

Minutes for 2/15/06 Board Meeting

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Approval of Minutes for 2/1/06 Bd Mtg	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the February 1, 2006, board meeting.
Approval of Personnel Recommendations	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations as indicated.
Approval of Expulsions	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted the hearing panels' findings and expelled: (1) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Fall and Spring 2005-06 semesters and established June 8, 2006, as the date the student may apply for readmission and set conditions for readmission to include that the student was satisfactorily involved in educational and counseling programs designed to address the behaviors that led to the expulsion; (2) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Fall and the Spring 2005-06 semesters and established June 8, 2006, as the date the student may apply for readmission and set conditions for readmission to include that the student was satisfactorily involved in educational and counseling programs designed to address the behaviors that led to the expulsion; (3) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Spring 2005-06 semester and the Fall 2006-07 semester and suspended the expulsion; (4) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Fall and Spring 2005-06 semesters and established June 8, 2006, as the date the student may apply for readmission and set conditions for readmission to include that the student was satisfactorily involved in educational and counseling programs designed to address the behaviors that led to the expulsion, and (5) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Fall and Spring 2005-06 semesters and established June 8, 2006, as the date the student may apply for readmission and set conditions for readmission to include that the student was satisfactorily involved in educational and counseling programs designed to address the behaviors that led to the expulsion.
Rescission of Suspended Expulsion	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees rescinded the suspended expulsion of (name of student to appear in official minutes) and enforced the original expulsion order for the remainder of the Spring 2005-06 semester and established June 8, 2006, as the date the student may apply for readmission and set conditions for readmission to include that the student was satisfactorily involved in educational and counseling programs designed to address the behaviors that led to the expulsion.
Approval of Warrants	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved Warrants No. 0351 through 0385 totaling \$2,075,424.85.
Acceptance of Gifts	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted \$140,000 in donations for construction of the Menlo-Atherton Baseball Field including \$10,000 donations from Donald and Sharon Traeger, Rod and Laurie Shepard, the Atherton Police Activity League, and the McMurtry Family Foundation and \$80,000 from J. Scott Kaspick and Susan Termohlen; 500 long-playing records and 200, 78RPM records from Mary Henderson for The KCEA Radio Station at Menlo-Atherton High School, and a \$100 gift certificate from Peninsula Pet Resort, Inc. for the Employee Recognition Program and requested the Superintendent to send letters of appreciation to the donors.
Approval of	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees rejected

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Construction Bid	the bid received from Ferma, requested additional informal bids for the demolition of three classrooms at Sequoia High School, and authorized the Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services to award the bid.
Approval of Agreement to Update Developer Fee Study	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the agreement to prepare a Developer Fee Justification Study.
Approval of Budget for Relocation of Redwood H.S.	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the \$6.5 million budget for relocation of Redwood High School to James Avenue in Redwood City and authorized the purchase of modular buildings from EnviroPlex on a \$2.9 million piggyback bid.
Approval of CAHSEE Waiver	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the CAHSEE waiver requests as indicated.
Approval of MOU bet SUHSD & SMUHSD for Adult School Band	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the MOU between the Sequoia Union High School District and the San Mateo Union High School District for a Community Band Class administered by the San Mateo Adult School.
Approval of Designation as Partner to Adolescent Counseling Svcs	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Adolescent Counseling Services' request to list the Sequoia Union High School District as a community partner.
Approval of Sabbatical Lvs for 2006-07	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the sabbatical leave requests for Catherine Burton (MA), Jennifer Buchanan (W), and Denise Steward (C) for a total of \$100,681.07.
Approval of Annual Stipend Adjustment for Board Members	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the annual stipend adjustment for board members to \$279 per month.
Approval of Field Trips	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Menlo Atherton Leadership Class trip to Camp Harmon, February 15-18; the Carlmont SOS/Leadership Class trip to Elk Grove on February 16; the Carlmont Softball Team field trip to Folsom, March 3 and 4, and the Spring Athletic Team Schedules for Carlmont, Menlo-Atherton, Sequoia, and Woodside high schools.
Special Recognitions	<p>The Superintendent commended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carlmont High School students Gary Lent, Kimberly O'Neill, and Rebecca Lent for being accepted into the 2006 All-State Honor Band. Three hundred twenty students were accepted from a total of nearly 1000 applicants from throughout the State.• Carlmont High School seniors Crystal Mao, Caitlin Roake, Ariel Sarver, and Sonia Singhal for being recognized as 2006 National Merit Scholarship Finalists.• Elizabeth Quintero, Woodside High School senior, for winning the "Year of the Youth Award" from The Peninsula Boys & Girls Club. This awards program recognizes Boys & Girls Club members for their outstanding

contributions to their community and for overcoming personal challenges and obstacles.

