

Approved Revised Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Sequoia Union High School District  
Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Call to Order	The regular meeting of the Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Alan Sarver at 4:31 p.m., on Wednesday, April 20, 2016, in Birch Conference Room at 480 James Avenue, in Redwood City, California. He announced anyone wishing to address the Board on Closed Session matters may do so at this time.		
Recessed to Closed Session	The Board of Trustees recessed to Closed Session at 4:32 p.m. to conference with Labor Negotiators, Agency Designated Representative James Lianides, Employee Organization Sequoia Union High School District Teachers' Association (SDTA), and American Federation of State, Local, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); conference with Legal Counsel—Anticipated Litigation: Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (e) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (one case), and the Superintendent's Evaluation—Government Code Section 54957.		
Opened Public Session 5:38 p.m.	President Sarver opened the Public Session of the regular meeting at 5:38 p.m. in Birch Conference Room at 480 James Avenue, Redwood City, California.		
Roll Call	<table><tr><td><b>Present:</b> Abby Hartzell, Student Trustee Carrie Du Bois Georgia Jack Alan Sarver Chris Thomsen Allen Weiner</td><td><b>Absent:</b> (none)</td></tr></table>	<b>Present:</b> Abby Hartzell, Student Trustee Carrie Du Bois Georgia Jack Alan Sarver Chris Thomsen Allen Weiner	<b>Absent:</b> (none)
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Invitation to the Audience	President Sarver welcomed the audience and explained that the Consent Calendar consisted of routine or previously discussed items to be considered as a unit and voted upon by roll call vote. He 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 Sarver led the Board of Trustees and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.		
Approval of Agenda	On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by Trustee Jack, the Board of Trustees approved the Agenda.		
Report Out on Closed Session	President Sarver reported that no Board action was taken in Closed Session. The Board will reconvene in Closed Session following Public Session.		
Approval of Consent Calendar	On a motion by Trustee Du Bois, seconded by Trustee Thomsen,, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar. Voting "yes,"—Student Trustee Hartzell; Trustees Du Bois, Jack, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner; voting "no"—none, and absent—none.		
Approval of Minutes of March 30, 2016, Board Meeting	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the March 30, 2016, Board meeting as amended.		
Approval of Personnel Recommendations	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations and Addenda as indicated.		
Qtrly. Rep. Williams Compliance	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the report as presented.		
Approval of Architectural Fee for Carlmont Weight Room Project	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the fee proposal from Weston Miles Architects to complete design of the Carlmont High School weight room expansion in the estimated amount of \$145,000 (with a not-to-exceed amount of \$5,000 for reimbursable expenses, and up to \$4,000 for administrative tasks related to applying for state-match funding for a total of \$154,000). The final fee will be determined based on the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) sliding scale for modernization and adjusted accordingly at the end-of-project based on the final hard construction cost.		

