

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 5:00 pm

PRESENT: Mooney, McMahon, Spencer, Sherratt, Tam

ABSENT:

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION TOPICS

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION in City Council Chambers by President Mooney at 5:00 PM.

RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION at 6:36 PM to City Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Alameda High School baseball team led the pledge of allegiance.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

MODIFICATION(S) OF THE AGENDA – F-4 will be moved down to either F-6 or F-7. Items E-4, E-13 and E-15 will be presented after F-7.

APPROVALS OF MINUTES – Board member Spencer made correction to the April 26th minutes. She wanted them to read that the reason she voted no was because she believes the items should have been addressed separately as has always been done in the past, and in accordance to the bylaws. Board member Sherratt wanted the April 12th minutes to reflect that she was not present at the meeting.

MOTION: Member Sherratt

SECOND: Member Spencer

That the Board approve the minutes of March 29th, April 28th, and regular board meetings of April 12th and 26th with revisions.

AYES: Spencer, Sherratt, Mooney, McMahon, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS – the Board received the following communications:

- Emails from Eugenia Haslam and charles123@gmail.com regarding allocation of Measure A funds.
- An email from Melanie Wartenberg regarding Old Island High School and Project LEAF.
- An email from Susan Rousso-Campbell in support of the Paden/Ruby Bridges boundary changes.
- An email from Robert Ploss regarding a possible tour of the Acalanes High School Pool.
- An email from Holly Ackley regarding the pool at Alameda High School.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE - None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Superintendent Vital reviewed site visits and other news.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Community member Lil Arnerich praised the Alameda H.S. athletes who have performed successfully on the field and in the classroom. He acknowledged the coaches and their dedication not only to sports but also to student academics. He thanked the Board for recognizing and honoring the AHS boy's baseball team and the girl's softball team.

REPORT OF STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Student Board member Elizabeth Diez from ASTI announced that during the past week students were taking finals and signing yearbooks. On Thursday at 6:30 PM ASTI is holding a student information night. Senior graduation is on Saturday, May 28th at 6:30 PM., and students are looking forward to summer break

Student Board member Bhaani Singh from Encinal announced that the AP program was holding a fundraiser in conjunction with Otaez Restaurant and 20% of the profits will go directly to Encinal's AP Program. Thank you to Otaez Restaurant for hosting fundraisers and supporting Encinal this year. Thank you to our parents for organizing grad night and congratulation to our seniors for being accepted to many colleges. Students held a blood drive last Tuesday, and congratulations to Joseph Cervantes for an awesome grand slam. On a personal note, Bhaani thanked the Encinal staff, Superintendent Vital and the Board members for allowing her to represent AUSD as a student board member this year.

Student Board member Ryan Hunter, Alameda High School announced the following activities, the senior awards ceremony is being held on June 1st, the senior picnic in Santa Cruz on June 3rd and graduation on June 9th.

CALENDAR REVIEW –President Mooney read the calendar of events.

Board member Spencer announced the Alameda Youth Speaks with the Chief of Police on May 25th at 4:30 at the Veteran's building and all youth are invited to attend and ask questions.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT – President Mooney announced two items for closed session.

- 1) The board approved entering into litigation and authorized that general counsel take necessary action to do so, the vote was 5-0 and once litigation is filed, more information will be forthcoming as is required by law.
- 2) The Board approved the release and reassignment of certificated administrators as follows:
 - a. Four administrators and the vote was 4 – yes and 1 – no.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Member Spencer

That the Board approve the consent calendar with the following revisions; E-4, E-13 and E-15 have been moved to the end, and E-7 has been pulled from the calendar.

