



***SPRING CONFERENCE 2007
CELEBRATION OF LEADERSHIP!
CRAIG HIGH SCHOOL
APRIL 12-14, 2007
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES***

I. Call to Order: 10:50 A.M., Thursday, April 12, 2007

Katrina Nore, President

II. Roll Call

Chris Van Wyhe, Secretary-Treasurer

- **Region 1**
 - Barrow:6
 - King Cove:1
- **Region 2**
 - Kenny Lake:1
- **Region 3**
 - Cordova:2
 - Palmer:2
 - Valdez:2
- **Region 4**
 - Chugiak:4
 - Eagle River:7
 - East Anchorage: 2
- **Region 5**
 - Craig:10
 - Hydaburg:4
 - Juneau:13
 - Ketchikan:12
 - Klawock:7
 - Mt. Edgecumbe: 9
 - Skagway:4
 - Yakutat:2
- **Region 6**
 - Eielson:4
 - Lathrop:4
 - Monroe:2
 - North Pole:4
- **Region 7**
 - Bethel:2
 - Chief Paul:4
 - Manokotak:2
 - Sand Point:2

III. General Announcements

Katrina

- Katrina- Awards nominations deadlines have passed, entries should have been turned in by now
- Megan- the poster contest deadline has been extended to 9 am
- Mike- be sure to visit AKStudentForum for a chance at the golden mouse trophy
- Megan- AASG's new service project: statewide 3-2-1 greenhouse gas reduction campaign, regional competition to collect pledges. More in new business
- Katrina- Election process for regional reps, hear more about it in your regional meetings. Different regions have different methods for electing reps

IV. Approval of Agenda

Katrina

- NASC 2007 report will be given by Katrina rather than Matt. 2007-2008 Budget will also be added.
 - **Motion to approve agenda**
 - Moved by Ketchikan, Seconded by Mt. Edgecumbe
- Passes, agenda approved**

Motion to recess

Moved by Eagle River, Seconded by Yakutat
Passes, meeting recessed

Meeting called back to order at 1:11 P.M.

V. Approval of Fall 06 (Valdez) GA Minutes

Chris

- No discussion
 - **Motion to approve Fall 06 GA minutes**
 - Moved by Valdez, Seconded by Lathrop
- Passes, minutes approved**

VI. Reports

- **Officer Reports**
 - **Vice President** **Kevin Priestley**
Working on a more technologically advanced, user-friendly absentee balloting system
 - **Parliamentarian** **Kari Nore**
Has been studying parliamentary procedure
 - **Public Relations** **Megan Waggoner**
Advocated, sent out, and worked on awards and committees. AASG goals. Has been working on awards.
 - **SBEED Representatives** **Melissa Steward, Lindsay Birk**
Melissa- interviewed Lindsay for her position. Lindsay will be new SPEED rep.
Presentation about the rapid growth of technology in the world. Talks about discussing placing truancy officers in schools.
Lindsay- explains the presentation and WorkKeys.
 - **ASAA Representative** **Annie Bartholomew**
Has been discussing issues that affect student councils. Is looking into getting eligibility requirements to be involved in AASG to unify AASG with ASAA. ASAA is revising citizenship rules: drug use to be taken more seriously with greater consequences. The first offence is 10-day suspension, second offense is 35-day suspension, third offense is a one-year suspension, and the fourth offense is expulsion from ASAA activities. NFHS leadership conference in Indianapolis- more in new business.
 - **Region I:** **Karlo Mercene, Joe Hirt**
Have been keeping in contact with their region. Are trying to get more students involved with AASG and AKStudentForum. Are now in Craig, having a good time.
 - **Region II:** **Grant Hicks (absent)**
Grant Hicks was unable to attend, no report

- **Region III:** **Margaret Yngve (absent)**
Matt reads Maggie's report: Maggie has been keeping in contact with her region and keeping them informed. This is Maggie's last report. She is proud to have served AASG and region 3.
- **Region IV:** **Mike DeTerra, Matt Cook**
Mike- has been working on AKStudentForum and Rose Rural-Urban exchange. Has served on committees. This is Mike's last conference, he is also proud to have served on the Executive board.
Matt- went to NASC, had fun, ran for an office. Attended Winter Business Meeting and all teleconferences.
- **Region V:** **Libby Parker**
Encouraged her region to attend Craig Spring Conference. Thanks Craig for hosting conference. This is also Libby's last conference.
- **Region VI:** **Joe Byrnes**
Since fall conference, Joe has been active on Executive Board, attending meetings, keeping in contact with his region.
- **Region VII:** **Lance Sweenhart (absent)**
Katrina reads Lance's report: region 7 received \$8,000 from the Bristol Bay Native Association
- **President** **Katrina**
Since fall conference, worked on committee to appoint secretary/treasurer, attended NASC with Matt, led Winter Business Meeting, served on several committees
- **Additional Report**
 - **Executive Director** **Carol Waters**
Points out a couple of things: Alaska is voicing more of its opinions, mainly because of Matt Cook. RSVP- Raising Student Voice in Participation, helps schools raise their voice. Carol asked to have someone step forward for RSVP- Matt volunteered. Carol is proud! This will make a big difference in our state. AASG website upgrade. Doyon and Bristol Bay have donated money. Rose rural-urban exchange. Carol works with student councils and advisors, but mainly the Executive Board. Region 7 received \$8,500, we need to spend the money in region 7. No leader is left behind in this organization.

Motion for 15-minute recess to discuss tabled resolution

Moved by Juneau, Seconded by Barrow

Passes, meeting recessed

Meeting called back to order at 2:08 P.M.

