

ADOPTED MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING - The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on the date and place mentioned above.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by President McMahon at 5:07 PM.

PRESENT: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: By President McMahon at 5:08 PM to discuss Student Discipline/Expulsion/Readmit (1 case); Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release; Conference with Labor Negotiator Laurie McLachlan-Fry: AEA, CSEA, ACSA; Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9 (2 cases).

RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION: by President McMahon at 6:33 PM.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Franklin Elementary School students and Principal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF: Board Members and staff present introduced themselves.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA/APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

MOVED: Member Jensen

SECONDED: Member Tam

That the Board of Education adopt the agenda as submitted with the following change: move items F-7 and F-8 after G-3; move items F-9, F-10, F-11, and F-13 to the end of the public agenda.

AYES: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

CONSENT CALENDAR – The Board of Education approved the following consent items (such items are identified by a plus (+) mark in the body of these minutes):

+Certificated Personnel Actions: The Board of Education approved 6 appointments (Carmona, Pauw, Reed, Rodrigues, Warfield, Yan); 3 releases from temporary contract (Hamill, Turbin, White); 2 leaves of absence (Nguyen, Otieku); 3 changes of status (Hicks, Smith-Pratt, Struble).

+Classified Personnel Actions: The Board of Education approved 6 appointments (Antiporda, Bedard, Freed, Garcia, Barnes, Gordon); 3 retirements (Andren, Delsid, Galli); 1 termination (Pespitro); 9 changes of status (Carter, Coakley, D’Costa, Edwards, Fierro, Hodge, Idle, Mahrus, Sofranac).

+Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers The Board approved warrants numbered 798049-798050, 798079-798083, 798051-798073, 798084-798168, 798169-798296, 798297-798391, 798393-798469, 798473-798518, 798526-798531, 798532-798593, 798594, 798597-798609, 798612-798668, 798669, 748837, 748900, 798032, 798292.

+Resolution No. 09-0001 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases

+California High School Exit Exam Waiver for Students with Special Needs

+Resolution No. 09-0003 Appointment of Board of Education Signatories

+Approval of High School Course Description for Calculus BC

+Approval of Donations

COMMUNICATIONS - ORAL:

Theresa Lee, WCDC, addressed the Board regarding her experience with prejudice on the job site. Ms. Lee urged the Board to seek a remedy for institutionalized racism and tag team racism in 2009.

Patricia Sanders, AEA President, noted her support for Ms. Lee, adding that ongoing incidents of institutionalized racism occur in the District still, and she echoed the hope that the Board would take Ms. Lee's comments seriously. Ms. Sanders noted this is an opportunity to continue courageous conversations.

President McMahon noted that the Superintendent will follow-up. Member Spencer thanked Ms. Lee for coming forward.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the special meeting of December 9, 2008 were considered.

MOVED: Member Mooney

SECONDED: Member Jensen

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the special meeting of December 9, 2008 as submitted.

AYES: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

Written Correspondence: None at this time.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Kirsten Vital noted in her first week and a half, she has been out visiting school sites, walking classrooms with principals and meeting students, teachers and parents. Several of the walks have been conducted jointly with AEA President Patricia Sanders, who will continue to accompany Superintendent Vital on some visits in the future as well. Superintendent Vital has also been conducting several one-on-one meetings with community members and noted she feels welcomed by everyone. Superintendent Vital added she has been listening and learning, and understanding the strengths and challenges of Alameda, and will be reporting back what she believes to be our next steps. Staff attended a budget workshop in Sacramento on Monday, and Superintendent Vital noted thanks for Measure H, as Alameda voters have been very supportive of the District and Measure H dollars will help us through these grim times. On January 27, staff will return to the Board and the public with a full budget presentation in terms of the impact of the Governor's budget. Superintendent Vital deferred to Chief Fiscal Officer, Tim Rahill, for more information about the budget workshop in Sacramento.

Mr. Rahill noted the proposed state budget for 2009/10 included mid-year adjustments for the current year. There is no Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) proposed for next year, and the deficit factor will be adjusted for an additional net impact of a 2.5% take back, which would be over an addition \$1M for

Alameda. Alameda has locally taken some action to provide local funds through Measure H to assist us through these tough times, but we are facing additional things outside of the state budget crisis – declining enrollment – and we will need to make adjustments accordingly. In working with the new Charter School, if it opens in September, that will also take students out of our existing schools. We will be sharing those impacts at the January 27 meeting.

