

Unapproved Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Sequoia Union High School District
Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Call to Order	The regular meeting of the Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Gordon Lewin at 3:35 p.m., Wednesday, February 2, 2005, in the new Performing Arts Center at Woodside High School in Redwood City.
Roll Call	Trustees present: Don Gibson Gordon Lewin Olivia Martinez Lorraine Rumley Sally Stewart Kelly Wright, Student Trustee Trustees absent: None
Pledge of Allegiance	President Lewin led the Board and staff in the Pledge of Allegiance.
Invitation to Audience	President Lewin welcomed the audience and explained that the Consent Calendar consists of routine or previously discussed items to be considered as a unit and voted upon by roll call vote. He explained the Communications – Oral section of the agenda for permitting members of the audience to make presentations totaling no more than 10 minutes.
Approval of Agenda	By consensus, the Board of Trustees approved the agenda as presented.
Amendments to Consent Calendar	Delete: 5c Approval of Minutes for the January 12, 2005, and January 24, 2005, Board Meetings
Approval of Consent Calendar	Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Martinez, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar as amended. Voting “yes” – Trustees Gibson, Lewin, Martinez, Rumley, and Stewart; voting “no” – none; absent – none.
Presentation of Timeline to Advertise & Pre-Screen Candidates for Meas H BOC	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the timeline for advertising and pre-screening candidates for the Measure H Bond Oversight Committee in preparation for appointment by the Board at its meeting on February 16.
Suspension of Emergency Declaration of Construction Work on SHS Wood Shop	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees suspended the emergency declaration associated with issues surrounding structural failure and installation of a temporary classroom for the Wood Shop program.
Approval of Minutes for the 1/12/05 & 1/24/05 Bd Mtgs	Trustee Rumley asked that the minutes for the January 24, 2005, board meeting be removed from the Consent Calendar in order to delete the first reference to the Pledge of Allegiance.

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Rumley, seconded by Trustee

Martinez, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the January 12, 2005, board meeting as presented and the minutes for the January 24, 2005, board meeting as amended.

Approval of Personnel Recommendations

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations as indicated.

Approval of Expulsion

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted the hearing panel’s findings and expelled (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Fall & Spring 2004-05 semesters and established June 8, 2005, 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. 12AP1 through 12AP46, totaling \$1,016,307.67.

Approval of Monthly Financial Report

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Monthly Financial Report for December 2004.

Acceptance of Gifts

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted: \$7,500 from the Community for Sequoia Union High School District Schools/Yes on Measure H Committee to be allocated to the principals’ discretionary accounts - \$1,500 to each of the four comprehensive high schools, and \$750 each to the Adult School and Redwood High School; two computers from Thomas Field to the District for distribution to the areas of greatest need; \$5,000 from the Olander Family Foundation to the Carlmont High School Diamond Club honoring Jim Liggett’s lifelong contributions to women’s softball; one computer and supplies from Wayne Pleis to the Carlmont High School Video Lab for darkroom and photo classes; donations totaling \$550 for the Menlo-Atherton High School English Writing Fund from: Kathryn Jackson and Bradford Sylvester, Meritt and Stephen Sawyer, Mark Linton and Susan Ellis, Nancy & Gregory Sterling; \$1,388.20 from the Kiwanis Club Foundation of Menlo Park to the Key Club at Menlo-Atherton High School; \$1,000 from Leroy Kopp to Menlo-Atherton High School for the Random Acts of Kindness account; \$200 from Betsy Nikolchev to the Menlo-Atherton High School Band Boosters; donations totaling \$865 for the Outreach Fund for Jamal Mims and John Keller at Menlo-Atherton High School from: Julie Floyd, Keri Nicholas, Jeanne & James Wangsness, James McGovern, Gail Ortega, Jason Olaine, Peninsula Community Foundation, American Inst. For Research; donations totaling \$400 for membership to the Menlo-Atherton High School KCEA-FM Radio Station from: Jean and Richard Eckert, Quentin Kopp, Audrey Polk, Dorothy & Peter Polash, donations totaling \$200 for Gender Studies at Menlo-Atherton High School from: Julie Kriegler, Zhen Wallis, donations totaling \$2,980 for the Menlo-Atherton High School Canned Food Drive from: Ellyn Bader and Peter Pearson, Muriel Hubka, Karen Imatani, Mission Pettinelli Agency, Patrick Smailey; donations totaling \$2,250 for the Menlo-Atherton High School Robotics from: Starla and Peter Robinson, Christine & Robert Steele, Lester Weil; dnations totaling \$4,800 for the Menlo-