VII. Old Business

- **Resolution tabled from Fall Conference** **Kevin**

- **Tabled Resolution *Overnight Stays in High School***

Submitted by Bussy Gower and Bayley Fessler of South Anchorage and Dimond High Schools

1. Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;
2. **Whereas**, students are not permitted to stay overnight in Anchorage schools, Mat- Su schools, or Fairbanks schools.
3. **Whereas**, this can not only create an inconvenience for AASG conferences, but sporting tournaments, games, meets, etc. as well.
4. **Whereas**, at the South Anchorage High School conference, many schools were unable to attend due to the high hotel rates.
5. **Whereas**, staying in a high school can add to enjoyment of any school-related activity.
6. **Whereas**, in relation to AASG, staying in a school is not only cost efficient, but creates a bonding factor between urban and rural schools.
7. **Therefore**, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments, that AASG supports the reinstatement that students are able to stay overnight in high schools during school-related events.

Action statement: ASAA, ASD, Mat-Su District, and Fairbanks District

Motion to bring tabled resolution back to floor

Moved by Bethel, Seconded by Sand Point

Passes, tabled resolution brought back to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: supports the resolution
Region 3: supports the resolution
Region 4: supports the resolution
Region 5: supports the resolution
Region 6: supports the resolution
Region 7: supports the resolution, notes expense of travel

Discussion:

Motion to strike “or Fairbanks schools” from line 3 of the resolution

Moved by Ben Eielson, Seconded by Ketchikan

Passes, “or Fairbanks schools” stricken from line 3

Ketchikan (point of information)- wonders if the law will have to change if the resolution passes

Eagle River- does not know the answer to Ketchikan’s question

Carol Waters- has been working with Anchorage School District.

Anchorage has liability issues with allowing students to stay in ASD schools.

Tabled Resolution passes

- **Absentee Balloting at Fall Conference** **Kevin**
 - Schools did not receive absentee ballots in time to vote. A committee was formed: discussed website and interactive voting process.
- **Spring Conference 2007: Craig report** **Stephanie Merritt**
 - Gives short report: everything in Craig is going wonderful. Under-budget, about 150 students attending conference.
- **Scholarships** **Matt**
 - About a month ago a committee met to discuss scholarships. Awarded scholarships to several students. Extends invitation to share what it took to receive scholarships. Thanks Bristol Bay Native Corporation for their donation

Motion to recess meeting

Moved by Eagle River, Seconded by Skagway

Passes, meeting recessed

Meeting called back to order at 7: 17 P.M.

- **Grants** **Chris**
 - Bristol Bay Native Corporation donated \$8,500 to region 7
 - Doyon donated \$1,000 to region 7
 - Rose Rural-Urban Exchange donated \$8,000 to AASG
 - Wilder Construction donated \$5,000
- **AKStudentForum** **Mike**
 - AKStudentForum is having contest to honor the person with the most posts on AKStudentForum, winnings will go to an individual from any school. Committee on Executive Board will be formed to judge posts. The “Golden Mouse” award.
- **Theme for 2006-07: Literacy Explosion** **Libby**
 - This year the executive board decided to do the 3-2-1 campaign as the state service project. Literacy Explosion is over.
- **Poster Contest** **Megan**
 - “Fishing for Alaska’s Future Leaders” is the poster contest theme for this year. There is still time to enter your poster.
- **Rose-AASG Student Council Exchange** **Maggie (absent)**
 - Mike for Maggie- Napaskiak and Ben Eielson are sister schools and have been active in the exchange.

- Ben Eielson has a presentation planned for later, but agrees to do a short presentation. Ben Eielson went to Napaskiak. The participating students share some of their experiences of Napaskiak with the GA.
- **AK Student Councils of Excellence** **Megan**
 - This year there are four Student Councils of Excellence. Excellent.
- **Literacy Explosion** **Libby**
 - Megan has certificates for schools that went above and beyond but left them in her room. Award ceremony moved to a later time.
- **Budget 06-07** **Chris**
 - The estimated income for this year was \$86,000, so far we've brought in about \$71,000- not including the spring conference
- **Budget 07-08** **Chris**
 - Budget was passed by Executive Board at the Winter Business Meeting
 - Estimated income of \$116, 575

VIII. New Business

- **NASC 2007: June 21-27, 2007** **Katrina**
 - NASC 2007 is in Kansas, the theme is "Follow the Leadership Road." If anyone is interested, let Carol or Katrina know so that they can sign you up. NASC should be a great experience this summer
- **National Fed of State High School Assns Conf** **Annie**
 - Conference being held in Indianapolis, ASAA is looking to send students who are involved in two different ASAA activities/teams. They are looking for well-rounded individuals, i.e. team captains. Deadline for application is May 1, 2007.
- **RSVP (Raising Student Voices)** **Matt**
 - Carol and Matt are attending for the state. At the conference they will discuss issues that the delegates think are worth speaking about. Matt will be doing a workshop at the fall conference at East Anchorage High School, and is hoping to present to several different organizations such as the principal's association.
- **Conference Host for Spring 2008** **Juneau-Douglas HS**
 - Lindsay- Juneau wants to embrace a "folk" theme, because the Juneau folk-fest will be occurring during or near the time of the conference.
- **Goal 2007-08** **Megan**
 - **Motion to table goals 07-08 until tomorrow**
Moved by Eagle River, Seconded by Juneau
Passes, report tabled until tomorrow
- **ASAA Hall of Fame** **Annie**
 - There are great former student leaders who are now leaders in their communities who deserve to be inducted into the ASAA hall of fame.
- **New Resolutions** **Katrina, Kevin**
 - **Resolution #1 Mt.. Edgecumbe Acceptance Number**

Submitted by Mt. Edgecumbe High School Student Council

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments:

Whereas, Mt. Edgecumbe High School has already seen an increase in population of sixty students in the past three years, remodeling a new dormitory costing the state 2.2 million dollars and constructing a new science wing, costing the state more than one million dollars

Whereas, the further expansion of Mt. Edgecumbe High School has been discussed by the school, by the state, and by the state government.

Whereas, the school has seen teaching staff issues, highlighted by suing by the teacher's union after being forced to work an hour and a half more without increased pay in 2005.

Whereas, an increase in population for Mt. Edgecumbe means a decrease in population for rural schools, meaning less funding for rural schools, and possible school closures, examples being False Pass and Akutan, whose schools are currently candidates for closure.

