

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 6:33 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 (1case)

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-2d. Conference with Legal Counsel Existing Litigation – Pursuant to Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9

(1) Beery *et. al.* v. AUSD, and Borikas, *et. al.* v. AUSD consolidated Case #RG 08-405984

(2) D.V. v. AUSD, Case #FG 11557802

(3) J.G. v. AUSD, Case #RG 10548623

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

(1) Property: Bay Farm School

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

Negotiating Parties: Community of Harbor Bay Isle

Under Negotiation: License Agreement for Security Services

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

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Edison School 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.

Written Correspondence: None at this time.

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

Public Comments:

Community member Greg Malden spoke about the potential boundary changes to Paden and Ruby Bridges. Ruby Bridges will potentially grow in the next few years, and families agree that the need for space is there given the large percent of students on free or reduced lunch. Is there a way to reduce the number of students that we have now in grades 4 and 5? Will all current students be diverted to Paden? If so, we want to know. We recognize that there is no easy answer for the greater good, and we may not be able to provide the support to teachers and administrators for quality education.

Community member Mr. Kurt Peterson had a question about the location of the Board Meeting. When we meet in Alameda High School's cafeteria, are the meetings being recorded? He requested a copy of the needs assessment study on the pools. He asked the Board to make sure the meetings are recorded in some manner, word for word in their entirety.

Community member Mr. Robert Ploss commented on the pools. He stated that this is a major civic enterprise and beyond the scope of the report. He was pleased to hear that the parcel tax passed, but said that the closing of the pools will have a major impact on this community. The cost for a new pool is understated, the report is not ready, and it also contains erroneous information. With the operating cost and 1 gas meter, why is there only one PG&E bill? The pools seem to be locked together in a one-or-all package. He would like to see this addressed.

Patricia Sanders, AEA President, asked for community support with the California State Tax Increase ballot proposition that could potentially go to the voters in June. The state needs a unanimous vote by the 2nd week in May to put a measure on the June ballot. She said it would be a week-long action that would involve teachers and the community, a state-wide effort with the hope that it has a huge impact. We just came together in a huge way as a community and we are well positioned to help Sacramento with this bill. Perhaps they will listen and our efforts will be recognized like it was for the parcel tax. She asked that the community let her know if anyone wanted to join, they would be going during the week of May 9-13, which is during the week of "*Day of the Teacher*."

Superintendent Vital said that when we meet in the cafeteria at Alameda H.S., it is protocol not to record these meetings. She also said that any information, including reports for our board meetings, is on the district website. She said the intention of the pools report is for the community to work together with the district to see what can be done. She agreed that 4 million dollars is grossly understated and said the purpose of the report is to get the information out to the community to let them know that we are committed to finding a long term solution together collectively.

Report of Student board members:

ASTI student board member Elizabeth Dietz reported that Friday's memorial service for Daniel Souza was very graceful and well attended. She announced that ASTI's prom was going to be held on Saturday, April 16th from 8:00-12:00 PM at the Officers Club at the former Naval Air Base. She also announced that the following week was Spirit Week and the students dressed differently each day – a very fun activity!

EHS student board member Bhaani Singh reported that March 30th was 8th grade information night for parents and it was a huge success. She said that the class of 2016 will be fabulous! She made the following announcements; 3rd quarter ended the week before, Encinal's School Musical "Seussical" was running on April 15th & 16th, April 28 was International Night and the seniors were holding a yard sale, car wash and eWaste collection on April 30th for Grad Night. She said that seniors were being accepted into colleges and military academies – and that we are all very proud of them.

Calendar Review: President Mooney reviewed the calendar of events for board members. Board member Spencer added that Earth Day would be held on April 16th.

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

Adoption of the Consent Calendar:

MOTION: Member Mooney

SECONDED: Member McMahon

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

President Mooney thanked the community for their generous donations to the District. Superintendent Vital noted it is “Week of the Public School Administrator” and thanked all District employees for their work.

Certificated Personnel Actions

Classified Personnel Actions

Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers

Ratification of Contracts Pursuant to Board Policy 3300 and Resolution No. 09-0064

Approval and Acceptance of Donations

Resolution No. 11-0032 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases

Approval of the Williams Quarterly Report

Proclamation: Administrative Professionals Day – April 27, 2011

Proclamation: John Muir Day – April 21, 2011

Proclamation: Autism Awareness Month

Approval of Lincoln Middle School Trip to Spain from June 20-26, 2011

Approval of Lincoln and Wood Middle School Academy Field Trip to Washington, D.C. from May 21 to May 27, 2011.

