

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 Mooney at 5:30 PM.

PRESENT: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION TOPICS: None at this time.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION by President Mooney at 5:32 PM to consider:

A-2a. Student Discipline/Expulsion/Re-admit (X cases)

A-2b. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release – Pursuant to Subdivision 54957

A-2c. Conference with Labor Negotiators – Pursuant to Subdivision 54957.6

Agency designated representatives: Tom Rust, Director of Human Resources Officer and Danielle Houck, General Counsel

Employee organizations: AEA, CSEA

Unrepresented Employees: Management, Psychologists, Behavioral Specialists, Occupational Therapists, Confidential

A-2e. Conference with Real Property Negotiators – Pursuant to Section 54956.8

(1) Property: Krusi Park, Lincoln & Godfrey Parks, AHS Gymnasiums, Swim Centers, Tilden Park, Woodstock Park, Rittler Park, Bayport Park, Thompson Field, Encinal Field, 2200 Central Ave., Alameda, CA

Agency Negotiators: Danielle Houck, General Counsel and Kirsten Vital, Superintendent

Negotiating Parties: City of Alameda

Under Negotiation: Joint Use Agreement

A-2f. Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Pursuant to Section 54957

Title: Superintendent

RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION: By President Mooney at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Student Board Members Ryan Hunter and Elizabeth Dietz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MODIFICATION(S) OF THE AGENDA: None at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None at this time.

MOTION: Member McMahon

SECONDED: Member Mooney

Consent Item E-15 is no longer a pending item, our calendar has now been approved by the AEA with a start date of August 19th, and this concludes the report.

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Written Correspondence: None at this time.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Vital reviewed site visits and other news.

Public Comments:

Mr. Kurt Peterson

Mr. Peterson had a concern about the Board Meetings taking place in the Alameda H.S. cafeteria. His concern is that the meetings are not televised and because the public has made a tremendous contribution to the district, the district should make every effort to have the meetings televised.

Superintendent Vital stated that the City Council has their own meetings already scheduled and cannot always accommodate us. She also said that AUSD cannot move the dates of the board meetings because the calendar is set at the beginning of the school year.

Mr. Lil Arnerich

Mr. Arnerich offered the board his assistance in dealing with city parks and recreation in property negotiations and agreements. He asked if anyone would like any information on how to begin the process to please contact him. He complimented the school board, the volunteers, students and families that came together for the passing of Measure A, it was a remarkable job. He then gave an analogy of a commercial that shows parents giving a child the car keys, and explaining the responsibilities of driving a car. He told the board members that the citizens of Alameda had placed a great responsibility on them with the passing of the parcel tax. He asked that they take the job, do it well and do what they think is best for the students of Alameda. He also asked that the board members answer to the needs of students, and certainly to the parents, and commended them for a job well done. On behalf of his family and wife Norma, Mr. Arnerich presented the board with a bottle of champagne. Mr. Arnerich again thanked the board, and told them he knew they were going to do the job they were elected to do.

Fi Murphy

Fi Murphy spoke about budget cuts that schools are facing, and asked for some time to present an alternative to fundraising. She said it was a new idea, not regular fundraising but a charitable activity that would help schools raise money. Board member Mooney asked her to contact him or the Superintendent to see if it could be put on a meeting agenda.

Ms. Patricia Sanders

Ms. Sanders spoke of her concern that approximately 100 teachers received lay-off notices and most of them were sent out in spite of the passing of Measure A. She said she was ashamed and didn't understand why the district was not rescinding the letters. Teachers are upset and don't understand why they are getting layed-off. She said it didn't make sense to her that the district lost 100 teachers between last year and this year, and now it's another 100. She wants to be able to tell the teachers that AUSD intends to keep them.

Report of Student Board Members:

Student Board Member Ryan Hunter from Alameda H.S. noted that students were happy to be back from spring break. The seniors were receiving exit portfolios, and getting test results back. He gave dates for Jr. Prom and Sr. Prom, and said that counselors were working hard on class schedules for next school year.

Student Board Member Elizabeth Dietz from ASTI reported that teacher Daniel Souza had passed away the previous week. The school had been holding activities to celebrate his life over the past 2 days, and were planning a memorial service the following week. She also reported that seniors were receiving acceptance letters from colleges all over.

Calendar Review: President Mooney reviewed the calendar of events for Board Members.

Closed Session Action Report: No action was taken in Closed Session.

Adoption of the Consent Calendar:

MOTION: Member Mooney

SECONDED: Member Sherratt

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Certificated Personnel Actions:

Classified Personnel Actions:

Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers:

Approval and Acceptance of Donations

Resolution No. 11-0027 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases

Resolution No. 11-0030 Board of Education Approval Granting Authority for ASB Accounts

Proclamation: Public Schools Month

Proclamation: Cesar Chavez Day March 31, 2011

Proclamation: California Poppy Day April 6, 2011

Approval of Amendment of MOU Between AUSD and Bay Area Community Resources for 21st Century ASSETS-Funded High School After-School Program Services

Approval of Amendment of MOU Between AUSD and Bay Area Community Resources for 21st Century ASSETS-Funded Elementary and Middle School After-School Program Services

Approval of Encinal High School "Close Up" Field Trip to Washington, D.C. May 21-May 27, 2011

Approval of Encinal and Alameda H.S. DECA Students to attend International Career Development Conference Field Trip to Orlando, FL April 30-May 3, 2010

Approval of 2011-2012 School Year Calendar Pending Ratification by the Alameda Education Association (AEA)

F-1 Highlighting Alameda H.S.

