

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

December 14, 2010

City Council Chambers
2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, CA

ADOPTED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Mooney at 5:33 PM.

PRESENT: Mooney, Spencer, Tam

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

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: President Mooney adjourned to Closed Session at 5:33 PM to consider:

- A-2a. Student Discipline/Expulsion/Re-admit (1 case)
- 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: Danielle Houck, General Counsel
Employee organizations: AEA, CSEA
Unrepresented Employees: Management, Psychologists, Behavioral Specialists, Occupational Therapists, Confidential
- A-2d. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Existing Litigation – Pursuant to Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9
(1) Robles-Wong v. State of California, Case #RG10515768
- A-2e. Conference with Real Property Negotiators – Pursuant to Section 54956.8
(1) Properties: Krusi Park, Lincoln & Godfrey Parks, AHS Gymnasiums, Swim Centers, Tilden Park, Woodstock Park, Rittler Park, Bayport Park, Thompson Field, Encinal Field, Kofman Auditorium
Agency Negotiators: Danielle Houck, General Counsel and Kirsten Vital, Superintendent
Negotiating Parties: City of Alameda
Under Negotiation: Joint Use / Operating Agreement
- A-2f. Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation – Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9: One (1) case

RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION: By President Mooney at 6:35 PM.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Board Members led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA / APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:

MOTION: Member Mooney

SECONDED: Member Tam

That the Board of Education adopt the agenda with the following change: Pull E-4 and E-6 and move to public agenda; move swearing in right after this item.

AYES: Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

+Certificated Personnel Actions: The Board approved 3 hires (Abrams, Lee, Haddon); 1 retirement (Potter); 1 change of status (Nettles); 2 leaves of absence (Chang, Howell).

+Classified Personnel Actions: The Board approved 9 appointments (Anderson-Barrett, White, Joseph, Jursasin, Li, Missaggia, Zarafis, Gelico, Phillips, Jr.); 2 changes of status (Brassmassery, Brassmassery).

+Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers: The Board approved bill warrants and payroll registers numbered 98012-98190, 98191-98262, 98263-98308, 98309-98316, 98317-98406.

+Single School Plans

+Resolution No. 10-0120 in Support of the California Education Broadband Initiative

+Proclamation: Day of the Special Education Teacher

+Resolution No. 10-0121 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases

+Approval of Special Education Local Plan Area Master Contracts

+Approval of Donations

Oath of Office for Board Members Elected November 2, 2010: Margie Sherratt and Mike McMahon

On November 2, 2010, Margie Sherratt and Mike McMahon were elected by the voters of the City of Alameda to serve as Alameda Unified School District Trustees.

In accordance with the Constitution of the State of California, Article 20, Section 3, "when entering upon the duties of their office, all Governing Board members shall take the oath of affirmation required by law," retired Honorable Judge Richard Bartalini administered the Oath of Office.

Member Sherratt read a statement thanking her supporters and campaign co-chairs, volunteers, and family members. Member Sherratt acknowledged the tremendous challenges ahead.

Member McMahon noted he will continue to try to act in the best interest of all of Alameda's children.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the special meetings of September 30th, October 6th, subcommittee meetings from October 28th, November 5th, November 30th and regular meetings of October 12th, October 26th, November 9th, and November 23rd were considered.

MOTION: Member McMahon

SECONDED: Member Tam

That the Board approve all minutes presented except October 26th.

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: Member McMahon

SECONDED: Member Tam

That the Board approve the minutes for October 26th as presented.

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Tam

NOES: Spencer

ABSTAIN: Sherratt

MOTION CARRIED

Member Spencer clarified her no vote by stating that she believes the minutes are inaccurate and do not reflect the comments made by the community members or Board Members, and motions do not accurately reflect what was stated. Member Spencer would like minutes to be clarified so they accurately reflect what occurred that day.

Written Correspondence:

Since the last regular Board meeting on November 23, the Board received 19 e-mails regarding the parcel tax; 1 e-mail regarding the 7-12 option at Encinal; 1 e-mail regarding employees of the month; 1 e-mail regarding special education funding; 1 e-mail regarding quality of instruction; 1 e-mail regarding closures/consolidations.

