

Unapproved Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Sequoia Union High School District
Wednesday, October 4, 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 4:05 p.m., Wednesday, October 4, 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 (5:50 p.m.) Trustees absent: None
Recess to Closed Session at 4:35 p.m.	The Board of Trustees recessed to Closed Session at 4:07 p.m. to conference with legal counsel regarding potential litigation as permitted by Government Code Section 54956.9; to conference with real property negotiators as permitted by Government Code Section 54954.5; to discuss labor negotiations as permitted by Government Code Section 54957.6, and to discuss public employee discipline/dismissal/release as permitted under Government Code Section 54957.6.
Return to Public Session at 5:50 p.m.	The Board of Trustees returned to Public Session at 5:50 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.” On a motion by Trustee Gibson, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees approved the agenda as presented.
Report Out on Closed Session	President Lewin reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.
Amendments to Consent Calendar	Delete: 8b Report on D.K. Associates Counseling Program 8i Approval of Student Eligibility Criteria Under Title I, Economic Impact Aid (EIA)

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Approval of Consent Calendar	Student consent, “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Gibson, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar as amended. Voting “yes” – Trustees Gibson, Lewin, Martinez, Rumley, and Stewart; voting “no” – none; absent - none.
Report on Prof Development Activities, 2005-06	The Board of Trustees accepted the Report on Professional Development Activities for 2005-06. The Report highlighted the efforts of the newly-established Professional Development Department and its main focus of training teachers in Algebra, English, and High Point interventions and the AB 75 training for administrators.
Approval of Minutes for 9/20/06 Bd Mtg	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the September 20, 2006, board meeting.
Approval of Personnel Recommendations	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations, including classified and certificated employees as indicated.
Approval of Readmission	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Readmission Committee’s recommendation to accept (name of student to appear in official minutes), a previously expelled student back into the District.
Acceptance of Gifts	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted \$1,000 from the Redwood City Police Activities League for the Sequoia High School music program (Daniel Broome, instructor) and requested the Superintendent to send a letter of appreciation to the donor.
Adoption of Resolution No. 1334, Gann Limit for 2006-07 & Recalculation for 2005-06	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 1334, to approve the “Gann” limit for 2006-07 and to recalculate the limit for 2005-06.
Approval of Student Eligibility Criteria Under Title I, EIA	Student consent – “yes.” On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Martinez, the Board of Trustees approved the Student Eligibility Criteria under Title I, Economic Impact Aid (EIA).
Approval of Revised Board Meeting Schedule	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the revised board meeting schedule through June 2007 as presented.
Approval of Field Trips	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Menlo-Atherton Cross Country Team participation in the Clovis Invitational in Fresno, October 6 – 7, 2006.
Report on D.K. Associates Counseling Services	Kiki Gregoriante, Executive Director of D.K. Associates Counseling Services, described the Alternative to Suspension (ATS) program for students recommended by their sites and her work with students and staff in the Safe Place program at Redwood High School.

Special Recognitions

Deputy Superintendent Francisca Miranda reported that the Northern Regional Academies Conference was recently held at Carlmont High School.

The Superintendent commended:

- Kristyne Wada, Carlmont High School senior, for completing the requirements for the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award given to a Girl Scout.
- Kim Vinh, Sequoia High School English teacher, for being the recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to participate in the National Institute on Teaching Shakespeare last summer. Twenty-six teachers were selected from across the country to attend the Institute held on the Smith College campus.
- Marsha Runnels, Administrative Services Buyer, and Donna Pace, Human Resources Senior Administrative Secretary, for receiving district office employee commendation awards for their hard work and dedication.
- David Aknin, Carlmont High School Football Player, for being named *San Mateo County Times* "Athlete of the Week."
- Carlmont High School for receiving a \$70,000 grant to create a Mandarin language studies program.
- Roger David Kornberg, Woodside High School student from the 1960s, for winning a Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Public Hearing on Adult School Course of Study
Opened at 6:15 p.m.

President Lewin opened the Public Hearing on the Adult School Course of Study at 6:15 p.m.

Public Hearing
Closed at 6:16 p.m.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:16 p.m. without comment from the audience.

Oral Communications

None

Report on Constitution Day

Carlmont High School Principal Andrea Jenoff; Sequoia High School Principal Morgan Marchbanks; Menlo-Atherton High School Principal Denise Plante; Woodside High School Principal Linda Common, and Redwood High School Principal Marshall Burgamy reported on how each of their sites recognized Constitution Day.

Report on Title I Program Evaluation

Richard Lentz, Outside Evaluator for Title I programs, described the work of the evaluation project team and suggested that capacity needs to be developed in order to more properly evaluate the Title I programs.

Principals clarified that individual sites hold themselves accountable in terms of allocating Title I funds properly. They pointed out the criticism has to do with not having uniform evaluation criteria.

Discussion of Board

Francisca Miranda, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services, introduced

Desired Outcomes for ELL the opportunity for board members to discuss their desired outcomes with regard to English Language Learners.

Trustee Martinez indicated that more clarity is required. She noted that native language support is only to be used to support the goal of teaching English language skills. She expressed the hope that all district and classroom procedures and policies would support that expectation. She questioned whether it would be valuable to evaluate the program again, as a follow up to the work previously done by Liz Wolf.

Trustee Rumley noted that students who have been educated in their own language move more quickly toward English language development than those students who were not educated in their own language. She asked how the District can help the second group of students.

Trustee Gibson urged finding ways to discourage students from communicating in Spanish while in school.

Student Trustee Mantani agreed that learning a foreign language is accomplished more quickly if the language is spoken all the time.

Trustee Stewart indicated that learning English is just part of what students need to learn. She encouraged finding opportunities for teachers to talk with each other about what works and what doesn't.

Dr. Miranda announced that staff will be returning to the Board with an EL Master Plan.

Discussion of Possible
External Audit of Budget

Ed LaVigne, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services, noted that the Board had agreed to engaging an external auditor when district resources were dire. He indicated that the situation has changed and asked if the Board still wants an audit.

Trustee Stewart suggested that having the budget audited would be good for the staff and Board's protection.

Trustee Martinez indicated she was comfortable with not having audit.

Trustee Rumley suggested that it is always good to have an outside set of eyes looking at the budget and categoricals.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Gibson, Mr. LaVigne indicated that processes like purchasing would not be audited but processes utilized in budget development, such as the special education budget would be examined. He noted that he would expect a six- to eight-week timeline, including interviews.

Board of Trustees'/
Superintendent's
Comments

Trustee Stewart reported that she visited Redwood High School's Back to School Night.

Trustee Martinez reported that she spent Friday and Saturday nights with fellow Sequoia High School alumni and then joined other classes at Sequoia High School on Sunday.

Trustee Rumley reported on the Superintendent's meeting with parents to discuss the District's legal obligations to Summit to provide facilities for afterschool sports. She indicated that John Beiers, Chris Beth, and David Reilly were also at the meeting to talk about the use of fields. She reported that Summit was not demanding, but the need will increase next year. She indicated that the concern of parents is that Sequoia has been caught up in the District's obligation to Summit. She asked that the issue be discussed again at the board level.

Adjournment
at 8:02 p.m.

Student consent – "yes." On a motion by Trustee Gibson, seconded by Trustee Martine, the Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Lewin, President

Olivia Martinez, Clerk

dmr