

REPORT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

In reviewing all facets of the Nome-Beltz problem, the Concerned Citizens Committee considered the possible breakdown of communications as being worthy of investigation. Accordingly, a volunteer sub-committee was formed to perform this investigation.

Interestingly enough, the volunteers consisted of diametrically opposing philosophies. This fact aided us greatly in doing research rather than relying on rumor. Members of this committee consisted of Richard Rusk, Chuck Stevens, John Poling, Virgil Holcomb, Nancy Levensen, Laura Grauvogel, Mary Francis, Dorothy Pegau and Paul Bills who served as chairman.

Members of this committee interviewed teachers, students, administration personnel, and Beltz dormitory attendants, as well as others who had factual knowledge of the situation. It became immediately apparent that one of the most vital problems of the school was a complete break down of communications.

During the first sessions of the committee, we had a feeling of spinning our wheels as different philosophies and ideas were exchanged. Finally, it was suggested that we hold a "brainstorming" session during which everyone threw into the hopper ideas as to how to correct the communication gap. Nearly 100 suggestions were offered. Later at an editing session, we tossed out every input which was not unanimously accepted. Some of the suggestions were not necessarily accepted by all, but were, in the interest of cooperation and accomplishment, tolerated. Thus setting the example of how to communicate.

The committee is to be commended for its spirit of dedication. Most members worked many hours, sometimes long into the night.

The following suggestions, they feel, would certainly help in creating good communications between students, faculty, dormitory personnel, administration, Board of Control, parents, village and Nome residents and all concerned. The

report is not at all considered exhaustive by the committee, but should be helpful in formulating future policies.

1. That weekly faculty meetings, with administrators present, be required.
2. That all members of the staff and administration should be required to attend all faculty meetings except where prior permission not to attend (for reasonable cause) has been received from the chairman of the meeting.
3. That the agenda for each faculty meeting is to be posted in a public area so that faculty members, or representatives of the student body, can have input into these meetings and that this agenda be presented to the media.
4. That an anonymous "gripe" or suggestion box should be provided and that this should be placed in a prominent place (preferably next to the posted meeting agenda) and that all "gripes" and/or suggestions in the box should be aired at the next faculty meeting.
5. That faculty meetings follow Parliamentary procedures.
6. That faculty meetings have chairmanships rotated on a weekly basis.
7. That a progress report on faculty meetings be given to the Board of Control at each board meeting.
8. That regular departmental level meetings should be held and time allotted at the faculty meetings for each department to air their problems.
9. That there should be at least four meetings during the school year between Nome-Beltz and Nome Elementary school faculties to share feelings, ideas, etc.
10. That alternate school board meetings be held at locations other than Nome-Beltz Regional High school and that they be held at different locations throughout town and within the City of Nome limits with the exception of at least one meeting at the King Island Village.
11. That motions before the Board of Control be open to discussion from the public as they are presented.

12. That the agenda for the Board of Control meetings be posted and published in the public media one week prior to the meeting.
13. That rules of conduct, codes of behavior be adopted at an inservice meeting at the start of the school year with administration and faculty to have input into these rules and that members of the student body be encouraged to participate.
14. That there be an agreement on the part of the teachers to support the rules or regulations initiated by the administration or Board of Control until those rules or regulations are amended or changed.
15. That a minimum of twice monthly assemblies be provided for the student body.
16. That cultural assemblies for the student body be encouraged.
17. That students be allowed to have input into the formation of the school rules.
18. That students have input into the school bulletin.
19. To substitute daily hourly planning time for teachers with concentrated planning time; a schedule structure which would free a teacher one (or two) day/s a week (or two weeks) for program planning while students are scheduled in other classes.
20. That adequate release time for teacher preparation and planning should be provided.
21. That parent-teacher conferences be required for each reporting period with release time provided for these.
22. That a specified daily (or weekly) time period be set aside for the superintendent (or other administrator) to counsel with the students, faculty, or parents.
23. That a written progress report be provided to all parents for each reporting period.
24. That there be an eventual establishment of a single superintendent over

education, dormitory and plant.

25. That a weekly public information program be broadcast over the local radio stations and that this program be presented by the school community.
26. That a non-monitoring P-A system should be provided for the entire building.
27. That adequate financing, teacher guidance and support for a bi-weekly offset printed school newspaper be provided.
28. That a detailed, publicised, job description be provided for every member of the administration, faculty, and staff.
29. That a program of volunteer parental aids should be encouraged in the classroom and at other functions.
30. That clear procedural channels should be provided for both student and faculty communication with the administration and with each other.
31. That the name William E. Beltz Regional High School be adopted until/and if such time as the whole issue of school symbology can be reviewed by the school community.
32. That there be discouragement of the tendency to identify the dormitory students as one group and the town students as another group.
33. That finances should be provided for teachers and administration travel to the villages.
34. That a citizens lobby group go to Juneau and ask for more money to run the school and provide for specific recommendations made by the C. C. C.
35. That funds and full support be provided for the position of Community Coordinator (this position being separate from the position of Home-School Coordinator)
36. That there be more frequent transportation between the school and town.
37. That truancy problems be immediately referred to the persons responsible for that student (dorm personnel, parent, sponsor or guardian).

38. That a truancy program and officer be provided.
39. That the dormitory staff be expanded to provide decent dormitory facilities and better supervision of dormitory students.
40. That the C. C. C. be requested to continue its program throughout the school year.
41. That all regulations decided upon should be placed in the appropriate handbook whether student, faculty, administration, or school board.