Whereas, the expansion did not take into account all of the extra costs, and the school is seeing budget cuts, particularly in dormitory needs.

Whereas, decisions about Mt. Edgecumbe's population are governed by the State Board of Education, hindering the ability to make change at a local level.

Whereas, Mt. Edgecumbe high School is known as a premier school in Alaska and to lose this exceptional reputation would be a detrimental loss, not only to the school but also to the entire state of Alaska.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that it is recognized that Mt. Edgecumbe High School should not expand its student population further than it already has.

Action Statement- our student council wishes to see this resolution presented to the State Board of Education by the AASG SBEED Representative

Motion to bring Resolution #1 to floor

Moved by Valdez, Seconded by Ben Eielson

Passes, resolution #1 brought to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: opposes the resolution

Region 3: supports the resolution

Region 4: supports the resolution

Region 5: supports the resolution

Region 6: supports the resolution

Region 7: supports the resolution

Discussion:

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - encourages anyone with questions to ask. The resolution is not meant to lock anyone out of the school.

Ben Eielson (pro) - didn't understand Mt. Edgecumbe's reasoning for the resolution.

Knowing Mt. Edgecumbe's point of view changed their opinion

Resolution # 1 Passes

· Resolution #2 District-Wide Tardy Policy (submitted as read)

Submitted by Ketchikan High School

1 **Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;**

2 **Whereas**, some Ketchikan students are late to class;

3 **Whereas**, Ketchikan School District has a tardy policy which is not followed
4 strictly;

5 **Whereas**, teachers' tardy policies are inconsistent;

6 **Whereas**, students don't know the policy for each class because they vary;

7 **Whereas**, certain teachers allow tardies;

8 **Whereas**, some teachers reduce grades 1% or require detention;

9 **Whereas**, students think they're being treated unfairly;

10 **Whereas**, teachers have to re-teach subject matter;

11 **Whereas**, being on time is a life long skill;

12 **Whereas**, in Ketchikan, some businesses blame Ketchikan High School for not
13 teaching students the importance of being on time, by not enforcing the discipline
14 policy;

15 **Whereas**, some teachers, parents, and students want a firmly enforced discipline
16 policy;

17 **Whereas**, the existing tardy policy is, "In-house suspension for 1 day of school
18 for a fourth offense in the same class and another day of in-house suspension for
19 every sixth tardy after that;"

20 **Whereas**, the existing tardy policy is hard to understand, enforce, and keep track
21 of;

22 **Whereas**, the existing tardy policy needs to be revised;

23 **Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments**
24 **that AASG supports an enforced District Wide Tardy Policy for Ketchikan**
25 **Gateway Borough School District.**

Motion to bring Resolution #2 to floor

Moved by North Pole, Seconded by Barrow

Passes, Resolution #2 brought to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: supports the resolution

Region 3: supports the resolution

Region 4: supports the resolution, but wants clarification

Region 5: supports the resolution

Region 6: supports the resolution, with noted opposition

Region 7: supports the resolution

Discussion:

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro)- using this resolution to try to get a policy to enforce a solid, district-wide tardy policy

Resolution #2 passes

• **Resolution #3 School Funding** (submitted as read)

Submitted by Ketchikan High School

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

Whereas, the cost of living in Alaska is much higher than most other states;

Whereas, the Ketchikan School District (for example) may lose or has lost many valuable elective classes such as vocational, music, and physical education classes;

Whereas, the national average per-pupil allocation is \$8,041;

Whereas, the average per-pupil allocation in the state of New Jersey is \$12,098;

Whereas, the average per-pupil allocation in the state of Washington is \$6,000 with an additional local contribution to total \$6,985;

Whereas, the per-pupil allocation in Alaska is only \$5,381;

Therefore be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Students Governments that AASG support the Alaska State Legislature to provide per-pupil funding of at least the national average.

This should be sent to the Alaska State Senate, Alaska House of Representatives, Alaska State Governor Sarah Palin, and the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development.

Motion to bring Resolution #3 to floor

Moved by Lathrop, Seconded by Klawock

Passes, Resolution #3 brought to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: supports the resolution

Region 3: supports the resolution

Region 4: supports the resolution, but wants to know where the money would come from

Region 5: supports the resolution

Region 6: opposes the resolution

Region 7: supports the resolution, but wants more information

Discussion:

Ketchikan (pro) - legislature would find the money, students are the future and more money should go towards their education

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - the PFD Corporation invests in stock market, the money earned from that can be spent. People are unaware of how the PFD works.

Ketchikan (pro) - lines 5, 6, 7, and 8 are cited from Anchorage Daily News, other lines are cited from the Alaska Municipality

Resolution #3 passes with noted opposition

• **Resolution #4 Safe Schools Initiative Program**

Ketchikan wants to reschedule to perfect resolution before presenting to GA

Motion to postpone Resolution #4 until tomorrow

Moved by Ketchikan, Seconded by East Anchorage

Passes, Resolution #4 postponed until tomorrow

• **Resolution #5 Felony Law Initiative**

Submitted by Alli Monticello and Bianca Nationales

1 **Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Government:**

2 **Whereas**, the “Three Strikes Law” is currently not in effect in Alaska;

3 **Whereas**, this law acts as a “safety gate” stopping offenders whose
4 frequent offenses haven’t ceased by its appropriate punishments or
5 sentences;

6 **Whereas**, according to a recent survey conducted by UC-Riverside,

7 93% of the individuals interviewed had reached an agreement that a

8 person convicted for the third time of serious, violent, crimes should

9 receive 25 years to life imprisonment (*Important*);

10 **Whereas**, criminals are more likely to commit multiple crimes

11 without the enforcement of the Three Strikes Law;
12 **Whereas**, the Three Strikes Law is in effect in 27 out of 50 states in
13 the United States (*States*);
14 **Whereas**, with the implementation of this law will consist of a three
15 caliber punishment grading criterion;
16 **Whereas**, the first “strike” is a regular felony punishment with the
17 appropriate punishment sentencing;
18 **Whereas**, the second “strike” is another felony punishment with
19 **DOUBLE** the first time penalty of imprisonment;
20 **Whereas**, the offender’s third “strike” after the insubstantial two
21 sentences, the offender is obliged a mandatory sentencing of 25 to life
22 imprisonment (*Let*);
23 **Therefore be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student**
24 **Governments that AASG acknowledges and supports the**
25 **implementation of the Three Strikes Law in the Alaska Law**
26 **Code.**

This should be sent to the Alaska State Senate, Alaska House of Representatives, and Alaska State Governor Sarah Palin.

