

Unapproved Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Sequoia Union High School District
Wednesday, August 9, 2006

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 4:35 p.m., Wednesday, August 9, 2006, in the Sanford Building in Redwood City.
Roll Call	Trustees present: Don Gibson Gordon Lewin Olivia Martinez Lorraine Rumley Sally Stewart Kara Mantani, Student Trustee (5:38 p.m.) Trustees absent: None
Recess to Closed Session at 5:05 p.m.	The Board of Trustees recessed to Closed Session at 4:35 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation as permitted under Government Code Section 54957, and to Conference with Real Estate Negotiators as permitted under Government Code Section 54954.5.
Return to Public Session at 5:38 p.m.	The Board of Trustees returned to Public Session at 5:38 p.m.
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.
Pledge of Allegiance	President Lewin led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
Approval of Agenda	Student consent – “yes.” By consensus the Board of Trustees approved the agenda as presented.
Report Out on Closed Session	President Lewin reported that the Board of Trustees discussed the Superintendent's Evaluation in Closed Session and voted unanimously to extend his contract to 2010.
Amendments to Consent Calendar	Delete: 8a Subject Area Councils End of Year Report 8b Approval of Minutes for the June 28, 2006, and the July 26, 2006, Board Meetings 8c Approval of Personnel Recommendations 8f Approval of Revision to Job Descriptions for Instructional Associates and Inclusion Aides

	8i	Approval of MOU with FACES to Support Special Education Program (tabled to August 23, 2006, board meeting)
Approval of Consent Calendar		Student consent, “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Martinez, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar as amended. Voting “yes” – Trustees Gibson, Lewin, Martinez, Rumley, and Stewart; voting “no” – none; absent – none.
Approval of STRS Exemption Request for Don Gielow		Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the STRS exemption waiver request for Don Gielow.
Approval of Expulsion		Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted the hearing panel’s finding and expelled (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Spring 2005-06 and the Fall 2006-07 semesters and established December 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.
Renewal of Food Service Vending Agreements w/Charter Schools		Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees renewed Food Service vending agreements with Summit Preparatory High School and High Tech High Bayshore for the Fiscal Year 2006-07.
Approval of Agreements w/Athletic Trainer Svcs		Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the agreements for Physiotherapy Associates (BAK) athletic trainer services at Carmont, Menlo-Atherton, Sequoia, and Woodside high schools.
Ratification of Agreement w/Chinese Jiangyin Education Bureau & Sunny International		Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees ratified an agreement with Jiangyin Education Bureau and Sunny International, Inc.
Approval of Field Trips		Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the field trip requests for the Menlo-Atherton Cross Country Team to attend the Iolani Invitational meet in Honolulu, Hawaii, September 21 - 24, 2006; the Woodside English I students to tour Athens, Greece, during Spring Break, 2007, and the Menlo-Atherton Girls Water Polo Team to Santa Cruz, August 17 – 19.
Recognition of Otis Carrington & Acceptance of Original Sheet Music		Dee Eva, member of the Sequoia Alumni Association and Sequoia High School Class of 1961, introduced John Carrington, Otis Carrington’s son, and, on his behalf, presented original sheet music written by Otis Carrington. Trustee Martinez read the text of Resolution No. 1331, In Recognition of Otis Carrington and Acceptance of Original Sheet Music, which will be ratified at the August 23, 2006, board meeting.
Update on Residency		Susan Berghouse, Director of District Information and Communications,

Verification for Incoming
Ninth Graders

reported on staff's summer efforts to verify the residency of ninth-graders who will be attending all district schools. She added that 35 families were accommodated by staff who scheduled a session in East Palo Alto, and the addresses of over 1950 students, or approximately 71 percent of all ninth graders, have been verified to date.

Dorothy Burnside, Coordinator of Parent Information Services, described the "P" status of those families who cannot immediately verify their addresses. If unverified, staff have been scheduling home visits to ensure they live within district boundaries.

Eric Hartwig, Director of Student Services/Special Education, reported that the District is in a much better situation than last year when as many as one-third of all district ninth-graders had addresses that were unverified by the opening of school. He announced that district staff will attend arena check-ins and school sites' opening days to complete the verification process.

Progress Report on Work
of Graduation Task Force

Mr. Hartwig reviewed the charge and process of the Graduation Task Force. He noted that stakeholders, including parents, staff, and students, were included on the Task Force. He explained that they reviewed district core values and current graduation requirements as well as the graduation requirements of neighboring districts.