Approval of Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AUSD and Academy of Alameda for After School Education and Safety Grant-funded Elementary School Supplemental After-School Program Services for School Year 2010-2011

Approval of Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AUSD and Bay Area Community Resources for After School Education and Safety Grant-funded Elementary School Supplemental After-School Program Services for School Year 2010-2011

Resolution No. 11-0033 Authorizing the District To Enter Into An Agreement With Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS) To Design And Administrate A Supplementary Retirement Plan (SRP) For Eligible Employees Provided There Is Sufficient Employee Participation

Approval of Board Policy Updates/Revisions: BP 4311 Recruitment and Selection of Administrative, Supervisory, Confidential and Licensed Personnel; BP 4300 Administrative, Supervisory, Confidential and Licensed Personnel; BP 4351 Employee Compensation; BP 4314 Transfers of Administrative, Supervisory, Confidential and Licensed Personnel

Thank you to Save Our Schools (SOS) Political Action Committee for Measure A

On behalf of the Board of Education and the Superintendent, Ron Mooney thanked the SOS Political Action Committee for their hard work and efforts in the passing of Measure A. He presented certificates to Michael Robles-Wong, Sarah Olaes, Julie Hong, Brad Hayward, Anne DeBardeleben, and Rob Siltanen, and he also thanked their families for the sacrifices they made. Michael Robles-Wong spoke about how the group came together and made all decisions by consensus. He said it was well worth it and thanked the board, the community and the volunteers for all their support.

Employee of the Month

Tom Rust, Director of Human Resources, introduced the item. The employee recognition program is a district-wide program to promote a greater appreciation of district employees and to publicly honor special employees for outstanding service which directly or indirectly contributes to students in the Alameda Unified School District. Each month, at the Board of Education meeting, those employees selected will be recognized by the Board with a presentation by the President of the Board and the Superintendent of Schools. The persons so honored this month are:

Terry Dominguez, School Office Manager II at Alameda High School

Kelly Lara, Principal at AHS thanked Terry for all her hard work at supporting all students, staff and at supporting her in her new position as principal.

Kristi Ojigbo, Coordinator, Maintenance, Operations & Facilities

Kirsten Zazo said that Kristi has quietly raised the bar for service in her department. Other staff have come to depend on her even in a district where people are doing at least two jobs. Kristi is stepping up making sure all is well at any of our school sites and she maintains a calm quiet can-do attitude. She always turns the recognition to her team and says she is just doing her job. She does it and does it extremely well; she is very much appreciated.

Juanita Williams, Office Manager at Haight School

Mr. Richard Aguirre introduced Juanita as the person who has trained him well in his new position as Principal. He called Juanita dedicated, patient, mild mannered and an outstanding office manager.

The board members congratulated all the nominees.

Highlighting Alameda Unified School District Schools: Edison Elementary School

Marcheta Williams introduced the item and said it was a pleasure to share some of the programs and activities at Edison. She noted that, when she began as a Principal at Edison, their API score was 909, and their score is now at 940. She attributed it to all the hard working teachers, staff and students. She talked about Edison's "Theory of Action" and shared a chart of API growth since 2005. They are fully implementing math multiple methods and are in the process of celebrating Science Night. Edison students suggested that they have a climate committee so they could deal with some of the issues such as playing volleyball on the playground. The committee was formed and some rules were set such as the following: 1) no fighting, 2) listen to the judge and follow the volleyball rules, and 3) don't make up rules. They also have Principal helpers at lunchtime; these are 4th grade students who help monitor K students under direction of Mr. Aitkens. Students are also working diligently each day to recycle materials.

A board member commended Mrs. Williams on her many years of service and for the increase in API scores under her marvelous leadership.