Motion to bring Resolution #5 to floor

Moved by Cordova, Seconded by King Cove

Passes, Resolution #5 brought to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: opposes the resolution

Region 3: supports the resolution, with questions

Region 4: opposes the resolution

Region 5: supports the resolution

Region 6: supports the resolution, with noted opposition

Region 7: unanimously supports the resolution

Discussion:

Ketchikan (pro) - this resolution was only meant for serious crimes

Juneau (poi) - wants to know background of why the resolution was written

Ketchikan answer to Juneau- author knows law enforcement officers

Juneau (con) - this is more of a moral issue, isn't sure if we can all come to a consensus, and would like that to be taken into account

Palmer (con) - questions who was interviewed. Questions reliability of information

Juneau (con) - doesn't think this topic should have been taken to AASG

Ketchikan (pro) - thinks this resolution applies to AASG because it is thought that AASG should take on tough issues like this.

Palmer (point of order) - questions are not supposed to be answered unless asked through a point of order

Juneau (poi) - thinks that even though we are a student body, we shouldn't limit ourselves to strictly student-related topics

Katrina- re-explains how to use point of information/order signs

East Anchorage (con) - this should be judged on a case-by-case basis- the consequences are too strict not to

Chugiak (poi) - line #10, how does the author you know that?

Ketchikan answer to Chugiak- info was taken off of website but was not listed

Chugiak (poi) - the resolution sounds strict and harsh. Confusion about wording of resolution and the 3 strikes.

Ketchikan answer to Chugiak- explains 3 strikes law. Strikes 1, 2, and 3, third strike you go to jail for 25 years to life

Mt. Edgecumbe (poi) - what constitutes a felony in the case of this resolution? Wants more information

Ketchikan answer to Mt. Edgecumbe- the strikes are for all felonies

Ketchikan (pro) - felonies are crimes which sentences are more than a year

Palmer (con) - is not for resolution, doesn't make sense

Lathrop (pro) - thinks criminals should go to jail

Mt. Edgecumbe (poo) - parliamentary procedure question about rhetorical questions
Katrina- asks GA not to ask rhetorical questions
East Anchorage High (con) - still believes the consequences are too strict, thinks the 3 strike law will take judges power away
Chugiak (con) - comment: punishment already increases by the judges judging. The more times a criminal commits a crime, the harder the punishment will be, believes there is already a system similar to this
Monroe (pro) - being charged with a felony is a serious crime- wants a harder punishment for criminals, is in support of resolution
Cordova (con) - thinks there are many other circumstances where this could get a relatively innocent person put in jail for life (i.e. stealing a slice of pizza, three times)
Palmer (con) - we need to take into consideration the overcrowding of U.S. prisons. We need to consider the budget. Giving criminals a second chance has been known to work
Ketchikan (pro) - there are three different types of felonies, no matter how severe, it is still a felony
Eagle River (con) - understands what felony is, is concerned about this law limiting power of U.S. judicial system
Monroe (pro) - finds idea of criminals walking around in society frightening
Ketchikan (pro) - doesn't think that crowded prisons is a reason to not punish criminals
Ketchikan- grabbed wrong sign...again
Palmer (pro) - thinks that this law will clog up U.S. jails

Motion to call to question

Moved by Ketchikan, Seconded by Eagle River

Discussion: Mt. Edgecumbe (poo) - believes this is not the time to call to question

Motion fails, resolution #5 still on floor

Mt. Edgecumbe (con) - believes 3 strike rule will clog prisons
Ketchikan (pro) - whole-heartedly believes in passing this resolution. Money can be found to build more prisons
Chugiak (con) - everyone deserves an opportunity to change themselves, they will not get this with this law. The criminals will still be punished, just not for life
Chugiak (poi) - what happens if the 2 or 3 felonies are all different?
Ketchikan answer to Chugiak- a felony is a felony, it doesn't matter
Juneau (con) - people are scared about having criminals around, but they will always be out there. Putting more people in jail will just clog jails
North Pole (pro) - believes 3 strikes will work. Criminals will have option to get help after first and second strikes
East Anchorage (con) - has faith in court system, believes it will work better than the 3 strikes system.
Ketchikan (pro) - felony is made a felony for a reason. A three-time felon deserves to go to jail. Court system will still have influence over decision.
Palmer (con) - doesn't believe AASG should pass resolution
Mt. Edgecumbe (poo) - believes each speaker is only guaranteed three times to speak
Kari answers Mt. Edgecumbe- each speaker is only allowed 2 times to speak on a single resolution with the exception of a point of order/information

Motion to suspend parliamentary rule limiting an individual to speak only twice during a single resolution (Resolution #5)

Moved by Mt. Edgecumbe, Seconded by Eagle River

Discussion:

Mt. Edgecumbe- believes we should not suspend parliamentary procedure

Kari- we are only suspending the limit on how many times an individual may speak on this resolution. By suspending this rule, an individual may speak as many times as desired

Passes, limiting of speakers to two times is suspended for the duration of Resolution #5

Back to discussing Resolution #5:

Ketchikan (pro) - wants people who commit crimes put in prison

Craig (con) - believes both sides present great arguments and believes GA could debate about it all day. Believes resolution should be rewritten