CALENDAR REVIEW: President McMahon reviewed the Board Calendar of Events. Member Spencer added that the County is offering a Latino Education Summit on January 24 from 8 AM – 1 PM at Cal State East Bay for students interested in applying for college. The Summit is free of charge.

President McMahon thanked the community for their generous donations.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT: There was no action taken in Closed Session.

Employee of the Month

The employee recognition program is a District-wide program to promote a greater appreciation of District employees and the publicly honor special employees for outstanding service which directly or indirectly contributes to students in the Alameda Unified School District. Each month, at the first Board meeting of the month, those employees selected will be recognized by the Board with a presentation by the President of the Board and the Superintendent of Schools. The person so honored is Javier Rivera – Custodian, Encinal High School.

Laurie McLachlan-Fry, Chief Human Resources Officer, introduced Encinal Principal Mike Cooper to read the nomination poem by Teacher Gene Kahane.

Recognition of Encinal High School Football Team NCS Division III Champions

Superintendent Vital introduced the item. In an amazing North Coast Section (NCS) Championship game, the Encinal High School Jets defeated the Novato Hornets 35-28. The Jets finished their NCS run undefeated with 13 wins and 0 losses and are only the second Encinal football team to win the North Coast Championship.

Earlier in the year, Head Coach Joe Tenorio was named the Oakland Raiders' High School Coach of the Week and awarded with \$1,000 for the football program. He was also ultimately named the Oakland Raiders' High School Coach of the Year and awarded with \$1,000 for the Encinal football program.

The Board recognized this achievement by presenting a certificate to Principal Mike Cooper.

Student Board Member Reports

Island High School Student Representative Kesete noted Island's first graduate; 13 students returning to AHS/EHS; Leadership fundraising for Close-Up Trip.

Encinal High School Student Representative Reed noted students are awaiting next year's calendar; Girls Basketball is undefeated; Finals in 2 weeks; 23 students attending the inauguration with the Close Up Program; college acceptance letters are coming in; DECA members are back from regionals and placed 4th, 3 members placed in the top 3; new computer lab has no chairs; WASC report is nearly finished.

ASTI Student Representative Ramos added Thursday is the first info night – the second will be February 10; new dress code; English teachers reading college applications and scoring for UC Berkeley; Leadership class project for children's hospitals; working closely with Ruby Bridges for tutoring services; Club Officers orientation 1/23; Media Studies class working on a logo.

Alameda High School Representative Quach noted Unity Week, Spirit Week Assembly; FAFSA meeting; WASC report; AVID students attending Close Up trip for Inauguration; 8th grade info night; Winter Ball next Friday; Saturday – Race Against Hunger; finals in 2 weeks.

Proclamation: African American History Month

Member Jensen introduced the item. Annually, the Board of Education recognizes the countless contributions that African Americans have made and proclaims February as African American History Month.

The observance calls our attention to the extraordinary contributions African Americans have made to the rich cultural history of our nation. Each February, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History proposes a national theme for African American History Month. This year’s theme is *The Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas*. African American History Month gives us the opportunity to recognize the continued need to build a society that embraces diversity and fully lives up to its democratic ideals. As the NAACP marks its centennial, the progress of black citizenship cannot be better symbolized than by the election of Barack Obama as the President of the United States. His election as the first American president of African descent will mark a defining moment in American history.

MOVED: Member Jensen

SECONDED: Member Tam

That the Board of Education approve the Proclamation for African American History Month as presented.

AYES: Jensen, McMahan, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Proclamation: Season for Non-Violence, January 30, 2009 through April 4, 2009

Member Jensen introduced the item. A Season for Nonviolence, January 30 – April 4, 2009 is a national 64-day educational, media, and grassroots campaign dedicated to demonstrating that nonviolence is a powerful way to heal, transform, and empower our lives and our communities. Inspired by the memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., this international event honors their vision for an empowered, non-violent world.

A Season for Nonviolence encourages students to participate in this celebration by being non-violent in their actions and interactions with each other in their homes, schools, places of religious observance, and public places, and supporting programs and projects conducted in the spirit of nonviolence.

MOVED: Member Jensen

SECONDED: Member Mooney

That the Board of Education approve the Proclamation for A Season for Non-Violence, January 30, 2009 through April 4, 2009 as presented.