Board members thanked Principal Williams and the Edison students for the presentation

F-4 Update on the Emma Hood and Encinal Swim Centers

Robert Shemwell gave an update on Emma Hood and Encinal Swim Centers. He stated that this was meant to be an open discussion and said he is looking forward to coming up with solutions not only for our district but in serving the needs of our community. He presented an overview of the current operational and financial issues for maintaining both pool facilities and asked the board for direction to address: 1) maintenance and operation of safe and compliant facilities, 2) short-term plan to operate and maintain the pool facilities, and 3) long-term plan to address District and community needs for swim facilities. He gave some background from back in October, when the centers were closed to January when the County re-opened both swim centers. He stated that although the pools were re-opened, there are ramifications if something should happen because of code violations. He said we need to have a plan to deal with repairs because some of the violations could shut the pools down. He talked about district budgets which include general fund, deferred maintenance, and special reserve fund for capital outlay. Meetings were held on March 15th to discuss the Needs Assessment Study and on March 29th with the City-School Subcommittee to discuss the operating agreement. Robert's presentation outlined 2 options: option 1) a possible short-term operating agreement between AUSD and the City or a long-term community solution; or option 2) close the pools down if we do not have a short-term agreement or a long-term plan and the financial costs are too great.

A board member asked about option I phase II and stated that the important thing to recognize was that we need adequate staff and community support working out the long term solution. In order to do this right, we need to have someone to pay attention to this, and we do not have one individual to do that.

A board member wanted to know how they arrived at the pool usage percentages.

Robert Shemwell explained that the City's Park and Recreation Department schedules the time for pool usage which includes our school district. The City went into their database to find out the percentages for pool utilization.

A board member asked if all the school days (180) are being included or excluded as part of the calculation. Are community members able to use the pools from 8:00 – 3:00 during the school day?

Robert Shemwell stated that he did not know.

A board member wanted to know how much money had been spent to date.

Robert Shemwell said the contract was not to exceed \$10,000, but the district had already spent about \$9,970. He also said there was 1 more outstanding invoice and we would probably exceed the \$10,000.

A board member wanted to know if the City/School District Subcommittee would be ongoing.

Robert Shemwell - Yes

Superintendent Vital said that the next meeting would be a joint meeting with City Council and the District. At that time we would ask the Mayor how we could do this collectively. We are looking at a meeting date of May 19th.

Linda Gilchrist, AUSD teacher stated that she was associated with the Alameda swimming community and wanted to thank the Board for stepping up and addressing the problems of the pools. She said that many years ago she requested time to have a master program during the school day – the community does not use the pools during the day and many times the schools cannot get in the pools at night. She said we have a very strong, vibrant swimming community and we will do our best to come up with solutions. She stated that option 2 is absolutely unacceptable: we cannot close the pools. We need to bring the community together to get new pools or fix the ones we have.

Community member Mr. Ploss reiterated Linda's comment and said the problem is the city and school board have to work very hard to get everyone together for a meeting. He said that August is not much time to come up with a plan, and it would be great if PE classes could use the pools, because students do not use the pools anymore. In closing, he asked how could we move faster and how do we get good data if we're going to help with the costs. We need to know how much everything is going to cost, whether or not we're wasting one million dollars, and how can we better spend the money.

Community member Mr. Peterson commented on the schools not using the pools. He said if PE classes are not using the pools, the percentage is very small. You have to look at the costs involved and what the return is for our schools; is it being used properly or are we supplementing a swim group? If the schools are not using the pools, I would think the percentage of school use is smaller than 25%. He asked if maybe we could get donations from anybody who wants to use the pools.

A board member wanted to hear from the City and wanted to know whether or not there is any money. We want to keep having discussions with the City especially about liability issues and working closely with the City in supporting the pools situation. The board member stated the we know the City has severe financial problems and may not be able to fund the changes, but until we get a City Manager, it's going to be a slow process.

A board member talked about the ongoing running of equipment and stated that is was probably less costly to keep them running than to keep turning them off and on. The board member asked about running the pools at capacity level, if we have the ability to scale back, and if we could work with our County Supervisor to get a better understanding of a plan. The board member stated that he would like to see this move forward and that a huge part of Alameda is aquatics, and that's how we need to create our community vision.

A board member thanked the students, parents, and community members for being present and for helping to keep the pools going. The board member said it was extremely important to keep the pools going; our high school pools are being used by the community. The board member wanted to know if there was a way the community could have access to the pools and stated that we should find a better way to make the pools more attractive to the community. The board member also asked about the allocation of funding and for information on how other cities are managing their pools. The board member discussed page 5 of the presentation and said there was absolutely no way our community groups could come up with the costs.