Approval Field Trips	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the field trip requests for requests for EPAA students to Morgan Hill on April 29-May 1, 2016; Menlo-Atherton High School's Jazz Band to Reno, Nevada on April 29-30, 2016; Science students to Clayton on April 30-May 1, 2016; Science students to Menlo Park on April 27 and April 28, 2016; Special Education students to Oceano on May 5-6, 2016; Redwood High School's Science students to Sausalito on May 27, 2016; Sequoia High School's HCA to Anaheim on May 12-14, 2016.
Auth. to Declare Texts Obsolete	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees declared the listed items as obsolete and unsuitable for use, and authorized the Superintendent to dispose or transfer the listed items in accordance with Education Code provisions.
Approval of 3-year Hobsons/ Naviance Agreement	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the three-year licensing agreement with Hobsons for Naviance college and career readiness platform in the amount of \$111,497.95.
Approval of SUHSD Title I Criteria	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the updated SUHSD Title I Criteria.
Approval of Warrants	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Warrants for March 2016 totaling \$6,795,620.66
Approval of Contract with Quality System Installations	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the contract with Quality System Installations Ltd., to provide design and installation services to SUHSD.
Acceptance of Monthly Financial Reports	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the Monthly Financial Reports.
Approval of Changes to Facilities Master Plan for Carlmont HS	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the changes to the Carlmont High School Facilities Master Plan.
Auth. to File CEQA Exemption for Woodside Practice Field Lights	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees authorized the Superintendent or designee to file a CEQA categorical exemption with the San Mateo County Clerk and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse for the practice lights at Woodside High School.
Approval of Job Description for Bond Program Secretary	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the job description for a Bond Program Secretary.
Approval of Construction Bids	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved: 1) The Carlmont High School B-9 portable replacement project with Guerra Construction Group in the amount of \$277,600 (base bid, of \$257,600, plus a District controlled contingency of \$20,000) and authorizes the Superintendent to resolve any valid bid protests that may arise within three working days, and inform the Board if the disposition of a bid protest requires the District to forego contracting with the lowest qualified bidder for this project only; 2) The Menlo-Atherton High School Guidance Department remodel with Strawn Construction in the amount of \$998,859 (base bid, plus a District controlled contingency of \$85,000), and 3) The KCEA Radio Station relocation bid with Rodan Builders in the amount of \$74,894 (base bid, plus a District controlled contingency of \$5,000).
Special Recognitions	Superintendent Lianides recognized Menlo-Atherton High School students Serafina Casey for activating a mobile app that alerts registered CPR-trained users of heart attack victims in public places in their immediate vicinity; and Olivia Luna, who was named Northern California Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year. Dr. Lianides also commended Sequoia High School Dance Teacher Taylor White and the Dance Team who performed brilliantly in the 47 <sup>th</sup> Annual Dance Show. The Team celebrates human movement, Sequoia's diversity, and the spirit of Unaliyi.

Public Comment

Menlo-Atherton Student Josh Evans requested that the district consider opting out of Smarter Balanced standardized testing. He said the test unfairly judges the overall scores of students and teachers; and English and math classes need to make room art and science classes. Mr. Evans distributed an article supporting his suggestion.

Correspondence

None

Update on Small School Task Force

Assistant Superintendent Bonnie Hansen reported that in September of 2015 the Board formulated **tenets** to guide development of the Menlo Park small high school. Staff had surveyed parents, students and staff who all indicated the school would have a technology/design/engineering curricular theme in collaboration with the community college district, and a Linked Learning focus with business partnerships. Mrs. Hansen pointed out that jobs in software development paid well, and noted neighbors of the small school in Menlo Park were Intel and Facebook. Two committees were formed to guide development and provide periodic updates to the Board. Members carefully researched small schools by reading books/publications, studying models, and making site visits.

Chief Facilities Officer (CFO) Matthew Zito said a well-informed process was utilized: researching how to launch a new small school, the educational vision of the school, as well as looking at architectural designs. Mr. Zito reported the school will be a three-story structure and a “green” building with space for solar. The architectural firm of LPA Inc. was selected by the Advisory Committee based on the firm’s innovative approach to learning, the school building and the overall design aesthetic. CFO Zito advised the total project cost is \$39 million; and the school will open in August of 2018. We are currently in the design development phase, and should bring more information to the Board in December.

Assistant Superintendent Hansen said proposed Master and Bell schedules were developed, and mentoring models were looked at. Pathways were designed for Visual Media Arts, and Software and Systems Development. Also discussed were guiding principles, state requirements, district criteria, and “A-G” college requirements. Building curriculum through the lens of the school relative to technology requires extra funding by providing time for teachers to prepare. The District has already received some funding and was awarded the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant.

Trustee Du Bois noted it is important to have parent and community feedback from East Palo Alto and Menlo Park; and we need to look at things from different angles.

Trustee Thomsen **commented that a presentation to the Small School Task Force, highlighting the need to increase student readiness for college, provided a compelling rationale for including community college partnerships as a primary tenant in developing the new small school.** He recommends accelerating the hiring of the principal, which should help with coordinating staff schedules.

Trustee Jack advised she wants the student experience to include support programs for improving math and science skills. Bonnie Hansen said there will be summer enrichment

In response to questions posed by Trustee Weiner, Mrs. Hansen said the community college courses will be offered at the new small school site. Trustee Weiner suggested hiring the new principal in August of 2017 in order for the principal to “own” the model and the staff; he said there should be support services available for all students.