Motion to call to question

Moved by Palmer, Seconded by Bethel

Passes, moved to a vote

Resolution #5 passes with noted opposition

Motion to recess until 10:00 A.M., Friday, April 13, 2007

Moved by King Cove, Seconded by Chief Paul

Passes, meeting recessed

Meeting called back to order at 10:19 A.M., Friday, April 13, 2007

- **Goal 07-08 (tabled from previous day)** **Megan**
 - Presentation is given about 3-2-1 anti-global climate change service project

Motion to add swearing in Lindsay Birk, SPEED Rep

Moved by Eagle River, Seconded by Bethel

Passes, added to agenda

- **Swearing in of SPEED Representative**
 - Lindsay sworn in
- **New Resolutions** **Katrina, Kevin**
 - **Motion to reconsider Resolution #5**

Moved by Eagle River, Seconded by Palmer

Discussion:

Ketchikan (con) - feels that if we bring it back up, we will end up nowhere. Is against reconsidering resolution #5

Lathrop (poi)- wants to know why Eagle River wants to reconsider resolution

Eagle River answer to Lathrop- did more research and found that 3 strikes rule is too harsh and that when the resolution passed, people were tired and possibly incapable of making right decisions

Ben Eielson (con)- doesn't think that we need to bring up the resolution again, people's beliefs will not change

Fails, resolution #5 is not reconsidered

- **Resolution #4 Safe Schools Initiative Program** (Submitted as read)(tabled from previous day)

Submitted by Ketchikan High School

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

Whereas, in recent years, school shootings have become infamous **Occurrences** in high schools all over the United States;

Whereas, one of our country's first school shootings was in Bethel, Alaska, in 1997;

Whereas, it is evident that the issue is becoming more severe from shooting threats very recently in Dzantik'i Heeni Middle School of Juneau, Schoenbar Middle School of Ketchikan, and even Houghtaling Elementary of Ketchikan;

Whereas, high school students set the example for younger students;

Therefore, it would be in our best interest to start prevention programs in High schools;

Whereas, school shooting incidents and threats interfere with Education by forcing concerned parents to withdraw their children from School, sometimes for days or weeks, and terrorizing all remaining students and staff;

Whereas, schools are forming new safety policies that can be very intrusive (for instance all door locked policy), but most people tolerate these inconveniences because they want to feel safe;

Whereas, no public school student of any age should have to be concerned with their safety while at school;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that AASG encourages every high school in Alaska to initiate an active Safe Schools program or committee run through their Student Body Associations or some similar body.

This should be sent to the Executive Secretary to the Board of the Department of Education and Early Development, and the Ketchikan School Board.

Motion to bring Resolution #4 to floor

Moved by Eagle River, Seconded by Sand Point

Passes, Resolution #4 brought to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: supports the resolution, but needs clarification

Region 3: supports the resolution, but needs clarification

Region 4: opposes the resolution

Region 5: supports the resolution

Region 6: would like more information and citations

Region 7: needs more information

Discussion:

Eagle River (poi) - wants to know what information was used to write resolution

Ketchikan answer to Eagle River- the intent of the resolution is to start a committee to increase safety in schools

East Anchorage (poi) - wants to know what was intended by the resolution, needs more info

Ketchikan answer to East Anchorage- the result would create a support group for those who need it

Ketchikan (pro) - thinks students are losing communication with teachers, peers, and that that is the reason there are shootings and schools are becoming unsafe

Lathrop (poi) - support safe schools, but want more information, need more info

Ketchikan answer to Lathrop- it is for Ketchikan

Palmer (poi) - will the result form a club? - needs more info

Ketchikan answer to Palmer- yes

Motion to amend Resolution #4, line 23, "Safe Schools" to "safe schools"

Moved by Lathrop, Seconded by Yakutat

Passes, line 23 of Resolution #4 amended

Resolution #4 passes

· Resolution #6 Pebble Mine

Submitted by Mt. Edgecumbe HS

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

Whereas, the proposed Pebble Mine in the Bristol Bay region of Alaska would be the largest open pit mine in North America

Whereas, the Bristol Bay Watershed, where the mine would be located, is home to one of the most prolific fishing areas in the world

Whereas, the area reaps more than \$400 million annually from sport fishing, commercial fishing, and other renewable natural resources

Whereas, if the mine were to be implemented, it would create a "1,000 square mile mixing zone"

Whereas, large earthquake-prone earth dams built in the area would hold back waste material posing a threat to leaks

Whereas, 100% of mines similar to the Pebble Mine polluted water during or after their usage

Whereas, damage from chemicals and waste would harm the livelihoods of many Alaskans, particularly Native Alaskans

Whereas, the following Alaskan groups and citizens are opposed to the mine:

United States Senator Ted Stevens, the Tribal Village, City, and corporation of New Stuyahok, Koliganek Tribe and Corporation, Nondalton Tribe and City, Dillingham village council, Kakhanok village council, the Tribal Village, City, and Native Corporation, Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association, and more.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that AASG opposes the proposed Pebble Mine.

Motion to bring Resolution #6 to floor

Moved by Barrow, Seconded by North Pole

Passes, Resolution #6 brought to floor

Region 1: is undecided on the resolution

Region 2: opposes the resolution

Region 3: supports the resolution

Region 4: opposes the resolution, but wants more information

Region 5: supports the resolution

Region 6: supports the resolution

Region 7: supports the resolution, but is concerned with sources

Discussion:

Juneau (poi) - wants to know what kind of pollutants will pollute the water during mining (line 12)

Mt. Edgecumbe answer to Juneau- incredibly dangerous materials: including coincide

Skagway (con) - knows that this project will bring a lot of money to the state

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - we need to look at the economic downfall as well as the increase.

Are we really promised a good future after this mining? - Rhetorical

North Pole (con) - feels that there has been more propaganda for negative effects of the mine- reads an unofficial resolution to show the positive effects of the mine.

Ketchikan (pro) - jobs are only temporary, the long-term bad effects of the mine will outweigh the good jobs

Ketchikan (con) - thinks the mine will be good for Alaska's future

Juneau (pro) - the area has existed for thousands of years, do we really want a pile of dirt instead of a beautiful land?