SECOND: Member McMahon

MOTION: Member Spencer

AYES: Spencer, Tam, Sherratt, Mooney, McMahon

NOES: None

SECOND: Member Tam

MOTION CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

F-1 Highlighting Alameda Schools: Ruby Bridges Elementary School

Ruby Bridges Principal Jan Goodman introduced 2nd grade teacher Tara Yudenfreund, who gave a wonderful presentation on "*Ruby Bridges Partnership with UC Berkeley Inspires Future Biologists.*" Second grade students from Ruby Bridges were taught what an animal is and what traits help with its survival. In addition to video and text based research, the students were allowed to visit animals at the Oakland Zoo where they were able to sketch, take notes, and practice scientific observation vs. inference. The students were then partnered or grouped to research specific animals. They put together scientific drawings, identified key traits and facts of the animal's survival, and were asked to predict the survival and changes of the next generation (given variables such as a change in environment). Families were impressed by the amount of information the children were able to provide and retain. A month later, the students were asked to write what they had learned again; they proved to retain the information in detail.

Board members commended Jan Goodman and staff at Ruby Bridges for a job well done and praised them for their use of technology (skype) in the classroom.

F-2 Recognition of Student Board Members

The following students were recognized for their participation as Student Board Members: Ryan Hunter (Alameda High), Elizabeth Dietz (ASTI), Bhaani Singh (Encinal High), and Chad Abarca (Island High). They were presented with Certificates of Appreciation by Board President Ron Mooney and Superintendent Vital. Thanks go to our 2010-2011 Student Board Members for their service to AUSD's Board of Education: we wish them well!

F-3 Presentation of California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Academic Winners (Alameda High School)

Principal Kelly Lara presented the California Interscholastic Federation Academic Award to the Alameda High School Boys Baseball Team. These young men have dedicated themselves to their academic studies as well as to the sport of baseball. They have a combined GPA of 3.37, the highest out of 168 teams in the North Coast Section. The pennant will hang proudly in the AHS cafeteria.

Kelly also recognized the Alameda High School Girls Softball Team for winning the NCS Scholastic Award for the 2nd year in a row. This group of young women are also dedicated to their studies and spend four to five days a week at softball practice. They have a combined GPA of 3.36. Ms. Lara commended them all for their achievements both on and off the field. Congratulations! Thank you coaches, parents and community for your dedication and support!

One of the coaches thanked the Board and presented Kelly Lara with a certificate of achievement from the coaching staff and parents.

Community member Lil Arnerich gave some historical facts about AUSD alumni who went on to play sports for big teams. He did not want them to be forgotten. He again, praised the boys and girls for their accomplishment both on and off the field. He praised the boy's team for being the only team to accomplish a 23-1 win for the year. He recognized his son Ken and daughter in law Coleen and also acknowledged the student Board members.

Board members commended both teams, and thanked the community for passing Measure A as it will help us to keep our athletic programs.

F-6 Presentation on Wood Middle School Program Improvement Status

Jeff Knoth, principal gave an update on the PI status at Wood. The school has been designated a Program Improvement school (Year 1) based on the AYP guidelines of not meeting the annual measurable objectives for two years in a row in English Language Arts and Mathematics. The program requires that Wood Middle School offer timely parent notification of PI status, eligibility for public school choice transfer to other non-Program Improvement schools, transportation costs, revised school site plan, and Title I set-aside funds for professional development and transportation costs.

Board members discussed the data presented, student proficiency levels, interventions, benchmarks, and the district's commitment to support Wood through the Student Services and Technology departments.

Mr. Knoth expressed that we need to assess what the data says about our students, what their skill levels are. Urban sustainability designed to want to have rigorous standards based creativity is one of the things that we want to honor, for instance how do we sustain right brain thinking? Our how magnet proposal is built on contextualized instruction - one of the things we will be looking at next year. If we do not come out of PI status next year we will add after school academic support through the SES program. As a school enters PI-2, the expectation is that the school work collaboratively with the district and there is district-wide support.

Board members discussed the reality of Wood going into PI-2 status and what the district could do to help with budget funding, staff support and when to expect the magnet proposal. They also discussed IBD training, and staff collaboration.

We are going to come back to the board on June 14th with a proposal for Innovative and Promising Practices. Educational Services is in the process of getting letters out so they understand the timeline on moving forward. The Board would need to make decisions by September in order for Wood to become a magnet school in 2012-13.

A Board member thanked the Wood staff, and felt that parent participation and the PTA was getting stronger.

