Principals study policy

By VALERIE MEEHAN

A tough attendance policy was rejected by the Mat-Su Borough School Board Monday night, because it would exempt Palmer High School.

"I have a real problem with this, I feel we’re dividing into two districts," School Board Member Pat Hummicker said of the proposal, which is a watered-down version of the pilot commissioner said High School, but much stricter than the current district-wide rules. It would have applied to Susitna Valley and Wasilla high schools.

"If it’s not good enough for the third school, it shouldn’t be good enough for the other two," said School Board Member Pat O’Hara.

Palmer High School Principal Charlie Akers’ opposition stopped the proposal from becoming a district policy. He said he does not oppose the thrust of the stricter attendance regulations, but thinks more study is needed.

"It needs to be carefully looked at from all angles," Akers said. "It’s the most important thing in any district, the only one we use every day."

Because of Susitna Valley High School’s interest in the 1984-85 Wasilla pilot attendance policy, the two schools’ principals and assistant principals drafted a commencing the accounting system, said Odsather.

The bingles were minted to simplify the paperwork, with the debt being recorded in $30 amounts each month, and the coins being used for small purchases. They were also traded between individuals for small transactions, said Odsather.

While there are very few original bingles still around, the dies for the minting were recently discovered in Seattle and a commemorative minting has been done for the upcoming 50th Year Colony Celebration.

The celebration committee has had 2,500 complete sets of the coins minted, and they are being sold to help pay for expenses of the celebration.

The Colony Days celebration is scheduled for the weekend of June 7, 8 and 9 in Palmer. It will honor the families who came up from farms in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan to Alaska as part of a Federal Emergency Relief Administration plan in 1935.

Commemorative sets of bingles can be purchased at the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corp. building at 248 East Dahlia St. in Palmer.