Student Trustee Hartzell observed that Spanish is discontinued at the tenth-grade level; she asked if students could continue taking it at the community college. She suggested that it would be important to have guidance/college/counselors available on site.

Sequoia District Teachers’ Association (SDTA) President Edith Salvatore said she is a member of the Advisory Committee, and it has been a refreshing experience to see we are doing so much work for a school that is not opening for two years.

When the issue of the calendar came up she appreciated that the district has been inclusive of the bargaining unit, because all concerns should be included in the process.

President Sarver said the committee has been very strategic and open trying to think outside the box. He too wants to get the principal on board early. He noted the district is working on a partnership with Redwood City and Ravenswood City elementary districts toward the recruitment of students coming to us. Students will be better prepared to succeed. There is outreach to the business community for mentorship, curriculum direction, resources and interventions. Trustee Sarver said he is very excited at the various ways this is moving forward.

**Update on East Palo Alto Academy Programs**  
East Palo Alto Academy (EPAA) Principal Amika Guillaume said the vision for EPAA is that students will graduate college-ready empowered with the knowledge, skills, and passion to positively impact their own lives. She reported that 65 percent of her students have parents who did not finish high school; the current EPAA enrollment is at 288 students.

Social Worker Patricia Soto-Minder (through Stanford University) described the school's social emotional support; which includes a full-time social worker; teen health van, and restorative justice program. EPAA Spanish Teacher Mislá Barco reviewed the school's instructional practices, which included small class size with a 14:1 student/teacher ratio and curriculum supporting all students and their cultural heritage. Teacher Derek Ang described the academic and emotional environment; and Olaremi Sobomehin reported on enrichment which included, sports, student government, clubs, and extra support in reading. Boys and Girls Club Director Lena Potts reported on activities with partners in the community. Instructional Associate and EPAA alumni Rosa Ayala told her story. Parent Maria Arteaga said EPAA is changing East Palo Alto for the better. Special Education Parent Uriel Espino described what he has learned in workshops. Parents Mirella Murillo and Gabriela Chavez praised the EPAA program.

Visual Arts Teacher Justin Moody said staff strives to approach knowledge in different ways. Cutting-edge opportunities are provided to students to prepare for college and beyond. Students Priyanka Devi and Gustavo Garcia Prado spoke in appreciation of the EPAA teachers.

President Sarver noted he attended the excellent play put on by EPAA students. Both he and Trustee Jack complimented the work and the incredible support the school is getting.

*(The Board recessed for five minutes at 7:36 p.m.)*

**Discuss Oxford Day Academy Charter Petition**  
Lead Founder of Oxford Day Academy (ODA), Dr. Mallory Dwinal advised that she would present the big picture to the Board tonight and would respond to the district's questions regarding the proposed charter school on Friday, April 23, 2016. Dr. Dwinal described her personal history, the charter school's mission and core values. The model includes real-world electives, and exposes students to defined thinking service projects, developing social change, and interdisciplinary learning. There is a nine-member board of directors and a community advisory board. Pilot work has been done in three separate sites over the last ten months. Dr. Dwinal said the students will be prepared. She has worked with legal counsel and the charter is a "XQ Super School" project.

Parent Jennifer Lyons and her son Jules T. Thomas said their community is partnering with Oxford Day Academy. Parent Tiffany Hautau asked for the Board's support of ODA. Fifth grader Genesis Hautau said she wants to explore learning outside of the classroom. Chavellam Montantes expressed support of ODA.

**Public Hearing Opened at 8:05 p.m. on Oxford Day Academy Charter Petition**  
President Sarver opened the public hearing on the Oxford Day Academy charter petition at 8:05 p.m.

Jeff Austin, of the Mid-Peninsula Athletic Association, reported that the association has added mental health support to its bylaws; he noted 79 percent of 6-to-14 year-olds have moderate to severe traumatic occurrences. The Association supports this model and the social emotional piece because the ODA is directly in line with what we are doing.

Sequoia District Teachers Association President Edith Salvatore said as a teacher for 19 years she has seen many charter petitions coming before the Board with the best intentions; but sometimes it does not work for students who come back to the district, and they are way behind and not able to catch up. Often Physical Education gets lost, and there are other social-emotional aspects that are not fully addressed. President Salvatore implored the Board to ensure that the charter school will be set up to do 100 percent of everything it states will be done for students.