- E-mail From: Susan Rousso dated December 13 Regarding 7-12 option at Encinal
- E-mail from Dana Morris dated December 10 Regarding: Employees of the Month
- E-mail from Lori keep dated December 9 Regarding: closing the smallest elementary schools to save middle and high school programs, even if the Parcel Tax passes
- E-mail from heather McCracken Wu dated November 29 Regarding: priorities
- E-mail from Cindy Zecher dated November 29 Regarding: Parcel Tax vote
- E-mail from John Krainer dated November 28 Regarding: special education funding and the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Kathy Tansey dated November 28 Regarding: quality of instruction
- E-mail from Daniel Robins dated November 28 Regarding: Parcel Tax vote on 11/30 and beyond
- E-mail from Stan Schiffman dated November 26 Regarding: proposed new property tax
- E-mail from Theresa Silva dated November 26 Regarding: a Parcel Tax as a priority for Alameda
- E-mail from Cybelle Kelley-Whitley dated November 24 Regarding: the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Janine DeFao Hayward dated November 24 Regarding: the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Michael Lozeau dated November 2e Regarding: support for the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Pat Cronin dated November 24 Regarding: programs
- E-mail from Kathryn Boyle dated November 23 Regarding: unanimously passing the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Melissa Guerrero dated November 23 Regarding: the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Peter Hagberg dated November 23 Regarding: the Parcel Tax proposal
- E-mail from Peter Hagberg dated November 23 Regarding: school closure/consolidation
- E-mail from Loretta de Guzman dated November 23w Regarding: support for school Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Elisabeth Kranson dated November 23 Regarding: the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Angela Carlson dated November 23 Regarding: supporting the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Sarah Foltz dated November 23 Regarding: supporting the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Joselyn Lindgren dated November 23 Regarding: the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Michael Lozeau dated November 23 Regarding: supporting the Parcel Tax
- E-mail from Russ and Linda Grant dated November 23 Regarding: the new Parcel Tax

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Vital reviewed follow-up items from previous meetings, site visits, and other news.

Oral Communications:

Christine Strena, PTAC President, addressed the Board and invited everyone to An Evening on Webster Street in appreciation for the Webster Street business. Franklin and Washington PTA's have been working with WABA on creating this family-based event. Ms. Strena also encouraged the Board to confirm which schools will be closed in the event the parcel tax does not pass.

PTAC has posted an interest petition on its website regarding the concept of a 7-12 at Encinal. Ms. Strena noted she would share the responses at future Board meetings. Ms. Strena provided an overview of issues a 7-12 secondary program might address.

Sylvia Kahn, teacher and parent, addressed the Board to ask that a 7-12 secondary option be considered regardless of whether or not the parcel tax passes as families are withdrawing from AAMS and need other options on the west end.

Barbara Mooney, parent, also addressed the Board with regards to providing a 7-12 secondary option at Encinal noting opportunities for middle schoolers in drama, technology, and foreign language.

Board Member Oral Communications:

Board Members commented on the Single School Plans, noting using data to show where students are by breaking out by subgroups and subject matter is very helpful; each school clearly stated their theory of action; each school identified 2 or 3 very critical points on how they were going to be successful around intervention and closing the achievement gap.

Student Board Members:

Student Board Member Dietz from ASTI reported: Silent Auction raised \$4K; family program at ASTI; working with the Peralta District on student fees; finals; winter break.

Student Board Member Singh from Encinal reported: winter concert; Songfest; NCS Championships; basketball; soccer; adopt-a-family program; Holiday grams; PTSA results; college applications; senior portraits; office chair races.

Student Board Member Hunter from Alameda High reported: winter concert and assembly; cross-country at NCS; scholastic achievement award; UCSC campus visit; Grad Night; Food Bank.

Calendar Review: President Mooney reviewed the calendar of events.

Closed Session Action Report: The Board took no action in Closed Session.

Election of Board President

Each year during the annual organizational meeting, the Board of Education nominates and elects a Board President.

MOTION: Member Tam

SECOND: Member Sherratt

That the Board elect Member Mooney to continue as the Board President in order to maintain needed continuity.

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Election of Board Vice-President

Each year during the annual organizational meeting, the Board of Education nominates and elects a Board Vice-President.

MOTION: Member McMahon

SECOND: Member Mooney

That the Board elect Member Sherratt as Vice-President.