AYES: Jensen, McMahan, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Curriculum & Instruction: Strategic Instruction Model (SIM)

Assistant Superintendent Debbie Wong introduced the item. To address the District’s goal of increasing student achievement for all students while closing the achievement gap, AUSD adopted a District-wide initiative called Strategic Instruction Model (SIM), which is a set of researched validated instructional tools and strategies within a Content Literacy Continuum (CLC). The CLC is a framework to develop systems leading to aligned adolescent literacy instruction in secondary schools from the Center for Research on Learning at the University of Kansas. The components from the CLC include: enhanced

content instruction, embedded strategy instruction, and intensive strategy instruction. This model benefits all students, from struggling to advanced learners, who will use these strategies across all content areas. The goal is to provide our secondary teachers and students with the curriculum and instructional strategies to improve their literacy so that our students will become proficient learners, pass the CAHSEE, and graduate high school and beyond. Resources and infrastructure were aligned to develop a long-term plan to lead and sustain this work. Over 115 teachers have attended a 5-day training institute in two venues: Content Enhancement Routines (CER) and Strategic Literacy Course – Fusion. During the year, these teachers are supported by monthly coaching sessions by CER or Fusion experts. Site administrators have participated in SIM administrative training throughout this and last year focused on leading and supporting this effort. A secondary literacy leads team of site administrators, literacy teacher coordinators/coaches, and District administrators meet regularly to plan, advise, and problem solve areas of need along the implementation.

Teachers will provide an update on the second year of implementation at two school sites, Alameda High School and Island School.

Ms. Wong introduced teachers Allison Lee, Sandy Wong, Amy McGuire, and Kim Kelly to complete the presentation. The presentation reviewed the history of SIM and its implementation in AUSD.

Member Spencer asked if strategies are applicable to all subjects. Ms. Kelly noted that although developed primarily for literacy strategies, content enhancement can be used in any class and all different content areas. Member Tam added that he visited AHS recently and Principal Janvier is very supportive and feels the strategies will make a real difference for AHS students.

Member Mooney thanked the teachers for their presentation and work with strategies, and asked what more can we, the District, do to help. Ultimately, this is about teaching kids and students succeeding. We need to make sure that these strategies are implemented and used appropriately across the District.

Member Spencer asked if these strategies are shared with parents – maybe via an assembly – so parents can reinforce at home what is being taught in the classroom. President McMahan noted in his own experience with his children, they continue to use these strategies in every day life. President McMahan added that he attended the 07/08 weeklong class, and noted the change from disoriented and skeptical first day attendees to engaged and enthusiastic participants as the training went on. This can also become a significant recruiting tool to show what type of learning community Alameda is moving towards.

Information Regarding Technology Network Upgrades

Jess Stephens, Director of Technology, introduced the item. AUSD is in the process of requesting bids for the upgrade of the District's Wide Area Network (WAN). The network equipment is over five years old and failing at an alarming rate. Additionally, the existing network configuration supplied by AP&T is over 10 years old. The existing infrastructure is incapable of supporting current educational technology needs. This was demonstrated during the recent Presidential Election when we opened up the network filters for news updates and commentaries. The additional traffic load caused the network and virtually all district computers to come to a massive slowdown. Technology Services is soliciting bids to replace and upgrade the network using Federal E-rate funding.

A robust network infrastructure is needed to meet the District's identified needs of integrating technology to improve student learning; provide equitable technology access and support; provide secure, timely information flow between home, school, and community.

Mr. Stephens illustrated that the District is only able to use 5% of the capacity that exists on the network. The output of all our equipment should be 1GB, but is currently under 3MB. A multi-point network

redesign is needed so that every site is only 1 hop to the District Office.

Our network is in dire straits. The fiscal implications of the network redesign would be \$100,000 to \$150,000 per year after discounts, plus additional one-time costs of \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Member Mooney asked about the current relationship with AP&T regarding network infrastructure. Mr. Stephens responded that due to a previous lawsuit, the District was given a free network for 10 years. This will run out May 2010. AP&T has sold that part of the business to Comcast, and AP&T has declined to bid on a new network, but will be giving a price quote for the District to remain on the existing ring. However, the existing ring will not be eligible for discounts and is not a bid process. We cannot request grant money or matching funds.