Public Hearing Closed at 8:13 p.m. on ODA Charter Petition

There were no other comments, and President Sarver closed the public hearing at 8:13 p.m. on the charter petition for Oxford Day Academy.

Continued Discussion of ODA Charter Petition

Superintendent Lianides advised that the Board has questions in regard to student enrollment, facilities, first-year academic program, student-teacher ratio, the structure of the community work and its alignment with academic standards. Dr. Lianides said he looked forward to receiving a response to his questions in order for the Board to be well-informed to vote on the charter petition.

Trustee Weiner expressed concern over the kinds of teaching methods described when students do not have basic facts; a 14-day program for students to overcome deficits is not satisfactory, and there is concern about the focus on elective learning when the people running the program are not teachers. Trustee Weiner requested an assessment of the pilot work Dr. Dwinal has done and what information was learned. He requested data concerning the number of signed petitioners who actually enroll their students in this type of program.

Trustee Thomsen said he supported the Superintendent's questions. He observed that ODA did not qualify for Proposition 39 the first year; he asked about the engagement of community service agencies. In response to a question posed by Trustee Thomsen, Dr. Dwinal advised that staff would work with families in regard to expelled students eligible to return to school in one year. Trustee Thomsen noted language concerning the admissions process and credit levels concerned the Board. He did not want to see the Board of Directors have that much authority. The Trustee suggested that there be a district liaison

Trustee Jack requested information about proof of concept for some of the methods the White House identified as viable, and with the work done in schools what caused Dr. Dwinal to make the adjustments being highlighted.

Student Trustee Hartzell noted the large community group Dr. Dwinal brought with her; and she asked about the plan to bring students into ODA

President Sarver advised when doing research for the district's small school we learned it is very difficult to include math in project-based learning, he also noted that science classes involve lab work in a classroom setting. The President requested more detail on how things are balanced. In the transition from a first-year school for ninth graders to a full four-year school, there should be a ramping up of personnel from only three teachers. He is concerned about leadership and staff on board from Day One.

Public Hearing on Prel. Assessmt. Report 150 Jefferson Dr., MP New Small School

Chief Facilities Officer Matthew Zito introduced Kurt Soenen from Cornerstone Earth Group, who reported that the State's Preliminary Environmental Assessment Report for the proposed new school at 150 Jefferson Drive in Menlo Park has been prepared. Based on the data the site does not pose significant risk to the health and environment. However in order to provide a higher level of protection against vapor intrusion, the District is planning to install an impermeable vapor barrier and ventilation system beneath the planned school building.

Public Hearing Opened at 8:55 p.m. on 150 Jefferson Dr., MP

President Sarver opened the Public Hearing at 8:55 p.m. on the Preliminary Assessment Report for 150 Jefferson Drive, in Menlo Park.

Public Hearing Closed at 8:56 pm on Preliminary Assessment Report 150 Jefferson Dr., Menlo Park

There were no comments, and President Sarver closed the Public Hearing at 8:56 p.m. on the Preliminary Assessment Report for new small school at 150 Jefferson Drive, in Menlo Park.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Jack, Mr. Soenen said recognizing the property's location, soil samples were collected in 2014 and 2015, and nothing significant was reported however, the district decided to install a vapor barrier system.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Weiner, Matthew Zito advised that the vapor barrier system would mitigate any valid concerns.

Public Hearing & Adoption of  
Res. No. 1569, Increase Facilities  
Fees—Developer Fees

Assistant Superintendent Enrique Navas reported that a study had justified increasing developer fees, and in February the state had increased the maximum fee authorized; the district is aligning its fees to the state.

President Sarver opened the Public Hearing at 9:05 p.m. on adoption of Resolution No. 1569, to increase Facilities Fees—Developer Fees.

There were no comments, and President Sarver closed the Public Hearing at 9:05 p.m.

Discuss Draft Action Strategies  
for District Strategic Plan

Assistant Superintendent Bonnie Hansen advised that the changes to the Strategic Plan Implementation were printed in red.