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam
NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Recognition of Alameda High School Girls' Golf Team

Sean McPhetridge, Assistant Superintendent, introduced Kelly Lara, Principal of Alameda High School.

Alameda Unified School District would like to recognize and congratulate the Alameda High School Girls' Golf Team for their outstanding 2010/11 season. The girls on the team advanced to the top level in this field through hard work and dedication to their sport.

Alameda High School's Ladies Golf we took 4th place at state tournament. Principal Lara congratulated Grace Na, who won the individual state championship.

Board Members congratulated team members on their accomplishments throughout the season.

Recognition of Encinal High School Boys' Varsity Football Team

Sean McPhetridge, Assistant Superintendent, introduced Kevin Gorham, Dean of Students at Encinal High School.

Alameda Unified School District would like to recognize and congratulate the Encinal High School Boys' Varsity Football Team for their outstanding 2010/11 season. The young men on the team advanced to the top level in this field through hard work and dedication to their sport. On Friday, December 10th, they played an NCS championship game with the possibility of advancing to the State Championships.

The team missed going to the state championship, but winning at this level is truly a team effort. Encinal High School has reached the NCS championship 3 years in a row which is incredibly rare.

BOE Members expressed how proud Alameda is of its student athletes.

Employee(s) of the Month

Tom Rust, Human Resources Director 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 are recognized by the Board with a presentation by the President and the Superintendent. The persons so honored this month are:

Jose Rodriguez - Head Custodian, Lum Elementary School
Humberto Herrera – Night Shift Custodian, Lum Elementary School
Robyn Odell-Kondo – Applications/Database Admin Specialist, Technology Services

Board Members thanked the employees for their service to the District and its students.

Information Regarding 2011/12 School Calendar Feedback

This is a public information item to solicit community feedback for the development of the 2011/12 school calendar. The calendar is mutually agreed upon by the teachers' Association and the District following input from unit members and the public. Tonight we are announcing the launch of an online survey for community feedback. This survey can be found on AUSD's homepage.

Board Members encouraged staff, students, and family to complete the survey.

Approval of Special Education Teacher Job Description

Tom Rust, Human Resources Director, introduced the item.

The job description was needed and approved by the Special Education Advisory Group in October, 2010 to properly reflect the responsibilities and duties of a Special Education Teacher. Under the direction of the principal or designated administrator, the special education teacher provides specialized academic instruction utilizing appropriate strategies to identify students with disabilities who meet eligibility criteria established by State and Federal law.

Board Members discussed whether or not the job description had AEA approval and the difficulty of filling special education positions.

Patricia Sanders, AEA President, responded that the job description was not yet approved by AEA and asked that the Board give appropriate time to have that discussion, perhaps a month or two.

Mr. Rust provided a timeline back to a special education side letter dated October 20, 2006, adding that this item came before the Board on November 23rd and was pulled and is being brought back this evening.

Board Members discussed what ramifications would occur if the item was not passed tonight. Susan Mitchell, Special Education Director, replied that the District could continue to hire teachers, but the purpose of this is to better describe what a Special Education Teacher does.

General Counsel Danielle Houck clarified that the Board's action tonight does not foreclose further feedback and negotiation with AEA and recommended approval subject to that caveat. As HR prepares for layoffs, it is necessary to have a look at credentials and qualifications of teachers as we determine who is least senior; these descriptions are an important part in that process and help clarify some matters.

Member Spencer motioned that this item return on February 8th in accordance with AEA's request. The motion died for lack of a second.

MOTION: Member McMahon

SECOND: Member Mooney

That the Board approve the item with the caveat that it will be brought back to the Board on February 8th for any further refining and fine-tuning after discussions with AEA as noted.

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Tam

NOES: Spencer

MOTION CARRIED

Member Spencer clarified she thinks it is unfortunate that the Board did not respect AEA's request to continue this item to February 8th.

Approval of Resolution No. 10-0119 – School Closure/Consolidation of Schools for the 2011/12 and 2012/13 School Years – Phase I, Phase II

Sean McPhetridge, Assistant Superintendent, introduced the item. On February 23, 2010, the Board of Education approved the AUSD Master Plan. On June 29, 2010, the Board passed a resolution to implement Master Plan Scenario B. With the failure of the Measure E parcel tax initiative, the Board directed AUSD to plan and present options for school closure and consolidation.