Task Force members Pam Jones, Carlmont parent, and Liane Strub, Menlo-Atherton English teacher, reviewed the questions raised by Task Force members to provide a comprehensive examination of the graduation requirements and what is expected of students and what is being offered.

Mr. Hartwig reviewed the four recommendations of the Task Force, including (1) committing to a major overhaul of its vision and academic expectations, (2) working with stakeholders to develop a clear, powerful, modern vision of learning goals, (3) defining a comprehensive, inclusive process that will culminate in a strategic plan that will have broad support, and (4) promoting a multi-year implementation and accountability plan to ensure that adopted reforms are phased in in an effective, transparent, equitable manner.

Board members supported the continued work of the Task Force to conduct a complete look at graduation requirements

President Lewin expressed interest in having the Board deliberate to identify broad goals to give the Task Force direction.

Trustee Stewart suggested that everyone work toward asking the right questions rather than board members giving direction to the Task Force.

Discussion of
Improvement Goals
2006-07

Superintendent Gemma reviewed site and department discussions of the Improvement Goals for 2006-07 that were reviewed at the Conference for Administrative the Management Planning (CAMP).

He announced that a fifth improvement goal was suggested which would support the continued work of the Graduation Task Force and revisit the District's

Vision Statement and Mission Statement. He suggested a continued back and forth process between the Board and the Task Force.

Report on CAHSEE
May Test Results

Brandon Lee, Coordinator of Research and Evaluation, presented the Report on the CAHSEE May Test Results.

Superintendent Gemma reported that a more comprehensive report will be presented to the Board at a later date.

Subject Area Committee
End of Year Report

Trustee Stewart asked that the SAC End of the Year Report be removed from the Consent Calendar. She indicated that she would meet with Francisca Miranda, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services, to go over the report in more detail. She explained that her primary interest was what affect the committees' work had on students.

Trustee Martinez reported that she thoroughly enjoyed reading the report. She indicated she was impressed with articulation activities that go on with elementary district teachers. She indicated that she would like all SACs to meet with their elementary counterparts. She expressed surprise that no articulation activities are scheduled among EL teachers. She indicated she would like the SAC to examine English-only in EL classes. She noted that the Head Guidance Advisors had talked about weighting community college classes and asked that that topic be reexamined. She noted that high school students used to receive ten units for community college three-unit classes. She also asked if there was a place in the curriculum for a Veterans Assembly.

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees accepted the Subject Area Committee End of Year Report as presented.

Minutes for 6/28/06
Board Meeting

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Rumley, seconded by Trustee Martinez, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the June 28, 2006, board meeting. Voting “yes” – Trustees Gibson, Lewin, Martinez, and Rumley; voting “no” – none; abstained – Trusette Stewart; absent – none.

Minutes for 7/26/06
Board Meeting

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the July 26, 2006, board meeting.

Approval of Personnel
Recommendations

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Gibson, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations for classified and certificated employees as indicated.

Approval of
Job Descriptions for
Instructional Associates
& Inclusion Aides

In response to a question posed by Trustee Rumley, Dr. Miranda reported that EI LEP funds are used to provide instructional associates for primary language students.

Debra Moore Washington, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Professional Development, added that categorical funds are primarily used for inclusion aides for special education students.

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Rumley, seconded by Trustee Stewart, the Board of Trustees approved the revised job descriptions for Instructional Associates and Inclusion Aides.

Board of Trustees’/
Superintendent’s
Comments

Student Trustee Mantani reported that she and four other student body officers will be attending a leadership training at Stanford.

Trustee Rumley congratulated Sequoia and Carlmont for receiving six-year accreditations. She also congratulated Sequoia for its impressive IB passing rate.

Trustee Martinez thanked district staff for preparing the Otis Carrington resolution.

Trustee Stewart expressed interest in being able to access board agendas on line.

Trustee Stewart announced that she is taking a Chinese lesson on-line.

President Lewin announced a summer school graduation has been scheduled for the next board meeting. He indicated that the ceremony will be held at Sequoia High School in the MPR or patio, and board members will then return to the district office for the board meeting.

Adjournment
at 7:56 p.m.

Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Gibson, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Lewin, President

Olivia Martinez, Clerk

dmr