Kelly Lara presented a power point on the highlights of Alameda H.S. Her topics included: Teacher Professional Development, and Coaching and Support using the SIM intervention program with a focus on Literacy, Math, Science, English, and Social Studies. Students recently took a trip to France with the French club, and the Associated Student Body Leadership fundraised for the Alameda Food Bank and hosted a campus wide blood drive. AHS Students have been awarded for their academics and civic mindedness with 4 National Merit Finalists and 1 Jefferson Award Winner. She spoke about the exceptional art program at AHS and talked about their accomplishments; 1) the drama program had produced both a Fall play and a Spring musical, 2) the arts department was beginning its yearly student murals around campus, and 3) the music program has been invited to perform in Chicago over spring break.

A board member asked the following: The SIM presentation shows that 10-25 teachers have received training; how many are using it and do they provide training to their staff?

Kelly Lara responded that all 25 teachers are implementing the strategies and they have a 1:1 coach that is able to work with them to help with the implementation in the classroom; the coach also observes and provides feedback.

A board member congratulated her and said it looks like things are going very well.

F-2 A Season for Non-Violence Daily Reading

Sean McPhetridge, Assistance Superintendent, introduced the item. A Season for Non-Violence is a national 64-day 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 starts January 30 and ends April 4 and thus honors their vision for an empowered, non-violent world.

Daily readings are just one of the highlighted activities practiced during the season. This is our last daily reading and is based on the principle of *openness*.

Openness

Openness: Today's principle from A Season for Nonviolence is OPENNESS. Not listening to a person because they look different or might have different ideas than you, you are building a fence around yourself, and you might be missing out on making a new friend or learning something new. One way to practice openness today would be to think of someone you never wanted to talk to before and start a conversation with that person.

F-3 Career Technical Education Presentation for the California Partnership Academy at Encinal H.S. and Grant Application

Donna Wyatt gave a presentation on California Partnership Academy at Encinal H.S., and the Grant Application. She introduced information on CPA's and how they originated, the academic courses offered, the school atmosphere with an emphasis on student achievement, the selection process, and the funding. She presented data that included; percentages of sophomore students who passed CAHSEE, narrowing the achievement gap for Black and Hispanic students, meeting UC "a-g" requirements for college eligibility, graduation rates, and graduation rates by ethnicity. She then presented information about the planning process involved in establishing the Encinal High Digital Media Arts Academy (DMAA), the proposed structure, the funding and the timeline for the CPA Grant announcement. She also talked about the development of a Medical Assisting program at Island H.S., a Public and Social Service Pathway & Green Construction and Design program at Encinal. For more information, please visit our website at: http://www.alameda.k12.ca.us/images/stories/pdfs/boemtg/boe_032911_f3ppt.pdf

The Superintendent shared that she appreciated the level of strategic intentionality, and feels like we are getting clear about what young people really want and what really will help them be college ready.

The discussion centered around funding, types of courses offered, whether or not parents and students were part of the process, and if the board was going to take action on this item.

A board member asked why they board had to vote on it and by voting on it were they committing AUSD money?

A board member asked about in-kind funds.

Sean McPhetridge explained that in-kind matching funds provide lots of flexibility like ETT funding and local funding. The board could use the parcel tax, but he had no doubt that in-kind funds would be used.

A board member asked if the money could also be spent on classroom intervention.

A board member asked if the grant was due immediately and could this item be an information item.

Sean McPhetridge stated that the grant had already been submitted. The anticipation is that we would be approved at the state funding level, but the timeline was pushed back. The risk for AUSD is \$15,000 for 2011 and the schools have said they would use TIIG funds; and \$42,000 the year after from other in-kind sources.

A board member asked for some examples of in-kind funding.

Robert Shemwell gave examples of in-kind as; the designation of a specific counselor to counsel students, how much time the counselor spends counseling students, the use of a classroom, electricity, chairs, materials, field trips – it's hardly ever monetary support.

Patricia Sanders stated that these types of programs have extraordinary value to our kids. Her concern was bringing the action forward without public weigh-in. She said she would like to see a process followed by all before bringing it to the board. She said it was about equity and all community members being involved in the process to benefit their students.

A board member commented about the protocol of bringing items as first an information item and then as an action item.

A board member commented that since this is not school site council money, it does not have to be approved by the parents.

Sean McPhetridge talked about the staff that has worked on this project, and asked the board to wait until the initial notice for the grant (that they anticipated having on March 14th). At that time he said he would bring it back to the board as an action item.

Mr. Peterson, community member commented that if this is just now being presented, he didn't understand how the public can act if it hasn't been presented as an action item. How can you expect to get interaction from the public? He also asked about in-kind money, and what the offset was going to be. He said the community did not want to see a blank sheet, they want to see it spelled out; his hope is that more of that happens here. He stated that Education is a business if you have a budget and asked for more detailed information.