Ellen Mulholland, Literacy Coach, Title I Coordinator and Teacher at Wood stated that for the past seven years Wood School has had five different Principals and Vice-Principals. Jeff Knoth has inherited a lot of poor policies and procedures not put into place and he has spent the last year cleaning it up. Our office staff has never been better and if we can keep consistency at Wood we can focus on our successes. I think it's important that we keep the positive spirit because we are making a lot of positive changes and recognize the efforts of our administration and our teachers. I look at the data all day long and I think the numbers show we can move out of PI and into safe harbor.

F-4 Governor's May Revise Report & Budget Update

Robert Shemwell, CFO presented an update on the State of California's developing budget and the district's plan for a new budget. What the Governor is proposing is definitely a step in the right direction because it will provide stability in education. This is the first time in years that education has fared a little better than the other programs. He talked about deferrals, Prop 98 and how we can be a bit more creative with flexibility. With all that said, we are still the lowest in the nation on per pupil funding. We still need to be cautious because economic stability is still problematic. Some things have changed and we are starting to see tax revenue increases. Some things remain the same and we recognize this as we continue to move forward. As we get closer to election time education will play a major role at the poles. In January the legislature did not put temporary taxes on the ballot and in July they agreed to shift money towards education. Basically from January to May nothing has changed and what we have to keep in mind is the uncertainty of future funding. He presented a breakdown on a slide that showed the overall perspective of what the dollar amount should be versus what we are getting; we are underfunded by a considerable amount. The district would like to have a balanced budget adopted by June 30th. Once the state budget is adopted, we can make changes and adjustments to our budget within 45 days.

The Board discussed flat funding, Prop 98, deferrals, flexibility, how AUSD compares to other districts, and mental health costs.

F-5 Board of Education Policy #3221 Parcel Tax Funds

Robert Shemwell, CFO stated that because of Measure A the district's policy is to be completely transparent on how the funding would be utilized and outlined the scope of the tax. The district envisions this as a document that any Alameda resident will have access to. He defined the parcel tax and what the intent role of the Parcel Tax Advisory Committee would be.

Community member Mr. Kurt Peterson expressed concerns about retaining highly qualified and excellent teachers and about the Measure A Oversight Committee.

Board members discussed parcel tax language and establishing an advisory committee.

F-7 – Principal Learning Update

Katie Lyons gave an update on principal professional development. She went through all of the guiding principles 1-5 district; one of the things we have to remember is that we are one district and our real intersection is the person that leads the schools. We focused on the Math Initiative for grades K-12, the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) for grades 6-12, Inquiry By Design (IBD) for grades 6-12, Anti-Bullying for grades K-5 and added a category called District Office Support. Summary of initiatives: For math, our primary support is the Alameda County Office of Education. K-2 teachers have a minimum day for professional development; middle schools will have a two-day training for support classes. District-wide focus continues to be on the classroom; learning focus is on the ability to perform classroom observations to analyze the effectiveness of instructional strategies and to be able to compare with assessment data. The literacy intervention, SIM, is supported by the University of Kansas who has provided trained staff to become instructors for 2.5 days for principal training as well as 4 additional days for principal meetings. Goals for SIM are for principals to use the SIM strategies and lead their staff to use these strategies routinely enough that it becomes automatic. The IBD is led by three members of district staff. Their primary goals are for principals to be able to understand interpretive work and that they actually need to be a part of the lesson – to get there before the lesson and participate. The National Equity Project has three schools that continue to participate and have spent the site fund to monthly principal training; the primary goals for individual principals are to lead for equity, to build a shared understanding, to support leadership actions, to build leadership skills and to design learning for adults to create an opportunity for students to achieve. The Anti-bullying Curriculum is to teach students grades 3-5 to respect one another.

Board Members discussed the importance of professional development and what it can provide for the community. In addition, they discussed a district-wide instructional standard instead of restricting all schools to teach exactly the same way.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

ADJOURNMENT by President Moony adjourned the meeting in memory of Brandon Sorenson at 10:50 PM.

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