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - the people that live in the mine area want to preserve their land.

North Pole- found interesting facts, the company that is proposing pebble mine is a new and inexperienced company. If built, the mining industry of Alaska will produce much less than the oil industry

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - no information was taken from text, we need to look at the long-term effects. We represent this region, we need to preserve it.

Manokotak (pro) - is against the pebble mine because they feel it will harm commercial fishing

Craig (pro) - department of fish and game is watching the fish limit, the number of fish in the sea is not decreasing at too alarming of a rate

Juneau (pro) - are the harmful effects of the mine worth the money we make? Rhetorical- is opposed

Ketchikan (poi) - has a question for North Pole: is the Canadian company hiring Alaskans or Canadians?

North Pole answers Ketchikan- the mining company will most likely hire Canadians. They are refusing to follow U.S. mining regulations

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - the mine will not be 3 times larger than the largest mine, the dam built near it will be 3 times larger than the largest dam in the world.

Motion to call to question

Moved by Mt. Edgecumbe, Seconded by Eagle River

Passes, moved to a vote

Resolution #6 Passes

Motion to recess until 6:30 P.M.

Moved by King Cove, Seconded by Craig

Passes, meeting recessed

Meeting called back to order at 6:49 P.M.

· **Resolution #7 Cafeteria Food Quality** (submitted as read)

Submitted by Mt. Edgecumbe High School Student Council

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments:

Whereas, Mt. Edgecumbe's cafeteria food standards have fallen behind in terms of quality

Whereas, students have become upset, and even disgusted with the quality of the food and the way it is prepared and cooked

Whereas, students are also unsatisfied with the small choice of variety in the food given

Whereas, students have found hairs and insects, such as flies and beetles, in the fruit bar, salads, and the soups

Whereas, the meals don't appeal to vegetarians and isn't proven healthy to all Mt. Edgecumbe students

Whereas, students must eat meals from the cafeteria during lunch on school days unless students purchase it otherwise

Whereas, it is mandatory that students eat from the cafeteria during lunch on school days, or they go without food entirely

Whereas, 94% of Mt. Edgecumbe students would like to see healthier options in the cafeteria

Whereas, students eat every meal in the cafeteria every week out of nine months in the year in school

Whereas, cafeteria staff has ignored several guidelines of NSLP, National School Lunch Program

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments recognize that Mt. Edgecumbe High School should make improvements of the daily meals in the cafeteria, and follow federal food standards.

Action Statement: our student council wishes to see this resolution presented to the State Board of Education by the AASG SBEED Representative.

Motion to bring Resolution #7 to floor

Moved by Klawock, Seconded by Sand Point

Passes, Resolution #7 brought to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: supports the resolution

Region 3: supports the resolution

Region 4: strongly supports the resolution

Region 5: unanimously supports the resolution

Region 6: supports the resolution

Region 7: opposes the resolution

Discussion:

Chugiak (poi) - wants to know if the food preparation staff wears hair nets and gloves, and if they actually make the food

Mt. Edgecumbe answer to Chugiak- food is usually frozen, then heated before served

Juneau (poi) - has Mt. Edgecumbe tried to bring this issue to their school board?

Mt. Edgecumbe answer to Juneau- Mt. Edgecumbe doesn't have a school board

Ketchikan (poi) - why does Region 7 oppose this resolution?

Bethel (Region 7) answer to Ketchikan- believes there should already be a law in effect regarding food standards

North Pole (pro) - shares reasons for supporting the resolution

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - Mt. Edgecumbe is a boarding school, the district is removing nutrition opportunities

Ketchikan (poi) - the state guidelines say that the school must provide vegetarian options, are there any in Mt. Edgecumbe?

Mt. Edgecumbe answer to Ketchikan- there are no vegetarian options provided for Mt. Edgecumbe students

Lathrop (con) - understands that Mt. Edgecumbe has a salad bar, and believes that that is a vegetarian option

Mt. Edgecumbe- if we are all eating salad with bugs in it, where's the nutrition in that?

Ketchikan (con) - bugs have protein...

Juneau (pro) - one thing that needs to be considered is that Mt. Edgecumbe has to deal with the bad food in their school

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - there are already federal food standards, but the school is not following/meeting the standards. There are special instances where injured students are refused delivery of food

Ketchikan (pro) - obviously supports this resolution.

Motion to call to question

Moved by Ketchikan, Seconded by Valdez

Passes, moved to a vote

Resolution #7 passes

· Resolution #8 School Funding Legislation

Submitted by Valdez High School Student Council

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments:

Whereas, the Alaska State Constitution outlines the state's responsibility to provide schools open to all children of the state and therefore financing these schools is a constitutional obligation (Art. VII, Sec. 1)

Whereas, school districts throughout Alaska are required annually to submit a balanced budget to their local governing bodies May 1.

Whereas, school districts are not informed about the amount of state funding they will receive until the end of the legislative session which can be as late as mid-May.

Whereas, school districts choose to balance their budgets using a reduction in force plan for tenured teachers and these teachers must be given notice by March 16, according to state statutes. (AS 14.20.140)

Whereas, on March 13, 2007, the Valdez School District gave notice to four tenured teachers explaining that their programs would be cut unless state funding was adequate.

Whereas, the programs scheduled to be cut include: music, physical education, English, and technology, which are all integral parts of a sound public education.

Whereas, legislators have historically used education funding as a political tool (Rep. John Harris, March 29, 2007)

Whereas, education funding should be the top priority for our state legislators and should be safe from political manipulation

Whereas, Alaska's children are its future and should be treated as the state's most valuable resource

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that state education funding should be the legislative priority and all action regarding school funding should be concluded by March 1, annually.

Action Statement: we wish to have this resolution accepted by AASG as the spring 2007 Conference, presented to the State Board of Education, the Alaska Schools Activities Association and the Alaska Association of School Boards for their endorsements. We urge all local student councils to pressure their respective legislators to support this action; we also request this resolution to be mailed to all local school boards, every state legislator, and Governor Palin.

