

**UNADOPTED MINUTES  
OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Mission: "To provide a learning environment that inspires and challenges students and employees to excel."  
Vision: "To graduate all students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for a successful future."

President Margaret Hansen called the 443<sup>rd</sup> special meeting of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Board of Education to order at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, March 23, 2026, District Office Katima Room, 744 Third Avenue, Kotzebue, Alaska.

Board Members present were:

Tillie Ticket  
Carol Schaeffer  
Marie Greene  
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus  
Alice Adams  
Lawrence Jones  
Erica Nelson  
Margaret Hansen  
Millie Halway

Board Members absent and excused were Alice Melton-Barr, Shannon Melton.

A quorum was present.

Observed.

Those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Staff and guests present: Terri Walker-Superintendent; Joseph Groves, Director of ATC; Perrian Windhausen, Director of Student Services; Deborah Landcaster, Director of Curriculum; Amy Eakin, Director of Technology; Mark Moore, Director of Property Services; Kristen Walker, Executive Assistant; Joy Cogburn-Smith, Director of State & Federal Programs. Robin Reich, Chris Wolpert w/ Solstice Alaska Consulting, Inc.

Marie Greene motioned that the Board go into an executive session at 9:19 a.m.; Seconded by Alice Adams. Unanimously approved. The Board reconvened from executive session at 12:00 p.m.

Erica Nelson motioned to go into executive session. Seconded by Marie Greene. Unanimously approved. Executive session started at 10:34 a.m. and ended at 2:12 p.m.

Marie Greene motioned to adopt the consent agenda. Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

The administration requests School Board approval to enter into a contract with Simformotion, Cat Simulators, in the amount of \$186,902.81 to upgrade the current CAT simulators and purchase a new large wheel loader. Simformotion staff will install the simulators. At issue is the approval of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Simformotion, Cat Simulators. All MOAs that exceed \$50,000 require Board approval. This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will allocate funds from the Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP). The CAT simulators at the ATC are approximately fourteen years old and currently out of service. The dozer and excavator simulators can be upgraded with Gen2 technology. ATC is seeking to establish an agreement with Simformotion to upgrade two existing Cat Simulators at ATC with new computers, software, and screen components. Additionally, a third simulator, a large wheel loader, will be added. Staff from Simformotion will be onsite to install and set up the simulators and to train staff in operating the equipment. Funding source-TVEP Grant.

Board approval is required for services that exceed \$50,000. At issue is the approval of the agreement with AVEC and the Native Village of Noatak for the Noatak Bulk Fuel tank farm. July 2025, the Denali Commission received a \$100 million Environmental Protection Agency grant authorized under the Clean Air Act to upgrade aging bulk fuel tank farms in 10 rural Alaska communities, and the funding is being managed by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) and must be spent before July 2028. Noatak was one of the communities selected to receive EPA funding to replace and relocate its community bulk fuel tanks because the tanks are in poor condition and at risk of eroding into the Noatak River, leaving residents without heating fuel and gasoline and the potential for fuel spills. Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AVEC) was selected to receive EPA funding to replace its diesel fuel tank farm and plans to relocate its power plant in Noatak because the facilities' proximity to the Noatak River's eroding bank has high potential for failure resulting in disruption to essential power service and fuel spills; Northwest Arctic Borough School District's (NWABSD) existing bulk fuel storage at the Noatak School is in poor condition and must be replaced, and because the tanks will no longer be able to be filled via pipeline from the existing airport once fuel delivery operations shift to the new airport; AVEC to lead the effort to replace and relocate the Tribe's

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF/GUESTS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MEMORANDUM 26-106 APPROVAL OF MOA WITH CAT SIMULATORS – SIMFORMOTION

MEMORANDUM 26-107 NOATAK BULK FUEL FACILITY AGREEMENT

community tank farm concurrent with the power plant and fuel tanks' relocation; Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities is planning a new airport in Noatak, and the existing airport fuel header and fill pipes will be relocated within the new airport; the most feasible location for a new community tank farm, AVEC power plant and tank farm, and new NWABSD storage tanks is near the new airport header; the Native Village of Noatak, AVEC, and the NWABSD have worked cooperatively to plan new bulk fuel and energy facilities.

None at this time.

The budget public hearing is scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2026, via Microsoft Teams.

Tillie Ticket moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Erica Nelson. Motion passed with unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

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Tillie Ticket, Secretary

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Kristen Walker, Recording Secretary

COMMUNICATIONS & ITEMS  
INTRODUCED BY BOARD MEMBERS

DATE/TIME OF NEXT BOARD  
MEETINGS

ADJOURNMENT