President Lewin recognized Superintendent Gemma with a “Shift the Blame” giant finger.

Public Hearing on
SDTA Initial Contract
Opened at 5:42 p.m.

President Lewin opened the Public Hearing on the SDTA initial bargaining contract at 5:42 p.m.

Public Hearing
Closed at 5:43 p.m.

The Public Hearing was closed at 5:43 p.m. without comment from the audience.

Oral Communications

None

Update on PI
Implementation

Mary Camezon, lead external evaluator for the District’s Performance Improvement program, presented an update on the District’s implementation of the evaluators’ recommendations. She indicated that some schools, not all, are faithfully incorporating all recommendations, including the use of READ 180 and High Point materials for reading intervention. She also reported that Summer School is being redesigned to ensure that all students have all the support they require to be successful. She noted that all new teachers are required to enter the District CLAD credentialed, and all teachers with at least 45 EL students in their classes must be CLAD credentialed. She emphasized how critical the use of coaches is to the success of the effort.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Martinez, Ms. Camezon reported that district staff turned on a dime to embrace the implementation of recommendations. She speculated that the Sequoia District is in the top one percent of all districts in California in fulfilling its implementation recommendations.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Rumley, Ms. Camezon indicated that some staff members might have difficulty making the necessary changes.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Rumley, Francisca Miranda, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services, reported that district staff meet monthly with English and Math Subject Area Councils and Bilingual Resource Teachers, and that difficult issues are often surfaced at those meetings. She noted that the coaches have become very valuable to this process.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Gibson, Ms. Camezon indicated that there will be some tremendous successes the first year of implementation, but some students will have difficulty overcoming old patterns and the self image they have about whether they can read.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Stewart, Ms. Camezon agreed that skepticism provides valuable conversation; data from benchmarks will reveal how successful effort has been.

Mike Radoye, President of the Sequoia District Teachers Association, congratulated district staff for taking on this huge effort and quoted the Superintendent's encouraging words to staff that the District is embarking on an unending path of change – always aiming for what helps students be successful. He noted that questions need to be asked and modifications need to be considered, particularly with regard to the tracking that has resulted from the intervention process which leads to behavior problems, etc.

Trustee Martinez reported on a presentation she heard at a Peninsula Community Foundation event and indicated the experience was very validating as the education expert making the presentation listed the very things the District is doing to make the necessary changes.

Discussion of
Improvement Goals
Related to 2006-07
Budget

Superintendent Gemma presented Options for Improvement Goals for 2006-07. The list provided an opportunity for broad board discussion about the District's image and role in the community and future priorities.

Acceptance of
Monthly Financial Report

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees accepted the Monthly Financial Report as presented.

Ratification of
Consolidated Application

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Martinez, the Board of Trustees ratified the 2005-06 Consolidation Application, Part II, as presented.

Board of Trustees'/
& Superintendent's
Comments

Superintendent Gemma reported on the “First Things First” Conference he attended in Kansas City with parents and key staff members from Menlo-Atherton, and two administrators from the Ravenswood City School District. They visited schools using the First Things First model and attended the conference on small learning communities. He noted that in this small learning communities model, every school has an academic coach and family advocacy programs. He noted that in this model the student body is divided among faculty members who support their students. He noted that he learned a lot about high school reform, that no one size fits all, and that high schools terribly underfunded.

Trustee Rumley announced that Redwood City 2020 and the H.S. Cowell Foundation provided grants to programs in the Redwood City School District. She reported that she went on bus tour sponsored by the Redwood City School District to the Kennedy and Hoover middle schools and Teen Resource Center.

Trustee Stewart reported that she attended the Woodside High School production of WIZ.

Adjournment
at 6:41 p.m.

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Gibson, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Lewin, President

Olivia Martinez, Clerk

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