Motion to bring Resolution #8 to floor

Moved by Manokotak, Seconded by Skagway

Passes, Resolution #8 brought to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: supports the resolution

Region 3: supports the resolution

Region 4: supports the resolution

Region 5: supports the resolution

Region 6: supports the resolution

Region 7: supports the resolution

Discussion:

North Pole (pro)- the legislative bodies should decide on how much money the school should have earlier

Ketchikan (poi) - what's the reasoning for the resolution, why should the legislature do this?

Valdez answer to Ketchikan- teachers end up having to find jobs because of fear of losing their teaching jobs

Mt. Edgecumbe (poi) - politicians use education for campaigns, what did you mean by this?

Valdez answer to Mt. Edgecumbe- politicians use education to get votes, but don't always support it

Juneau- Valdez did not cite their sources

Ketchikan (poi) - will this resolution apply to all schools?

Valdez answer to Ketchikan- yes, for all schools

North Pole (pro)- education is our greatest resource, we should put it ahead

Valdez (pro)- sources are cited

Ben Eielson (pro) - teachers are getting cheated, they shouldn't be played with. It needs to change.

Resolution #8 passes unanimously

· **Resolution #9 Students and Substance Abuse** (submitted as read)

Submitted by Elizabeth Dattilo from Barrow High School

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments:

Whereas, many students don't have the support they need at home

Whereas, teens of families with substance abuse problems tend to have related issues for the rest of their life

Whereas, substance abuse problems affect schoolwork, inhibiting success in education, which disqualifies students of opportunities that they would otherwise be capable of.

Whereas, students should have help to be free of debilitating substance abuse problems

Whereas, students with issues related to substance abuse are more likely to cause harm to themselves, others, or have harm inflicted on themselves

Whereas, substance abuse affects the mind and therefore the decisions that users are making

Whereas, substance abuse is a recurring problem that has to be dealt with, to protect future generations from the physical and mental abuse that happens because of it

Whereas, a clouded judgment due to substance abuse can be lethal and has caused deaths in the extreme cold of the north

Whereas, for example, in the village of Barrow, the organization originally made for this cause, is in no way serving its purpose, but rather has become a stomping ground for drug dealers and users

Whereas, a survey conducted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) revealed that, out of 147 respondents, 100% of them had drunk alcohol within the past month, 42% drank every day, and 50% drank until they were drunk, at least half of the time.

Whereas, there isn't any cooperation among agencies, and this resolution would enforce agencies such as the juvenile system, children youth services, the state mental health department, and adolescent treatment centers

Whereas, the survey conducted by the NIDA also found that those who drank before or during sexual intercourse were more likely to have unprotected sex, even with a complete stranger

Whereas, unprotected sex will lead to more sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV

Whereas, a study on alcohol abuse among Native Alaskans, shows that alcohol abuse has been rising steadily

Whereas, a study on the rate of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome among Alaskans, indicates a high prevalence of FAS

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that accessible support groups are organized, with a qualified councilor to have regular meetings for students of the state of Alaska, with issues related to substance abuse.

Motion to bring Resolution #9 to floor

Moved by Juneau, Seconded by Palmer

Passes, Resolution #9 brought to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: supports the resolution

Region 3: supports the resolution

Region 4: supports the resolution

Region 5: supports the resolution

Region 6: supports the resolution

Region 7: supports the resolution

Discussion:

Juneau (poi)- wonders if information is cited

Barrow answer to Juneau- work is cited

Chugiak (con)- supports resolution, but states that using drugs will not always get you in trouble

Ben Eielson (poi) - what kind of councilor will run program?

Barrow answer to Ben Eielson- someone qualified to council students will run the program

Chugiak (poi)- does barrow have an AA program

Barrow with answer to Chugiak- yes there is an AA program

Chugiak (poi) - can't barrow use that instead?

Barrow answer to Chugiak- the AA program has not been effective with students

Ketchikan (poi) - would an existing councilor be trained, or a trained councilor be focused on substance abuse?

Barrow with answer to Ketchikan- someone who has overcome substance abuse problems would be ideal

Ben Eielson (poi) - will this program be executed by the district, or does the author just want change?

Barrow answer to Ben Eielson- does not have an answer to Ben Eielson's question

Barrow (pro) - Barrow, being a small village, people don't feel comfortable with people that know them and might gossip about their problems.

Ketchikan (poi) - is this program for people who have substance abuse problems or families effected?

Barrow with answer- for both families and abusers

Palmer (pro)- suggests a peer helpers program for Barrow

Motion to amend line 17 to say “Barrow high school” rather than “the state”

Moved by Ketchikan, 2nd Skagway

Passes, Resolution #9 amended

Chugiak (poi) - where would barrow get the money to fly a councilor to Juneau?

Barrow (pro) - there is always money for a good cause

Chugiak (poi) - since there is already an AA in barrow, is there a way to make it more appealing to students?

Barrow answers to Chugiak- many think the users in Barrow are a lost cause. Barrow believes AA cannot be changed to appeal to the targeted students

Ketchikan (pro) - thinks this is a serious thing and that the resolution should pass. Barrow is just as important as any other place in Alaska

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - believes that barrow is one of the richest in the state and it will not be a problem for them to find the money. There needs to be an immediate reversal of the substance abuse in rural Alaska, this is a good step

Chugiak (poi) - what is the law enforcement doing about the substance abuse in barrow?

Barrow answer to Chugiak- unrelated answer- substance abuse affects many people’s lives

Chugiak (poi) - can the existing program be reorganized?