A board member reiterated that the numbers suddenly came out at the last meeting, and in the spirit of how the pools have been running, we could have done a better job. The swimming community is worried about push back, and that's where we have to get to a policy in place and figure out how to do this.

A board member discussed code violations and said they were not priorities. The board member stated that we could not continue to operate and spend money (Aquatic Design has already used up \$10,000) on the findings. The board member

also said it was extremely important that our students have access to the pools here in our town, and it was unfortunate that a community such as Alameda didn't already have a plan in place.

A board member stated that the commitment of the board is definitely clear and transparent in working with the city and community. The board member thanked Robert Shemwell for working on the plan and said that we need to address pool capacity and sustainability and reiterated that the board is committed to giving time to the community and listening to all their feedback.

A board member stated that the consensus was to work on option one and work with the city to make sure they understand and hope they get a city manager so we can plan with a budget.

Superintendent Vital stated that we were getting by on little band-aids; if something else goes wrong and we can't put money into fixing the problems, we are going to be back to closing the pools. They could potentially close because of breakdown and no money to fix them.

Robert Shemwell reiterated that everything is linked together and all things need to be fixed. He said the chain link fence had to be replaced and that it cost thousands of dollars to replace. Although it had nothing to do with the operation of the pool, it was extremely important because of potential liability to the district.

Superintendent Vital said there were some things that the district has to pay for and potentially will require board approval. The district is going to have to find money to pay for these things in May or the County may come at any point and close us down. We will follow up on option one and we look forward to the City meeting on May 19th.

A board member asked for a list of pool fixtures and asked if we could give the list to the community to see if they could find a way to make repairs by hiring community contractors.

Danielle Houck said we could solicit input from the community and put out bids for the work, but we have to comply with the specification of architect and State liability standards.

A board member asked if we could put the bids out to the swimming community and maybe it would cost us less money.

F-5 Special Education Disproportionality Report

Susan Mitchell made a presentation on disproportionality in Special Education. She introduced its purpose and definition, 2008-09 & 2009-10 data, and steps taken to address the issues. She presented State and Federal requirements, as well as required corrective actions. In September 2009, AUSD was identified by the State as disproportionate by race or ethnicity; Susan presented corrective actions and the continued process taken by AUSD as well as next steps.

A board member said it appeared that there is no consideration of socioeconomics involved.

Susan Mitchell stated that she was concerned about the disproportionality of students overall. She reiterated that corrective actions were taken for 2008-2009, and in 2009-2010 another letter was received from the State stating that we were disproportionate overall with Hispanic students. Susan talked about the change in Special Ed disproportionality data between 2009 and 2010 and said two additional ethnicities had been added which made it more complicated. She presented next steps which include: 1) technical assistance and 2) improving inconsistencies in the pre-referral process for Special Education. She said lots of schools were doing intervention programs, and she gave examples of sites and programs. She also talked about a standardized SST process and what the goals are for Special Education students.

A board member asked if there were any policies that needed to be revised.

Susan Mitchell answered that there might be one policy that needed revising, but in theory all policies were okay.

A board member voiced a concern about the ESL criteria for identifying students with specific learning disabilities. How can Special Ed and ELL collaborate together to help the classroom teachers?

Susan Mitchell said that the meetings are much richer when you can have everyone at the table – the collaboration between the teams is critical to determine whether it’s the language barrier or if the child needs to be referred for Special Ed Services. Assessing students in their primary language is also very important.

Roxanne Clement, AUSD media Teacher, said she admired the task at hand. She went on to say that AUSD has worked very hard over the years to have policies in place to review the processes and try to have everybody involved in the meetings. The district has worked very hard to make sure that there are processes in place to identify children’s needs before starting a referral process or before removing them out of general education.

A board member asked for a better understanding of the overall conclusion of what we are trying to accomplish, what interventions we are spending our money on, making sure we’re spending our resources most efficiently, how we are tracking the overall system, and how much money are we encroaching from our general fund budget.

A board member stated that there is an SST process in place and interventions are taking place. Contact Katie Lyons for the SST process so we don’t have to reinvent the wheel.

