

Unapproved Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Sequoia Union High School District  
Wednesday, March 26, 2008

- Call to Order                               The regular meeting of the Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Rumley at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 26, 2008, in the Birch Conference Room, Sanford Building, at the District Office in Redwood City.
- Roll Call                                       Trustees present:
- Don Gibson  
Gordon Lewin  
Olivia Martinez (*left meeting at 8:00 p.m.*)  
Lorraine Rumley  
Sally Stewart  
Megan Fisher, Student Trustee (*left meeting at 7:15 p.m.*)
- Trustees absent:
- None
- Recess to  
Closed Session at 4:31 p.m.               The Board of Trustees recessed to conference with real property negotiators as permitted by Government Code Section 54956.8; labor negotiations as permitted by Government Code Section 54957.6; legal counsel concerning anticipated litigation as permitted by Government Code Section 54956.9, and the Superintendent's evaluation as permitted by Government Code Section 54957).
- Return to Public  
Session at 6:15 p.m.                       The Board of Trustees returned to Public Session at 6:15 p.m.
- Invitation to Audience                   President Rumley 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. She explained the Public Comment section of the agenda was for permitting members of the audience to make presentations about items not on the agenda.
- Pledge of Allegiance                      President Rumley led the Board of Trustees and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of Agenda                       On a motion by Trustee Lewin, seconded by Trustee Gibson, the Board of Trustees approved the agenda as presented.
- Report Out on  
Closed Session                              President Rumley announced that no action was taken while the Board met in Closed Session.
- Amendments to  
Consent Calendar                          Delete:
- 8i       Approval of Granting of Certificates of Achievement for Special Education Students  
8o       Approval of New Courses
- Approval of  
Consent Calendar                          On a motion by Trustee Gibson, seconded by Trustee Martinez, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar as amended. Student consent "yes." Voting "yes" – Trustees Gibson, Lewin, Martinez, Rumley, and Stewart; voting "no" – none, and absent – none.
- Approval of Minutes  
for 3/5/08, and 3/10/08,  
Board Meetings                            Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the March 5 and 10, 2008, board meetings.

Approval of Personnel Recommendations	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations for certificated and classified employees.
Approval of Expulsions	<p>Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted the hearing panels' findings to expel: (1) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Spring and Fall 2008-09 semesters and establish December 8, 2008, as the date that 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 Spring and Fall 2008-09 semesters and establish December 8, 2008, as the date that 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 and Fall 2008-09 semesters and establish December 8, 2008, as the date that 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 (4) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Fall and Spring 2007-08 semesters and establish May 15, 2008, as the date that 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.</p> <p>Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the stipulated expulsions: (1) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Spring and Fall 2008-09 semesters and establish December 8, 2008, as the date that 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 Spring and Fall 2008-09 semesters and to suspend the expulsion; (3) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Spring 2007-08 and Fall 2008-09 semester and establish December 8, 2008, as the date that 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 with 15 stipulated agreements, and (4) (name of student to appear in official minutes) for the Spring and Fall 2008-09 semesters and to suspend the expulsion with 15 stipulated agreements.</p>
Approval of Readmissions	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Readmission Committee's recommendation to accept two of the previously expelled students (names of students to appear in official minutes), back into the Sequoia district.
Acceptance of Monthly Financial Report	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the Monthly Financial Report for February 2008.
Approval of Warrants	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved Warrants No. 0297A through 0355A totaling \$5,235,737.30 for February 2008.
Approval of Fundraising Activities for Menlo-Atherton High School	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the fundraising activities at Menlo-Atherton High School as indicated.

Adopt Res. No. 1365 Declaring Results of School Bond Election Held Feb. 5, 2008	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 1365, declaring the results of the school bond election held on February 5, 2008.
Approval of Architectural Costs for Previously Approved Construction Projects	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the costs for architectural services received from Cody Anderson Wasney Architects: \$271,100 for Phase One Master Plan project at Sequoia High School, and \$109,000 for design of the Health Career Center/Engineering (Robotics) classrooms in G-Wing at Woodside High School.
Approval of Costs & to Hire CM Firm for Construction	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the costs and hired Alfa Tech Cambridge Group for construction management of the 1) 15-classroom modernization project including restrooms, and a physics classroom at Sequoia High School, in the amount of \$184,500, and 2) pre-construction engineering design, cost estimating and project management for the new Music and Arts Building at Carlmont High School, in the amount of \$225,000.
Approval of Pre-Qualified Contractors for 2008 Construction Projects	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the pre-qualified list of General Contractors for 2008 construction projects.
Approval of Summary of Spring & Summer 2008 Construction	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the summary of spring and summer 2008 construction projects.
Approval of Authorization To Declare Textbooks Obsolete	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees declared the listed items as obsolete, and unsuitable for use, and authorized the Superintendent to dispose of the listed items in accordance with Education Code provisions.
Approval of New Textbooks	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the pilot evaluation of new textbooks: <i>The Left Hand of Darkness; Into the Wild; Economics Today and Tomorrow</i> , and <i>Gateway to Science</i> .
Approval of CAHSEE Waivers	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the CAHSEE (California High School Exit Examination) waivers requested.
Approval of Field Trips	Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the field trip requests for Menlo-Atherton leadership students to go to San Jose, March 29 – 31, 2008; Carlmont Choral students to go to Anaheim, April 2 – 6, 2008, and Menlo-Atherton Boys Golf Team students to go to Stockton, March 29, 2008.
Special Recognitions	<p>Menlo-Atherton High School's Student Activities Director, Jenna Carson, Student Activities Teacher, Kelly Todd, and Student Leader Alp Kutlu, presented information on the nomination received from the State for M-A's outstanding student activities program; which is centered around the student, and how students can lead by example.</p> <p>Anna Murveit, Menlo-Atherton student, was commended for being named as one of California's Climate Champions.</p> <p>Matthew Zito, Principal, of Menlo-Atherton High School, advised that M-A students are being recognized by the National Sleep Foundation for increasing awareness on sleep and its impact on performance.</p>

