

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 Vice President McMahon at 5:40 PM.

PRESENT: Forbes, Gibson, Jensen, McMahon

ABSENT: Schaff

PUBLIC COMMENT: *Stephanie Palmer, parent*, addressed the Board requesting a change in the Special Education policy to allow students to use interactive online textbooks as supplemental items rather than just audio books which are bulkier and costlier.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: By Vice President McMahon at 5:44 PM to discuss 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 9b) of Section 54956.9 (1 case).

RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION: by Vice President McMahon at 6:31 PM.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Otis Elementary School lead 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 Forbes

SECONDED: Member Jensen

That the Board of Education adopt the agenda as submitted.

AYES: Forbes, Gibson, Jensen, McMahon

NOES: None

ABSENT: Schaff

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 1 appointment (Robinson); 1 leave of absence (Hans); and 1 change of status (Boytz).

+Classified Personnel Actions: The Board of Education approved 19 appointments (Clark, D’Orazi, Bekele, Chambers, Jr., Wilson, Norman, Soukhamthath, Cuellar, Flores, Kargoll, Zebib, Fradella,

Kargoll, Morgan, Sanots, Meenakshisundaram, Wright, Fisher, Johnson); 1 resignation (Garcia); 2 changes of status (Cintron, Fernandez).

+Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers The Board approved Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers numbered 748771-748772, 748773-748777, 748778-748970, 748305.

+Resolution No. 08-0061 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases

+Resolution No. 08-0062 Certification of Routine Restricted Maintenance Account

+Approve Resolution No. 08-0063 Delegation of Authorized Representatives for the Approval of School Facility Program (SFP) Reports – California Department of General Services

+Acceptance of Bid for Modernization of Encinal High School, Wood Middle School, Franklin Elementary School, and Chipman Middle School, Phase 4 and 5

+CSBA 2009 Region 7/B Delegate Assembly Nomination – Mike McMahon

+Approval of Job Description/Revision to Psychologist Salary: Behaviorist

+Approval of Donations

COMMUNICATIONS - ORAL:

Leland Tremain, Parent, noted support for the Nea charter application and urged community members to observe the importance of inauguration day in January.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the special meeting of November 5, 2008 were considered.

MOVED: Member Gibson

SECONDED: Member Jensen

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the special meeting of November 5, 2008 as submitted.

AYES: Forbes, Gibson, Jensen, McMahon

NOES: None

ABSENT: Schaff

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the regular meeting of November 12, 2008 were considered.

MOVED: Member Jensen

SECONDED: Member Gibson

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 12, 2008 as submitted.

AYES: Forbes, Gibson, Jensen, McMahon

NOES: None

ABSENT: Schaff

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the special meeting of November 15, 2008 were considered.

MOVED: Member Jensen

SECONDED: Member Gibson

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the special meeting of November 15, 2008 as submitted.

AYES: Forbes, Gibson, Jensen, McMahon

NOES: None

ABSENT: Schaff

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the special meeting of November 16, 2008 were considered.

MOVED: Member Jensen

SECONDED: Member Forbes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the special meeting of November 16, 2008 as submitted.

AYES: Forbes, Gibson, Jensen, McMahon

NOES: None

ABSENT: Schaff

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the special meeting of November 20, 2008 were considered.

MOVED: Member Gibson

SECONDED: Member Jensen

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the special meeting of November 20, 2008 as submitted.

AYES: Forbes, Gibson, Jensen, McMahon

NOES: None

ABSENT: Schaff

MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

Written Correspondence:

A letter dated November 24 from Juliet Gee regarding a complaint; an e-mail dated November 24 from Joyce Boys regarding support for the charter school application; an e-mail dated November 24 from Brooke Briggance regarding the charter school Prop 39 request; an e-mail dated November 24 from Nikola Tesla regarding disciplinary issues at ACLC; an e-mail dated November 23 from Ted Hommert regarding tabling the charter school application; an e-mail dated November 23 from Rob Siltanen regarding the charter school Prop 39 request; an e-mail dated 11/22 from Rand Wrobel regarding support for the charter school application; an e-mail dated November 22 from Dawn Belson regarding support for the charter school application; a letter dated November 20 from Leo Allamanno regarding the appointment of a new Superintendent; an e-mail dated November 18 from Ann Casper and Mark Irons regarding opposition to the charter school application.

Superintendent’s Report: Superintendent Ardella Dailey reminded everyone of Thanksgiving break and informed that Ruby Bridges will be in town the first weekend in December at the First Baptist Church on December 6 signing her book. Tickets can be obtained through Ruby Bridges Elementary School at 748-4066. Everyone is invited.

CALENDAR REVIEW: Vice President McMahon reviewed the Board Calendar of Events.

Vice President McMahon thanked the community for their generous donations.

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

Introduction: Superintendent of Schools

The Board of Education is pleased to announce that they have offered a contract to Ms. Kirsten Vital to serve as Superintendent of AUSD.

AUSD conducted an extensive search and was pleased to find the best person for the job right here in the

Bay Area.

Ms. Vital is currently an Associate Superintendent in the Oakland Unified School District who was appointed in January 2006, and has worked to ensure families and communities are actively involved in improving their individual schools.

Before coming to OUSD, Ms. Vital served the Los Angeles Unified School District as the Director of Instruction and Health & Human Services in the East Los Angeles local district and as an administrator for school reform in the Central Los Angeles local district.

Prior to these roles she serves as co-principal at Santa Monica High School, where she led school reform efforts, including the implementation of an Advanced Placement (AP) access program that tripled the number of underrepresented students enrolled in AP courses.

She has also served as an assistant principal, humanities teacher, and college-level professor. She has consulted on school reform in other districts.

Ms. Vital earned her BA from Northeastern University and her MA in Education from Whittier College.

Superintendent Ardella introduced Kirsten Vital as the new Superintendent of Alameda Unified.

Pam Chang, PTA Council President, noted she interviewed 3 people in OUSD about Ms. Vital and received glowing remarks. They spoke about her intelligence, logic, and ability to bring everyone to the table. We are sorry to see Ardella go, but we are very lucky as it looks like we will have a more than adequate replacement.

Nielsen Tam, Board Member-elect, noted his excitement in looking forward to working with Kirsten this year.

Patricia Sanders, AEA President, expressed concerns about the search process and how it was conducted. AEA repeatedly asked to be part of the process, expressing concern about vetting. CSBA assured AEA and the public that the candidates would be fully vetted before being brought to the Board. After the interviews were completed, AEA had a meeting with its OUSD counterparts and CSBA had misled the Board, public, and the teachers of AUSD as our counterparts had not been consulted before interviews and only found out two days beforehand. AUSD paid \$15,000 for this service and we did not get our money's worth. AEA is the core of the district and represents the largest employee group. On behalf of the members, we welcome Ms. Vital to AUSD but note it is important for her to understand the apprehension of anyone taking the position when the consultant failed to do due diligence. The teachers' expectation is that the new Superintendent will step into the role and honor and respect those of us who have dedicated our lives to this district. AEA should be treated as a stakeholder, not an afterthought. Ms. Sanders also expressed concern about how the Board could offer 11-12% more to the new Superintendent over the current Superintendent's salary.

Judy Goodwin, ACSA President, welcome Ms. Vital to AUSD and noted when she met with her counterpart from OUSD, Ms. Vital was described as a listener, process-thinker, and problem-solver.

Karen Keegan, CSEA 27 President, noted that CSEA 860 was excluded from meeting with their counterparts in OUSD, which shows complete disrespect for the hard-working custodial, maintenance, and food service workers.

Brooke Briggance, AEF Executive Director, noted AEF is interested in the long-term in being able to really look for corporate relationships and partnerships with other community-based organizations and non-profits with the ability to work together in writing grants of a long-term, sustainable nature.

Ron Mooney, Board Member-elect, addressed the Board and thanked them for modifying the interview schedule so that Board Member-elects could be included in the process.

Ms. Vital noted it is very helpful to hear the voices of so many different constituents. Ms. Vital added she appreciates Ardella's leadership – her warmth and her collaboration over the past couple weeks during the start of the transition work. Ms. Vital noted looking on building on the excellence of the Alameda schools and the equity stance the Board and community has taken. One of the first goals will be to reach out and actively engage with the community and stakeholders.

Board Members welcomed Ms. Vital.

Student Board Member Reports

Student Board Member Quach from Alameda High School reported:

- Staff appreciation lunch
- Food Faire
- Blood Drive
- Bumper Stickers
- Holiday cards by the multi-media art class
- Winter Concert
- Senior ads for the yearbook

Student Board Member Reed from Encinal High School reported:

- Welcome to Ms. Vital
- Student working on college applications
- 13 members of the leadership class attended CSAL group conference
- Adopt-A-Family program underway
- JROTC drill meet – EHS took first place overall
- Sports teams doing well – football undefeated
- Conclusion of “Lend Me A Tenor”

Student Board Member Kesete from Island High School reported:

- 3 students graduated today, 2 more next week
- 17 students will start soon
- Cal Safe Thanksgiving event

Decision Regarding the Charter Proposal Received from Nea Community Learning Center Schools, Inc.