Atherton High School Leadership program
from: Katherine Alden, Kerry Dallmar,

Shirley Jorgenson, Carol Mince, Leslie and Murveit, Dorothy andter Polash, Gwyn & Jeffrey Wachtel; donations totaling \$17,925 for the Menlo-Atherton High School athletic programs from: Judy Ashford, Linda and Frank Atkinson, Maria and James Flaherty, Ben Parks, Cindy Folker, Leslie and James Peck, Brian Avery, Isobel and Charles Fox, Hildegard and Jason Pressesky, James Baron, Sally and David Fundakowski, Michael Price and Deborah Abel, Kirby Bartlett, Marilyn Gaddis, Luciana Profaca, Catherine Basile, Michael Fero, Andrew Griscom, Sharon Reich, Jodee and Richard Bass, Pamela Gullard, Rotary Club of Menlo Park, Laurie and Douglas Bauer, Robert Gumerlock, D. and C. Rundle, Kristen Benson and Bill Anderson, Laura and John Hale, Brad Snedecor and M. O'Shaughnessy, John Black, Lisa Hines, Samuel So and Margaret Tao, Dagny and John Borcich, Georgina Hum, David Sheridan, Camille and James Spar, Sara Boyd, Laurel Jenkins, Tod Spieker, Charles Bradley, Jewish Community Endowment, Carin Pacifico, Yong and Pi Chen, Alan Kalin, Carol and Collin Park, Peter Chow and Carla Holmes, Catherine and James Koshland, Linda and Jeffery Starr, Citigroup Foundation, LEFCO, Inc. Air Conditioning, Linda and Greg Stroud, Margaret and Mel Connet, Carol and Chi Mak, Elizabeth and Roger Toguchi, Bernadette Connolly and John Mulroe, Tammiss and David Matzinger, Deborah and Robert Verity, Country Corner, Mary and Kevin McCurdy, Gwyn and Jeffrey Wachtel, Lee Ann and Michael Crager, Deborah Melsop-Lyons, Nancy Wagstaff, Steven Russell, Samuel and Dolores Crawford, Julie and Randall Merk, Walker Enterprises, Kelly and Mallory Crawford, Kate and Steve Morey, Diane and Stephen Walter, Mary Dumont, Robin and David Mouat, Patricia and Emil Wang, Nancy and Michael Eldredge, Geoffrey Moyer, Judith and Joseph Weber, Susan Ellis and Mark Linton, Thomas Neville, Ronald Williams, Susan and Sanford Fitch, Margaret and Philip Winters and requested the Superintendent to send letters of appreciation to the donors.

Approval of Budget
Development Calendar

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Budget Development Calendar for 2005-06.

Approval of Additional Svs
from Cambridge CM

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved additional services from Cambridge Construction Management, Inc., in the amount of \$388,974, for a total contract price not to exceed \$1,728,415.

Approval of Bids &
Authorization to Advertise
for Construction Projects

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees awarded the low bids of \$76,212.50 to resurface the floor area of the District Office to Resurfacing Specialties and \$59,886 to Anza Engineering Corporation for the Trash Enclosure at Woodside High School and authorize the Superintendent to advertise for bids for swimming pool lights at Menlo-Atherton.