On October 21, 2010, the Board directed AUSD staff to focus on Phase I and Phase II alternatives with further research and data. On November 30, 2010, AUSD presented its final recommendations on Scenario B for the closures and consolidations of schools for the Board's consideration. Tonight AUSD provides Resolution No. 10-0119 for Board vote on the final Scenario B recommendation.

With a Parcel Tax	Without the Parcel Tax
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain 25:1 student-teacher class size ratio in K-3 • Maintain music, PE, and media center in elementary schools and fine arts in secondary schools • Keep neighborhood elementary schools • One boundary change required to equalize enrollment between Paden and Ruby Bridges Elementary Schools • Initiatives to close the achievement gap are preserved (professional development days, secondary intervention programs) • Secondary school choice programs, AP courses, and innovative magnet school programs are funded • Increase of counseling and student support services • High school athletics are maintained • Maintain ROTC • Adult Education partial program (selected enrichment, English learners, GED and high school completion programs) • Maintain salaries to attract and retain excellent teachers • Technology support and upgrades maintained • Return to 180 day school calendar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institute 32:1 student-teacher class size ratio in K-3 • Music, PE, and media center for elementary schools are reduced in 2011-12 and eliminated in 2012-13; fine arts in secondary schools are reduced to minimum • Close Otis, Washington and Franklin Elementary Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wood closes and EHS is reconfigured to 7-12 - Lincoln closes and is reconfigured - Bay Farm, Farhart and Lincoln go K-3 - All other elementary schools go K-6 - Boundaries are changed to make new feeder school patterns • Professional development and intervention programs are cut • AP courses are decreased; larger classes at high schools • Further reductions of counseling to minimum level • Athletics are reduced to varsity only in 2011-2012, and athletic programs are eliminated in 2012-2013 • Eliminate ROTC • Adult school is eliminated • Salary reductions up to 8.00% - 9.25% • No funding for technology upgrades or support to sites • Continue 175 day calendar for 2011-12

The Board discussed the impacts to the District with a replacement parcel tax and the implementation timeline.

Peter Hagberg, community member, addressed the Board noting this plan is an educational disaster. Mr. Hagberg urged the Board not to approve the item and instead temporarily enact a 5% salary decrease which would generate \$3.5M.

The Board clarified that this year, every employee in the District took 8 furlough days, which resulted in a 4% cut in salary. There are also 10 furlough days for next year, a 5% cut in salary for every employee. Those are already built in along with this plan of closures and consolidations.

Board Members further discussed the impact of boundary changes on Kindergarten Roundup, the different iterations of the closures/consolidations plan, concerns brought up by parents and community members, a 7-12 pilot program and Encinal, whether or not this plan creates inequity by providing different models on different ends of the island, and the public input campaign over the past four months. Board Members thanked staff for the extraordinary job in attempting to fashion a response to this particular situation that is reflective of our current state and how the community wants it to be implemented.

MOTION: Member Tam

That the Board approve Resolution No. 10-0119.

SECOND: Member McMahon

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Tam

NOES: Spencer

MOTION CARRIED

Member Spencer clarified that she is opposed because she believes Plan B must be above appearances of inequity between both sides of our island. This plan doesn't do that. We need to apply sound business principles to direct us to close the smallest schools and avoid the appearance of making political decisions. Member Spencer added the recommendation to close Franklin, Washington, and Otis as opposed to Franklin, Edison and Paden can only be justified as a political decision.

Presentation of First Interim Budget and Final Strategic Budget Reductions

Twice during the fiscal year, a school district is required to submit a financial report certifying the district's ability to meet its financial obligations for the current year and two subsequent years. The reports examine the district's attendance, spending patterns, fund balance, reserve for economic uncertainties, and multiyear projections.

Staff presented the 2010/11 First Interim which reports the district's financial position as of October 31, 2010. Staff also presented the final list of budget reductions for the 2011/12 and 2012/13 fiscal years. These reductions, when approved, will support a positive ending fund balance for the three years required by State Education Code (E.C. 42127).

This is a follow-up presentation to the November 23, 2010 preliminary presentation, which will also provide an update on current cash flow.

Robert Shemwell, Chief Business Officer, reviewed outstanding issues possibly impacting the budget, multi-year projections, 2011/12 cuts, 2012/13 cuts, and possible eliminations.