Discussion centered on classes being offered, the 12th grade UC a-g classes, and which UC a-g courses are approved courses.

A board member stated that he was very supportive of this program, especially the Go Green Program.

F-4 Resolution No. 11-0029 Approval of Paden, Ruby Bridges Boundary Changes

Kirsten Zazo presented proposed boundary changes at Ruby Bridges and Paden. She gave an overview of the need to look at the boundary lines due to overcrowding. She presented charts for student numbers at Ruby Bridges and the potential increase in projected enrollment coming from Bay Port. She gave information on Paden's enrollment, and the proposed boundary changes between Ruby Bridges and Paden for 11-12 school year. She also presented information on what families would be affected and what the distance (walking & driving) would be, what streets would be affected and pointed out both the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed boundary changes.

The board members had the following questions:

How many families would be disrupted and had this been discussed at the PTA meetings?

Kirsten Zazo replied that a letter had been sent home to parents informing them that there might be a boundary change. Kirsten said she had gone to the Esperanza's where most of the families live to let them know about the proposed changes and said it had been discussed at school meetings as something that is in the works.

Why we were only looking at these two schools (RB & Paden) and not the entire district?

Kirsten Zazo explained that when staff looked at the enrollment issues, the only place that data showed we needed a boundary change was Paden and RB because of over enrollment.

Why are we sending students to Paden as opposed to Haight?

Kirsten Zazo answered that it was the least amount of disruption to families (walking and driving) and the closest in proximity. Ruby Bridges was the school identified by the board as being overcrowded. She said that we could look at other options and bring it back to the board.

A board member stated that he would like to have a conversation about choosing boundary lines.

Kirsten Zazo explained that she was using Mac Point for the projections and the program had the ability to draw lines down certain streets and see what the enrollment changes would be. She said the hope was that some families would choose Paden and some would choose Ruby Bridges.

A board member stated that the district had previously closed 2 schools and the Summer House apartments had the capacity to generate maximum enrollment, and asked about the capacity of Paden School.

Kirsten Zazo answered that currently Paden has 24 classrooms; the district is hoping to get it down to 17.

A board member asked whether 6th grade was going to be added to Paden and if a classroom was available for 6th grade?

Sean McPhetridge said that this issue was up for discussion.

A board member asked about sibling preference and families not having a choice and would like to have a discussion about sibling preference and include it in board policy.

A board member was concerned about families not being able to send all their children to the same school.

A board member asked about boundaries that go down 1 street – would parents be able to choose a school site.

Kirsten Zazo said that current policy states that we would give 1st preference to a sibling, but only the ones that are listed on the registration cards of current students. The Superintendent said that we could look at taking the sibling piece as a resolution to the board that says we value keeping families together.

Mr. Peterson, community member asked for an explanation of the current capacity of Summer House and about changing the boundary street.

E-4 Ratification of Contracts Pursuant to board Policy 3300 and Resolution No. 09-0064

The discussion turned to the Christy White audit firm out of San Diego that the district is using.

A board member asked about using the same auditors all the time, and whether or not we had to use a firm from San Diego.

Robert Shemwell said that State law requires us to perform audits, as well as a separate audit for bond measures. The district selected this audit firm previously and continues to work with them. He said that eventually the district would select a different auditing firm.

A board member asked about the 1st contract for \$10,000 and if that contract included travel expenses?

Robert Shemwell said that it was a 3-year project and by contracting for 3 years the district received a better rate. He also said that if a district has audit findings every year, we're better off working with the same firm because they have been working through the audits with us.

A board member asked if the district had a history of choosing this firm (Christie White) every year.

Robert Shemwell said he chose this firm and yes, they had been working with us prior but under a different name.

A board member asked about paying additional travel fees for an audit firm from San Diego?

Robert Shemwell answered that he felt the proposal was competitive but fair.

A board member asked whether the district had received bids from other firms.

Robert Shemwell answered that he did not put out other bids; he chose to go with Christie White because the district had audit findings and this firm had worked through some of the findings, he wanted to continue to work with them through the remainder of the findings.

Superintendent Vital said the value is consistency and if the board wants some kind of policy that looks at local firms, then legal services can follow up on this.

A board member commented on the overall cost of a firm from San Diego with travel expenses versus the overall lower price of hiring a local firm.

MOTION: Member McMahon

That the Board of Education approve the Kristie White contract

SECONDED: Member Mooney

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Tam

NOES: Spencer

MOTION CARRIED

Member Spencer voted no because the contract is for a 3-year \$180,000 contract, including \$30,000 travel expenses, and it was not bid out.

Board Member Reports

Member McMahon attended a 3-day training session in San Francisco for group that work primarily with educators to effectively design meetings, particularly staff meetings.

Member Spencer attended a Let's Move Alameda meeting to join President Obama and Michelle Obama to fight childhood obesity, she encouraged all to join.

Member Sherratt said she was looking forward to her 1st Distinguished School Team meeting.

Adjournment

President Mooney adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM