committee

Leroy Sutton made a motion to take a break. Eric Warner seconded the motion.  
8:32 -8:43 p.m.

b. Board Policy 1350 and 1350.3 Memorials, Third Reading

James Tench made a motion to approve board policy 1350 & 1350.3 memorials, at-third reading. The motion was seconded by Leroy Sutton. A show of hands vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

Board Policy 1350 & 1350.3 Memorials, Third Reading

c. Proposed FY-16 School Operating Budget (Second Reading)

No action required.

Proposed FY-16 School Operating Budget Second Reading

11. New Business

**New Business**

a. Hire of Interim Superintendent

Leroy Sutton made a motion to approve the hire of Interim Superintendent John Holst. The motion was seconded by Eric Warner. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0. The board thanked Alesha Ferguson for filling in as Acting Superintendent. Mr. Holst remarked he is happy to be here and he will do what he can for Denali Borough School District. He has an open door policy.

Hire of Interim Superintendent

President Carlson called for an at-ease. 8:49 -8:53

Board member Ryan Juszczak left the meeting.

b. Out-of State Travel

Jeff Yanuchi made a motion to approve the out of state travel for Candace Mudge and a TVS student to attend the All-Northwest Music Festival on February 12-16, 2015. The motion was seconded by Eric Warner. Todd Shorey made a motion to amend the motion to approve the out-of-state travel without the district being responsible for the cost for Candace Mudge and a TVS student to attend the All-Northwest Music Festival on February 12-16, 2015. The motion was seconded by Eric Warner. A show of hands vote was taken to amend the vote. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0. Interim Superintendent Holst clarified the amendment; the District is not responsible for the cost of the trip but will allow out of state travel and TVS can make the decision to pay for the chaperone. It should be clarified in policy in the future if we will pay or not. The amended motion passed unanimously, 7-0. Roll call vote was taken on the amended motion. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Out-of State Travel

c. Set Date for Joint Meeting with the Borough

Leroy Sutton made a motion to set the date of January 28, 2015 for a joint meeting of the borough assembly and school board to discuss capital projects. The motion was seconded by Eric Warner. Discussion took place. A show of hands vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0. The meeting will be at the Community Center January 28, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Set Date for Joint Mtg with Borough

d. SY 16-17 School Calendar Committee

Vernon Carlson will be selecting the committee soon. It will be presented for the first reading at the February meeting.

SY 16-17 School Calendar Committee

e. Approval of Board Member to Attend ASTE Conference

Eric Warner made a motion to approve James Tench to attend the ASTE conference February 21-24, 2015. The motion was seconded by Todd Shorey. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Approval of Board Member to Attend ASTE

f. Legislative Fly-In

Todd Shorey made a motion to approve the board legislative liaisons to travel to Juneau to meet with our Legislators. The motion was seconded by Eric Warner. Discussion took place. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Legislative Fly-In

g. Denali National Park Artist in Residence

Cass Ray from Denali National Park presented on the Artist in Residence program.

DNP Artist in Residence

- Two artists and one writer will be here in late February and throughout March
- Ms. Hinrichsen is a snowshoe artist and is looking for at least twenty pairs of feet for her project
- Murie Science and Learning Center will have snow shoes to use
- Will make art designs in the snow with shoe shoes

James Tench made a motion to approve the request for teachers and students to participate in the Artist in Residence program at the Denali National Park during the spring of 2015. The motion was seconded by Eric Warner. A show of hands vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

12. **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**  
Barb Walters commented she showed up at the at the finance meeting at TVS and there wasn't any information there and she didn't find any finance information tonight at the board meeting. She is thankful for having Karen Martinsen from SERRC on board. It is helping students make their career choices. She had the opportunity to work at the basketball tournament and it was a positive experience with the other teams and chaperones. Over the years she has seen kids use sports as a way to stay in school. Angel Hayes thanked the board for hiring a guidance counselor. The kids are excited to have her on board. She also had the opportunity to visit with the basketball teams during the tournament and they were well-behaved students.
13. **Comments from Board and Superintendent**  
Malia Walters thanked the board for having her sit with the board and listening to her request for the sports equipment. Trista Davis thanked everyone for coming. James Tench welcomed the new Interim Superintendent. Todd Shorey thanked the board members for taking part of the superintendent search committee. Welcomed John Holst to the community. Thanked Alesha Ferguson for stepping up to the as Acting Superintendent. Thanked Denali National Park for bringing opportunities to the school, they are an asset and thanked everyone for coming. Eric Warner thanked everyone for coming. Leroy Sutton thanked everyone for coming. Jeff Yanuchi thanked everyone for coming. The students from all the schools were great during the basketball tournament. Vernon Carlson thanked everyone for coming. Welcomed Interim Superintendent John Holst. Mentioned the board evaluation forms, which will need to be filled out. He appreciates the board members. He thanked Alesha Ferguson for filling in as Acting Superintendent.
14. **Executive Session, if Needed**  
No executive session needed.
15. **Adjourn**  
Todd Shorey made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by James Tench. A show of hands vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Public Comments  
on Non-Agenda  
Items

Comments from  
Board and  
Superintendent

Executive  
Session, if  
Needed

Adjourn

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board President, Vernon Carlson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary, Trista Davis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date