A board member thanked Susan for sharing the numbers and said the concern was with the ethnicity groups and wanted more information on who identifies as multiple ethnicities. The board member also asked whether or not socioeconomics had anything to do with the data and if any site was proving more successful at meeting the needs of these students; if so could we use those practices at other school sites.

Susan Mitchell answered that we are looking at each site’s data and have found that sites with lower socioeconomic status do have a higher percentage of Special Ed students.

F-7 Evaluation of Strategic Intervention Model (SIM)

Sandy Wong, teacher at Alameda H.S., and Terri Elkin, teacher on special assignment, presented a PowerPoint and a video on the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM). Terrie talked about the implementation and professional development training for AUSD teachers that has taken place over the last three years. The effort is to build internal capacity so that teachers and administrators can provide training within our district. She talked about the two main components of SIM, Content Enhancement Routines and Learning Strategies; Fusion, an ELA intervention strategy; and SIM evaluation criteria. She presented training statistics by school site, number of teachers trained and subject area. She presented data on student growth for CST ELA test performance and an increase in the number of students passing ELA CAHSEE. The SIM video showed students answering questions about using SIM strategies and how it has helped them improve academically. It also showed how students, teachers and coaches are using the program in the classroom. The conclusion of the presentation was next steps, which include the following: teachers finishing professional development certification, supporting professional developers, and improving data collection and program evaluation.

A board member thanked them for their presentation and asked about the comparative data on page 7 and asked about the classrooms using Fusion.

Terri Elkin answered that the Fusion class is an intervention class for students who are performing below grade level. There are 2 classes at Lincoln and 2 classes at Wood.

A board member was trying to understand the data and what was being presented and asked about the number of students at Alameda High that did not improve as much – did they start at a different point?

Terri Elkin answered that she did not know the reason for a 7 point change.

A board member asked if there was something we could be doing to support the Wood M.S. program to help the students?

Terri Elkin said there was extra support this year and she’d like to do more, but that’s all they had in place this year. A board member asked why Alameda H.S. was not using the program to the same extent as Encinal.

Sandy Wong said that many of the teachers are just beginning the training process.

A board member asked questions about our capacity to sustain the model and was very impressed with the lack of turnover because that's always a challenge. The board member commended Terri and Sandy on a job well done. The board member noted one of the challenges is providing support at the site and continue the Professional Development training.

Superintendent Vital said as a staff and with this strong teacher network, we're going to recommend the program and support the continued investment for this program.

F-6 Implementation of AUSD Master Plan for 2010-2015

Sean McPhetridge gave an overview of the Master Plan. He gave a history of the Master Plan in AUSD and talked about how state budget cuts had impacted classrooms. He also talked about Measure A and funding priorities, which are as follows:

- Small Class Sizes
- Neighborhood Elementary Schools
- Secondary School Choice Initiative and AP Courses
- H.S. Athletic Programs
- Enrichment Programs
- Attract and Retain Excellent Teachers
- Counseling & Student Support Services
- Alameda Charter Students
- Technology

Community member Mr. Peterson commended the board for their dedication. He talked about the guiding principles on accountability and establishing an oversight committee and how incredibly important this was. He asked the board for clarification on how the committee will be established and who will be selected or chosen.

A board member stated that the meeting on the April 26th is when this will be discussed. The board member also stated that we want to see how every dollar of the parcel tax is spent.

A board member noted that we will have an open process where people can apply, but we need to get a budget in place now so the committee can go in and do oversight. The board member stated that this would come back in August or September and start the process.

A board member wanted to address the 1st interim report of 2009-10 that showed approximately 4 million dollars of possible cuts and see how the parcel tax would play into those cuts.

Board Member Reports

Member Spencer attended the memorial service for Daniel Souza and said it was very meaningful for the family. She also attended Encinal's 8th grade information night for incoming parents.

Member McMahon made a presentation in Sacramento to the State Association for Mathematics and Science from a board member's perspective.

President Mooney adjourned the meeting in memory of Mr. Jesus Campos, owner of Otaez Restaurant. Mr. Mooney described Mr. Campos as an outstanding member of Alameda's business community and said he was deeply saddened by his death and how he will be missed.

Adjournment

President Mooney adjourned the meeting at 10:30 PM.