On October 3, 2008, the District received a Charter proposal from Community Learning Center Schools, Inc. to open the NCLC Charter School serving students in grades K-12. In accordance with law, a Public Hearing was held on October 28, 2008. Based upon legal timelines, the Board of Education must now make a decision to approve or deny the Charter Proposal.

Superintendent Dailey introduced Chuck Cadman to review the evaluation of the NCLC charter proposal.

Mr. Cadman noted last year, the Board made the decision to deny the charter based on the

recommendation by the evaluation committee. The application was also denied by Alameda County, and the applicant took very seriously the findings that you came up with and revisited and edited their charter proposal. After careful review, it has been determined that everything is in order and there is no statute basis for denial of the charter application.

John Journey, community member, addressed the Board regarding support for the innovative program and urged its passage.

Kumi Hodge, ACLC graduate, noted he is a proud supporter of the Nea Community Learning Center and enjoyed the experience immensely and supporter the model being extended to younger-age students.

James Mitchell, Chair of the Teacher Education Dept at Cal State East Bay, noted his support in Nea and that he would enroll his daughter should the charter be approved.

Greg Conlon, community member, noted support for Nea and ACLC, adding that the successful model should be able to be replicated for the betterment of all students.

Ginger McFry, ACLC, added her experiences at ACLC have been extraordinary. It's a great place to go and learn, and makes you feel empowered.

Joan D'Amato, community member, noted support for the Nea charter, adding the ACLC model will benefit elementary-age students.

Member Forbes again raised questions about Nea students being serviced by the El Dorado SELPA. Mr. Cadman noted there are still some details that would need to be worked out, and attorney Paul Minney added the relationship could be detailed in the MOU with the district.

Member Jensen asked about California state standards. Ms. Maafi Gueye noted that Nea will have performance objectives based on the California standards and will, in addition, have "learning to learn" standards which require learners to have experience with showing mastery in certain aspects. These run parallel to state standards, but are Nea's own special lifelong learning skills that we expect them to show mastery in as well. There are rubrics that move them through a series of steps in recognizing where they are on those rubrics.

Member Gibson asked about addressing the achievement gap. Ms. Gueye noted Nea acknowledges students have different ways of learning and will encourage them to absorb information in the way that they learn best. This will help close points in the achievement gap as students learn in a way that's most conducive to them, but retain the information and can recall it when being assessed. Mr. Cadman added if it is the Board's pleasure, language reflecting achievement gap data or ethnic/racial balance data could be included in the MOU.

Paul Bentz went on to respond to questions raised about applications/enrollment, teacher tenure, union representation, and enrollment figures.

MOVED: Member Forbes

SECONDED: Member Jensen

That the Board of Education approve the charter proposal received from Nea Community Learning Center Schools, Inc. for a period of three years through June 30, 2011, contingent upon a Memorandum of Understanding between Community Learning Center Schools, Inc. and the District being finalized not later than January 31, 2009.

AYES: Forbes, Jensen, McMahon

NOES: Gibson

ABSENT: Schaff

MOTION CARRIED

Mathematics Summit Report

Assistant Superintendent Debbie Wong introduced the item.

In September 2008, the Board of Education received a report from our Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Annual Yearly Progress in Mathematics. At that presentation, we shared that Educational Services will embark on developing a long-term plan to address the student achievement gap in mathematics. On November 13, we hosted a Mathematics Summit inviting Grades 4 through Algebra teachers, math coaches, district/site administrators, and support providers in an effort to have cross-collaboration to determine next steps for mathematics in AUSD.

The Mathematics Summit Report will include the most current information at the California Department of Education policy level, student achievement data, focused efforts, and next steps.

Vision and Action Planning:

- Passion and interest to improve student achievement results
- Use the math summit group as a leadership committee for feedback
- Utilize a subcommittee from the group to develop a sustainable long-term plan from the identified areas
- Spring Math Summit II
- Report on progress to the BOE in the spring

Patricia Sanders, AEA President, noted it would be a great service to our students if we could teach them how to read a math book – skills in deciphering its compact, own language. With regards to the summit, Ms. Sanders noted she was hugely impressed; it was one of the better things she's been to. Ms. Wong's comments show the dedication of the math teachers in the district; there was real energy in the room and it was refreshing to see the District listening and coming up with solutions.

Board Member Reports

Member Gibson noted although she is exiting the Board, she will still be involved in district activities. Next week, she will be hearing poetry being read by an AHS English class.

Member Jensen reminded the audience about visiting the library to view the PTA Reflections art work on display.

Vice President McMahon adjourned the meeting at 9:35 PM.