Approval of Construction
Expenditures

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved expenditures to Jones Campbell for \$35,470 for the Guidance and Administration Office renovation at Sequoia High School.

Approval of Construction
Change Order

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the change order overage amount of \$1,072 for European Hardwood Floors for the new Performing Arts Center at Woodside High School.

Approval of Field Trips

Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Menlo-

Atherton, Sequoia and Woodside field trip "Sojourn to the Past," February 17 - 26, 2005; the Carlmont AVID student college tour February 18 - 19, 2005, and the Menlo-Atherton Baseball field trip to Salinas, March 27 - April 2, 2005.

Special Recognitions

Susan Berghouse introduced David Reilly, Woodside High School English Teacher, and reported on the class she observed which exemplifies his being selected an innovative teacher.

Linda Common, Principal of Woodside High School, listed the many ways the school benefits from Mr. Reilly's talents and skills.

Public Hearing

None

Oral Communications

None

Correspondence

None

Report on
WHS Site Plan &
WASC Self Study

Mrs. Common, introduced the Woodside High School presentation team and acknowledged the work of Gregg Gunkel, Director of Technology and Information Services, Marianne Splenda, Coordinator of Assessment and Evaluation, and the district data team for providing Woodside teachers the information they need to be successful.

Margaret Williams, Instructional Vice Principal, Woodside High School, reviewed the Student Performance Data Report. She indicated that all measures were met by Woodside High School staff and students last year.

She listed the different ways teachers in different subject area are preparing themselves to better address the needs of students not doing well on standardized tests.

Diane Mazzei, Director of Student Activities, stressed how being able to assess student performance based on very specific results has benefited teachers.

Mr. Reilly noted that the key to a successful WASC experience is to never stop thinking about the WASC process, but rather to continually embrace the elements of WASC in all aspects of instruction. He added that, over the last six years since the last WASC visit, weaknesses have become strengths.

Student Body President Christian Ramos and Chief Justice Heather Losey reported they were an active part of the shared decision-making process that went into the WASC Self Study.

Mr. Reilly briefly reviewed the previous WASC recommendations which received the most emphasis, including making it very difficult for students to drop out of high level courses.

Margarita Navarro, MESA/AVID

Coordinator, presented components of the MESA/AVID outreach program designed to prepare underrepresented students for four-year universities.

Several MESA students reported on the ways in which the program has supported their success in high school.

Board members commended Woodside staff and students on the complete visit they had earlier in the day.

President Lewin added that he was concerned about Woodside High School's curb appeal

Update on Governor's State Budget Proposal & Effect on 2005-06 Budget Development

Ed LaVigne, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services, listed areas the Governor focused on to improve revenue to the State. He predicted that budgetary hits caused by the PI requirements would hit the District harder than any budget cuts from the State.

Ratification of Agreement w/SDTA

Michael Radoye, President of the Sequoia District Teachers Association, thanked Jerry Brodkey, negotiations chair, and the district team for arriving at settlement so early in the process.

President Lewin commended both negotiating teams for moving so expeditiously to conclusion, and expressed concern about financial challenges that will face the District in the future with PI, charter schools, unfunded mandates, and health benefits.

Student trustee – "yes." On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Gibson, the Board of Trustees ratified the agreement with the Sequoia District Teachers Association and acknowledged the "me too" clause for classified staff.

Presentation of Sabbatical Leave Requests for 2005-06

Debbie Moore Washington, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Staff Development, reported that the Sequoia District Teachers Association requested that consideration of the sabbatical leave requests be tabled for the February 16 meeting. She noted that the Fiscal impact was amended to approximately \$\$65,460.00 which reflects all direct costs minus the District's cost had the teacher not been on sabbatical.

Madeline Besse, Latin teacher at Menlo-Atherton High School, reported on her sabbatical leave in 1996 and expressed appreciation for having had the opportunity to take it.

Peter Caryotakis, Menlo-Atherton High School, described his 1997 sabbatical leave which included sitting in on feeder school classes to learn what students were learning before they get into high school. He stated that some teachers used their sabbatical leaves to earn units to advance on the salary schedule.