Superintendent Gemma commended the following Woodside High School students for winning awards in the MESA (Mathematics Engineering Scientific Achievement) Challenge:

Theresa Aoun	Anthony Godinez	Paula Pereda	Jazmin Sosa
Ivan Bucio	Jessica Mendoza	Conception Sandoval	Sekope Tagilala

Commendations also go to the Woodside/Carlmont Robotics Team for its win at the San Jose Regional Competition.

Dr. Gemma advised that Joy Zhang, Carlmont High School student, was selected as one of the State's top 25 students.

Public Comment                      None.

Correspondence                      None

Report on Effectiveness of Program Improvement Reforms                      Francisca Miranda, Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services, advised that in 2004 the District was identified by the State as a Program Improvement district, and the Board approved spending \$1.8 million to address reforms. Dr. Miranda reported that the reforms have been completed, and follow-up was a critical part of the process in order to improve student test scores and narrow the achievement gap.

Action Learning Systems, Inc. (ALS) was hired to evaluate the school and District reforms that were implemented in the last three years, and the final report was presented by Cindy Lenners and Kelly Smith, who are both Vice Presidents at ALS. Suggestions were made to retool the intervention program, move the coaching role into classroom support, and to provide professional development for teachers and administrators.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Martinez concerning measuring student accomplishment, Dr. Miranda stated that she will find out how many students were enrolled in Algebra II by the 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Mrs. Miranda advised that staff will be looking at the areas of greatest impact on student achievement.

Superintendent Gemma advised that there is a plan underway for staff development, which will be presented on April 9, 2008.

Report on State Budget                      Superintendent Gemma reported that the District does not have any new information concerning the budget for 2008-09. Dr Gemma stated that he will be attending a state-wide meeting of high school district superintendents, and they will be discussing the budget relative to high school reform.

Public Hearing                              None

Accepted the Energy Savings Report & Authorized the Superintendent to Sign Contract with Resource Solutions Group                      Donald Gielow, Chief Executive Construction Manager, presented the Energy Savings Analysis Report, and he reviewed the Energy Audit Report for SUHSD, which was prepared by Resource Solutions Group, a firm hired by PG&E to perform energy audits.

Mr. Gielow advised that if the District invested \$600,000, it would save approximately \$100,000 per year in energy costs. David Castini, of Resource Solutions, explained that his firm provides installation support services and gets paid through rebates funneled through the organization. Don Gielow stated that Resource Solutions will assist in the bidding process (writing bid specifications) and doing the paperwork for the rebates.

Trustee Lewin suggested that this could be called Phase One of the energy savings specified for in the new Measure J bond.

On a motion from Trustee Lewin, seconded by Trustee Stewart, the Board of Trustees accepted the Energy Savings Report and authorized the Superintendent to sign the contract with Resource Solutions Group.

Discussion of Board  
Committee Assignments

Tabled

Approval of Granting  
Certificates of Achievement  
for Special Education  
Students

In response to a question posed by Trustee Lewin, Dr. Miranda reported that the Certificates of Achievement would be presented to all Special Education students who have met the graduation requirements but have not yet passed the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE).

Superintendent Gemma that students cannot receive a high school diploma if they have not passed the CAHSEE, however it does allow students to receive a Certificate of Achievement. He added that Special Education students must be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremonies, which has been the practice for the last couple of years.

On a motion from Trustee Gibson, seconded by Trustee Stewart, the Board of Trustees approved granting Certificates of Achievement for Special Education Students

Approval of New Courses

In response to the question posed by Trustee Stewart concerning the new course combining Geometry and Algebra II, Dr. Miranda advised that this new course was addressing those middle students who need encouragement to take higher-level math.

On a motion from Trustee Lewin, seconded by Trustee Gibson, the Board of Trustees approved the new courses.

Board of Trustees'/  
Superintendent's Comments  
and Committee Reports

Trustee Stewart advised that she had collaborated with teachers concerning building design for the charter school in East Palo Alto, and the teachers expressed concern for student safety. They are also interested in adequate space on campus for collaboration.

Adjournment at  
8:30 p.m

On a motion by Trustee Gibson, seconded by Trustee Lewin, the Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Lorraine Rumley, President

Gordon Lewin, Clerk