Dr. Lianides noted that the document highlights initiatives and lists various strategies which, on an annual basis, will enable the Board to identify action strategies upon which staff will focus for that year.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Du Bois, Trustee Weiner said there was strong consensus that most important was to address the academic needs of our students. Trustee Du Bois said she is concerned that some programs are not making it and made the suggestion to allocate additional funds to Redwood High School, Aspirations Advocates and the foster youth program.

Trustee Thomsen said we were all involved in writing the Strategic Plan, and there is flexibility built into the plan to enable discussion about the things being brought up.

Sequoia High School Principal Sean Priest said he is concerned about the students missing school and failing—many are long-term English Learners. The Strategic Plan will help district and site leadership to structure priorities and resources.

In response to a statement by Trustee Weiner, Assistant Superintendent Hansen said she would omit the statement, printed in red, on page 3 of the Action Plan, Item ix.

Superintendent Lianides said he agreed that identifying the highest priorities is a board-, superintendent-, and cabinet- level discussion, and those priorities become the Superintendent's goals for the year. He noted there is a good possibility that Redwood will have a Socio-emotional Coordinator, and staff is working on electives for the fall; it takes time to put things in place.

President Sarver noted the structure of the Action Plan allows for moving things around. We are looking to staff for recommendations where priorities should be focused.

Dr. Lianides said we will bring the "Strategic Plan Implementation" back for action with the omission of the statement, printed in red, concerning college credits located on page 3, Item ix. Staff will also move the statement concerning Aspiration Advocates on page 1, Item i, and place it under "Support," which begins on page 7.

Adoption of Res. No. 1569,  
Increase Facilities Fees—  
Developer Fees

On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 1569, Increasing Facilities Fees—Developer Fees. Voting "yes,"—Student Trustee Hartzell; Trustees Du Bois, Jack, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner; voting "no"—none, and absent—none.

Approval of Construction Bid for  
Woodside High School J-Wing  
STEM Building

Chief Facilities Officer Matthew Zito reported that four bids were received for the Woodside J-Wing Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) building project, and the low bidder was BHM Construction, Inc. Staff recommends approving the base bid and including three bid alternates.

On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees approved the Woodside High School J-Wing STEM Building bid with BHM Construction Inc., in the amount of \$14,526,000 (base bid, plus a District controlled contingency of \$932,000, and Alternates 1, 3A, and 4).

Board of Trustees'/Supt's.  
Comments, Agenda Setting &  
Committee Reports

Superintendent Lianides reported on the process for recruiting next year's student trustee; there are four members of the current Student Advisory Council that will conduct the interviews, and the new student trustee will be introduced to the Board on May 25, 2016.

President Sarver said he attended the Progress Seminar and was pleased with the strong county-wide focus on affordable housing and transportation. The Menlo-Atherton Traffic Group came up with some effective changes to the roadway. There will be another meeting of the Four Corners group. Assemblyman Richard Gordon's Education Panel meeting is on May 7, and a Silicon Valley Chamber Education/Work Force Summit is planned.

Trustee Du Bois attended ~~Safety~~ Teen Success in North Fair Oaks; she suggested that the Board should discuss drug/alcohol prevention efforts.

Student Trustee Hartzell reported that the March 17 Art Exhibit was successful; of special mention was an extraordinary art piece done by one of her classmates. Superintendent Lianides suggested displaying the artwork at the next meeting.

Sequoia District Teachers Association President Edith Salvatore noted that it is important to have teachers and students participate in next week's Board Study Session on student academic stress. Ms. Salvatore said she has sent emails to teachers.

Assistant Superintendent Bonnie Hansen advised that students, parents and staff members will participate. She suggested that questions for discussion be emailed ahead of time to either Mrs. Hansen or Dr. Lianides.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Du Bois, Superintendent Lianides said Redwood High School can be included Redwood High School in the study session.

Trustee Weiner expressed concern that both reports from the English Learners' and Mental Health task forces would be presented at the May 25, 2016, Board meeting.

Adjourned Meeting at 10:14 p.m.  
to Reconvene Closed Session

On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by Trustee Jack, the Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 10:14 p.m. to reconvene in Closed Session.

Adjourned Meeting at 10:55 p.m.

The Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 10:55 p.m. No action was taken in Closed Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Sarver, President

Chris Thomsen, Clerk