Mr. Radoye confirmed that the Fiscal Impact was about half what was reported in the background information. He suggested that the recommendation to deny

funding for the sabbaticals brings into question the Board's repeated commitment to

support this program. He indicated that financial reasons will always exist to justify not funding sabbatical leaves and asked the Board to support funding the two sabbatical leaves requested.

Approval of Improvement Goals for 2005-06

Superintendent Gemma reviewed the proposed Improvement Goals, 2005-06.

President Lewin noted that it might be valuable to bring back the communication consultants and ask them to come back to the District with a communication strategy for the next couple of years.

Trustee Stewart expressed interest in encouraging advanced students to go as far and as fast as they are able, i.e., testing out of courses in order to advance to the next level.

Board of Trustees' / & Superintendent's Comments

The Superintendent commended: **Jen Cowitz**, Woodside High School student, for the write-up she received in *The Almanac* for winning a model search for girls to model a new line of Powerpuff Girl clothing. She was one of three girls selected out of over 1,500 applicants; **Mike Nolan**, 1977 Woodside High School graduate, for being named head coach of the San Francisco 49ers; **Daniel Broome**, Sequoia High School Music Director, for being named in the School Band and Orchestra Report as one of the "50 Music Directors Nationwide Who Make a Difference" in students' lives. The music educators are selected based on recommendations from state music educator's organizations, national program rankings, program accomplishments and awards, and individual student and parent recommendations; **Diana Reddy and Charleen White**, Sequoia district employee and retired employee, for being recognized by the American Heart Association for their efforts in promoting the Heart Walk. Sequoia district raised \$9,515; **Collin Cronkite-Radcliff**, Menlo-Atherton High School student, for being selected as a candidate for the United States Presidential Scholars Program. Twenty-six hundred graduating seniors are selected nationwide to participate in this program. A review committee will next evaluate the candidates on their academic achievement personal characteristics, leadership and service activities and the quality of their essay, and will reduce the number of candidates to 500 semifinalists; **Mercedes Marchbanks** for the article in the *San Mateo County Times* about her efforts to lead the Sequoia Women's Basketball Team to a recent victory; **Jane Slater**, Sequoia High School Volleyball Coach and teacher, for being named by the San Mateo County Times as the County Volleyball Coach of the Year; **Claire Louie and Mercedes Marchbanks** from Sequoia High School, **Ashley Nicholas and Finau Tovo** from Carlmont High School, **Kelly Wright** from Menlo-Atherton High School, and **Diana Douglass** from Woodside High School for being named to the 2004 All County Volleyball team.

Superintendent Gemma also reported that Sequoia High School Principal **Morgan Marchbanks** has announced that on February 11, Sequoia High School will be retiring forever the No. 11 basketball jersey in honor of distinguished alumnus Charles "CJ" Johnson. Charles Johnson played with Golden State Warriors from 1972-1978 and with the Washington Bullets for two seasons.

The jersey retirement ceremony will take place prior to the Varsity Boys Basketball game on Friday, February 11 in the Sequoia High School Gymnasium

Trustee Rumley reported that Woodside High School student, Roberto Vargas, was featured on the Channel 5 "Beating the Odds" program.

Trustee Martinez renewed her concern about gum on campus.

President Lewin indicated that the deadline for candidates to turn in their applications for the Measure H Bond Oversight Committee was February 8 and invited board members to review applications on February 9 and 10. He added that he and Trustee Gibson will review the applicants on February 11.

Recess to
Closed Session
at 5:42 p.m.

The Board of Trustees recessed to Closed Session at 5:42 p.m. to discuss Personnel Matters as permitted under Government Code Section 54957 and Real Estate Negotiations as permitted under Government Code Section 54956.8.

Adjournment
at 6:45 p.m.

By consensus, the Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Lewin, President

Olivia Martinez, Clerk