Board Members discussed what this means for parents, the inequities of how district financing is set up from the state, encroachment, 3% reserve, Second Interim in March, and the state economic uncertainty.

President Mooney opened the Public Hearing at 8:57 PM. Hearing no public comment, President Mooney closed the Public Hearing at 8:57 PM.

MOTION: Member Mooney

That the Board approve the First Interim Budget and Final Strategic Budget Reductions.

SECOND: Member Tam

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Tam

NOES: Spencer

MOTION CARRIED

Member Spencer expressed concern that even with the passage of a parcel tax, we are continuing to decrease our options and opportunities for secondary students in middle and high school rather than looking at merging/closing small elementary schools.

Approval of 2011 Schedule of Regular Board of Education Meetings

At the annual organizational meeting in December, the Board of Education sets its meeting schedule for the calendar year. Board of Education meetings are usually held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.

MOTION: Member McMahon

SECOND: Member Tam

That the Board approve the 2011 Schedule of Regular Board of Education meetings.

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Board Committee Assignments

Each year during the Board's annual organization meeting and in accordance with Board Bylaws 9130 (Board Committees) and 9140 (Board Representatives), the Board of Education assigns members to its standing committees and appoints members as Board representatives to other public agencies or organizations.

Assignments and appointments are considered based on the individual Board Member's interest and expertise.

After discussing, the Board decided on the following:

ACSA: Member McMahon

BTSA: Member McMahon / Member Sherratt

ROP JPA: Member McMahon

Wellness Advisory Committee: Member Spencer / Member Sherratt

City/School: Member Mooney / Member Sherratt

Discipline: Member Tam / Member Sherratt

Board Policy Subcommittee: Member Mooney / Member Spencer

Youth Collaborative: Member Tam / Member Spencer

MOTION: Member Sherratt

SECOND: Member Tam

That the Board approve the 2011 Board Committee assignments as agreed.

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

CSBA Conference Report

Board Members and the Superintendent attended the CSBA 2010 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show held December 2nd through 4th, 2010 at the Moscone Center in San Francisco.

The conference provided an opportunity for governance team members to gather the most relevant, up-to-date information, share ideas, network with peers, and access practical tools to make the best decisions for students and schools.

Board Members and the Superintendent shared their thoughts, observations, and learning from the conference including giving teachers access to data, establishing feedback loops, assessments, benchmarks, strategies for new Board Members, Long Beach's model of a male academy primarily serving boys of color, creating information pieces that community members can understand; and collaborating with non-profit organizations and businesses.

Board Members shared information about AUSD's successful presentation on creating a Master Plan and the community feedback process.

Other Board Members attended sessions with inspiring keynote speakers, presentations on libraries and media centers, NCLB, AYP, ELA and Math scores, energy efficiency, technology, and interactive textbooks.

Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300 and resolution Number 09-0064

On October 27, 2009, the Board delegated authority to enter into contracts on behalf of the District and to purchase supplies, materials, apparatus, equipment, and services up to the amounts specified in Public Contract Code 20111 and Education Code section 17604 to the Superintendent of Schools, Chief Business Officer, Assistant Superintendent, and the General Counsel.

Resolution Number 09-0064 further limited the delegation to expenditures of less than \$76,700 and required that the Board ratify the contracts within 60 days of incurring the expense.

The following contracts were presented for ratification:

Professional Services Agreement between AUSD (Otis) and Creative Education Consulting
Professional Services Agreement between Alameda Unified School District (Paden) and Creative Education Consulting

Mr. McPhetridge clarified that donation funds from the schools are paying for the agreements.

Board Members discussed the ability of schools to raise PTA funds across the island, the possibility of looking to categorical resources, and the ability of sites to make decisions for themselves to fit their individual needs.

MOTION: Member Mooney

SECOND: Member Tam

That the Board approve the ratification of the contracts submitted.

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Board Member Reports

Member Spencer noted she attended the CSEA Holiday Dinner and thanked them for a wonderful evening. Member Sherratt also attended and agreed.

Student Discipline

MOTION: Member McMahon

SECOND: Member Tam

That student #61742 be readmitted to Alameda Unified.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: McMahon, Mooney, Sherratt, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment: President Mooney adjourned the meeting at 9:35 PM.