Member Spencer asked if this is the best approach to take – how was this approach decided and who was involved? Has this been shared with parents and community members who may have ideas of what else we could do? Mr. Stephens noted that the process is outlined in the federal E-rate bid process. Mr. Stephens noted his 35 years experience in setting up networks and noted in his opinion, the new network redesign is the best configuration for the District.

Member Spencer asked if the new network has already been budgeted. Mr. Rahill responded that in the transition with the new Superintendent and CFO, it was brought to his attention that conversations occurred. However, it would not be in the current year budget, but could be reflected in the multi-year projections. It would be about \$200K in the 09/10 budget and \$50K out of general fund.

Superintendent Vital noted that staff plans to come back with the Technology Plan to look at phones, e-mail, replacements, updates, etc., but because of the E-rate deadline, this item was brought forward this evening. The Technology Plan will be presented at the next Board meeting, which will show a greater framework.

Member McMahon added that the public needs to weigh in on the Technology Plan overall because we need to discuss how we balance the need to move the District into the 21st century against our fiscal realities.

Budget Development Calendar for 2009/10

The budget development calendar is a tool to assist the District in its budget development. It outlines the major timelines, the necessary actions, and persons responsible in order to successfully develop the District's budget.

While not required by law, staff recommends the Board of Education adopt the budget calendar to guide the District as we navigate through another difficult budget year.

As a district, we are once again faced with making difficult decisions. Developing the budget in a timely manner will allow us to make sound financial decisions to ensure we maximize the use of our limited resources.

Member Jensen asked about potential layoffs. Ms. McLachlan-Fry noted that at the March 10 Board Meeting, this item would be brought forward as the March 15 deadline falls on a Sunday.

Member Mooney added he would like to talk about having study sessions and a different type of budget process with an equity lens as to how we allocate our resources. Superintendent Vital added that she has discussed with Executive Cabinet about looking at the evaluation of programs to be clear on what we're investing and how much, and how to meet our District goals. We are looking at a budget form and

staffing levels. Staff will be doing that work and presenting the data to the Board and the public.

Member Spencer noted that it is important to present the budget to the community in a way they can easily understand. When have we scheduled community workshops? Be clear and simple about what money comes in, how, when, and how it is being spent. We are struggling with prioritizing how to spend money, but it needs to be as clear as possible to allow for valuable community input.

MOVED: Member Mooney

SECONDED: Member Tam

That the Board of Education approve the Budget Development Calendar for 2009/10 as presented.

AYES: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Public Hearing – Approval of Proposed School Calendar for 2009/2010

The District and the Association have achieved a tentative agreement on the 2009/2010 calendar. It is clear that no calendar serves all needs for all people. Ultimately, it is for the negotiating parties to balance issues in any given year in a manner that seems most appropriate, and to produce a calendar both the District and the Association can accept.

The Association conducted its vote and has ratified the calendar submitted.

Member Spencer noted this item is up for a vote, but this is the first time it is being presented. When is the opportunity for parents to provide input? Ms. McLachlan-Fry noted the scheduling of the school calendar is part of the AEA and District bargaining agreement. This is an item that the teachers association brings their members together to vote on and bring to the Board for a final vote.

Member Spencer added that we are now on a very traditional calendar, which doesn't seem like a compromise for those who used to be on a year round option. Some parents have an issue with that and should be allowed time for input. Private schools take into consideration what their parents are looking for, especially in regards to what days parents are traditionally off of work. With regards to the October staff development, why wasn't the day planned for October 12 – Columbus Day – a day when many parents do not have to work? Having it on another day just creates daycare issues. Member Spencer added she surveyed several organizations that provide care and asked about drop-in coverage, and most organizations do not offer it or are too expensive, which could create a hardship for many families and working parents.

Ms. McLachlan-Fry noted that AEA does want to work with the community and other bargaining units to explore less traditional calendars and are working hard to make an effort in that direction.

Member Jensen concurred with the daycare issues raised by Member Spencer, and asked staff to find out from our providers what could be done to accommodate students on those off days.

President McMahon opened the Public Hearing at 8:17 PM. One speaker addressed the Board noting budget issues. President McMahon closed the Public Hearing at 8:19 PM.

Member McMahon noted it would be ideal if we had some type of workshop around the calendar earlier in the year in order to have a calendar adopted by September/October moving forward.

MOVED: Member Jensen

SECONDED: Member Mooney

That the Board of Education approve School Calendar for 2009/2010 as presented.