Barrow answer to Chugiak- we could try harder to make it a serious counseling group

Bethel (pro) - understands barrow’s desire for greater measures for ridding community of substance abuse

Mt. Edgecumbe (pro) - we need to look at the problems in areas like barrow, AASG needs to support Barrow. Supports resolution

Ben Eielson (pro) - believes everyone supports, but the resolution is unclear of how barrow will execute the plan

Barrow- current councilors are supplying substance to students in some cases, getting an unknown councilor will increase effectiveness and lower substance abuse

Motion to call to question

Moved by Eagle River, Seconded by Chief Paul

Passes, moved to a vote

Resolution #9 passes

Motion for ten-minute recess

Moved by Valdez, Seconded by Yakutat

Passes, meeting recessed

Meeting called back to order at 8:03 P.M.

· Resolution #10 Fall 2007 AASG Conference (submitted as read)

Submitted by East Anchorage High School

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments:

Whereas, East High School would be honored to host AASG

Whereas, Anchorage has a mall with stores that don’t exclusively sell Alaskan Merchandise

Whereas, Anchorage has beautiful fall foliage

Whereas, East High School’s theater is the most beautiful room you’ll ever go in to

Whereas, Anchorage has more coffee shops per person than any other city in the nation

Whereas, East even has its own coffee shop

Whereas, if you come to Anchorage, you can live a big, wild, life

Whereas, East High has already lined up a guest speaker who’s an expert on environmental issues

Whereas, in Anchorage it does not rain... as much

Whereas, East is the largest and most diverse high school in the state

Whereas, Anchorage has an airport

Whereas, East High's student government has 60 able-bodied members ready and eager to make the best AASG ever

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that AASG wants to have a conference at East Anchorage High School

Motion to bring Resolution #10 to the floor

Moved by Lathrop, Seconded by Ben Eielson

Passes, resolution #10 brought to floor

Region 1: supports the resolution

Region 2: unanimously supports the resolution

Region 3: supports the resolution

Region 4: strongly supports the resolution

Region 5: completely supports the resolution

Region 6: supports the resolution with noted opposition

Region 7: supports the resolution

Discussion:

Ketchikan (poi) - what kind of fall foliage exists in Anchorage?

East Anchorage answer to Ketchikan- beautiful fall foliage

Eagle River (poi)- could the foliage be ranked on a scale of 1-10

East Anchorage answer to Eagle River- it's as beautiful as you

Bethel (poi) - will the coffee shop be opened during conference?

East Anchorage answer to Bethel- the coffee shop will be open

Ketchikan (poi) - what kind of stores are in Anchorage's malls?

East Anchorage answer to Ketchikan- Nordstrom's, GAP, Abercrombie and Fitch, Bed

Bath and Beyond, lists more stores

Juneau (poi) - will the GA be held in a ballroom?

East Anchorage answer to Juneau- yes

Motion to call to question

Moved by Mt. Edgecumbe, Seconded by Craig

Passes, moved to a vote

Resolution #10 passes

Motion to move Literacy Explosion Awards back onto agenda

Moved by Bethel, Seconded by Mt. Edgecumbe

Passes, Literacy Explosion Awards added to agenda

– **Literacy Explosion Awards**

- North Pole High School
- Susitna-Valley High School
- Valdez High School
- Klawock High School
- Service High School
- Chugiak High School
- Monroe Catholic High School

Megan, Libby

Motion to add AKStudentForum Awards to agenda

Moved by Cordova, Seconded by Ben Eielson

Passes, AKStudentForum Awards added to agenda

– **AKStudentForum Awards**

- presents glow sticks as awards to students who participated on AKStudentForum

Mike

Motion to recess until 10:00 A.M., Saturday, April 14, 2007

Moved by Manokotak, Seconded by King Cove

Passes, meeting recessed

Meeting called back to order at 10:21 A.M., Saturday, April 14, 2007

IX. Announcement of New Regional Representatives and Oath of Office

- New Officers: Region 1, 3, 5, 7 Representatives:
 - Region 1 Representative: Taylor Elbert
 - Region 3 Representative: Daniel Hagen
 - Region 5 Representative: Nick Parker
 - Region 7 Representative: Alisha Welch

X. Special Resolution

Executive Board

Submitted by AASG Executive Board and Region 5

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments:

Whereas, Craig has been the most resilient and generous hosts.

Whereas, the pods have been the most mud-licious and exotic.

Whereas, “Bang, Bang” was introduced as an official AASG cheer for its unification of the GA.

Whereas, 80s aerobics never looked so fine.

Whereas, praying to the weather gods paid off for once.

Whereas, AASG has never been held in an auditorium with such great acoustics.

Whereas, getting to know each other helped deepen the debates.

Whereas, Tlingit/Hida/Symshlan dancing is beautiful and inspiring.

Whereas, everyone loves glow sticks.

Whereas, Craig has the most gorgeous lodge-like school in our state.

Whereas, we used planes, ferries, and automobiles to get to this fantastic conference.

Whereas, making masks helped unmask everyone’s true identity.

Whereas, the concept of the AASG massage line is still in the air.

Whereas, Ms. Lee knows how to boogie with the best of them.

Whereas, it’s typically unbelievable to finish all new resolutions in the conference.

Whereas, AASG will forever be indebted to the tasty, healthy meals.

Whereas, we are looking forward to the best bonfire ever.

Whereas, we are fortunate to not have a run-in with the acousta.

Whereas, everyone was shown up by the groovy advisors’ spectacular dance moves.

Whereas, 8:00 AM is an awesome time to start the day with a healthy, balanced breakfast while singing “YMCA.”

Whereas, the next time we come to Craig, Alaska, we will wear flowers in our hair and extra tough rain boots.

Whereas, Prince of Wales Island has the most community support anywhere in the state.

Whereas, Carol and Mr. Powers led the best game of Simon Says, even bringing back the Jedi.

Whereas, without Craig’s support and supply of instruments, So Moved could never have been born.

Whereas, all of Region II learned how to shake their hips side to side and all of their votes were unanimous.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that the spring AASG conference in Craig has been the most rockin’ AASG ever.

Thank You, Craig!

XI. Adjournment

Katrina

Motion to adjourn

Moved by Craig, Seconded by East Anchorage

Passes, meeting adjourned at 10:44 A.M., Saturday, April 14, 2007