

Approved Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Sequoia Union High School District  
Wednesday, September 2, 2015

Call to Order	The regular meeting of the Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees was called to order by Clerk Alan Sarver at 4:31 p.m., on Wednesday, September 2, 2015, in Birch Conference Room at 480 James Avenue, in Redwood City, California.												
Recess to Closed Session	The Board of Trustees recessed to Closed Session at 4:32 p.m. to 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 (two cases)												
Opened Public Session 5:35 p.m.	The Board Clerk Alan Sarver opened the Public Session of the regular meeting at 5:35 p.m. in Birch Conference Room at 480 James Avenue, Redwood City, California.												
Roll Call	<table><tr><td><b>Present:</b></td><td><b>Absent</b></td></tr><tr><td>Abby Hartzell, Student Trustee</td><td>Allen Weiner</td></tr><tr><td>Carrie Du Bois</td><td>Enrique Navas, Assistant Superintendent</td></tr><tr><td>Laura Martinez</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Alan Sarver</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Chris Thomsen</td><td></td></tr></table>	<b>Present:</b>	<b>Absent</b>	Abby Hartzell, Student Trustee	Allen Weiner	Carrie Du Bois	Enrique Navas, Assistant Superintendent	Laura Martinez		Alan Sarver		Chris Thomsen	
<b>Present:</b>	<b>Absent</b>												
Abby Hartzell, Student Trustee	Allen Weiner												
Carrie Du Bois	Enrique Navas, Assistant Superintendent												
Laura Martinez													
Alan Sarver													
Chris Thomsen													
Pledge of Allegiance	Student Trustee Hartzell led the Board of Trustees and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.												
Approval of Agenda	On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Martinez, the Board of Trustees approved the Agenda.												
Report out on Closed Session	Board Clerk Sarver reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.												
Invitation to the Audience	Board Clerk 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.												
Amendment to Consent Calendar	Removed and voted upon later in the meeting: 8g. Approval of MOU with Acknowledge Alliance 8h. Approval of Agreement with Youth Community Services												
Approval of Consent Calendar	On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Du Bois, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar as amended. Voting “yes,”— Student Trustee Hartzell; Trustees Du Bois, Martinez, Sarver, and Thomsen; voting “no”—none, and absent—Trustee Weiner.												
Approval of Minutes for August 12 and 19, 2015, Board Meetings	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the August 12 and 19, 2015, Board meetings.												
Approval of Personnel Recommendations	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations and Addenda as indicated.												
Approval of Readmissions	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Readmission Committee’s recommendation to accept three previously expelled students back into the district (names to appear in official minutes).												
Approval of Field Trips	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the field trip requests for Special Education APE students districtwide to Marlin Park Lagoon in Foster City and/or Parkside Aquatic Park in San Mateo on various dates to be determined; Menlo-Atherton’s Academy students to Shoreline Park in Santa Clara on September 11, 2015; Sequoia High School’s Football Team to Seattle, Washington on September 24-16, 2015, and Woodside High School’s CTE students to Montara on September 17-18, 2015.												
Approval of Warrants	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Warrants for July 2015, totaling \$4,467,359.54.												
Authorization to Declare Surplus Property	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees declared the listed items as surplus property, obsolete and unsuitable for use, and authorized the Superintendent to dispose of these surplus items in accordance with Education Code provisions.												

Accept Response to Grand Jury Report on Athletes at Risk	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the District's response to the Civil Grand Jury Report on Athletes at Risk.
Accept Response to Grand Jury Report on Student Mental Health	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the District's response to the Civil Grand Jury Report on Student Mental Health.
Authorized Filing Notices of Completion	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees authorized the Superintendent to file Notices of Completion for Cal-Pacific Construction, First Service, and Venezia Construction.
Approval of Agreement with JobTrain Inc.	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the agreement with JobTrain Inc. for the 2015-16 school year.
Approval of Contract with Premier Healthcare Services	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the agreement with Premier Healthcare Services for a special education student for the 2015-16 fiscal year.
Adopted Res. No. 1556 to add Design Tech High to SMC SELPA	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 1556 to update the Local Plan for San Mateo County SELPA by adding Design Tech High to the Local Plan.
Approval of Contract for Athletic Trainers	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the contract between SUHSD and Excel Sports Medicine to provide on-site athletic trainers at the four comprehensive high schools for 2015-16 school year.
Adopted Res. No. 1557 Exempting SUHSD from Local Zoning at Redwood HS, 1968 Old County Road, Redwood City	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 1557 exempting SUHSD from application to the City of Redwood City zoning ordinances pursuant to Government Code Section 53094 for construction of facilities and improvements at Redwood High School, located at 1968 Old County Road in Redwood City, California.
Approval of Amending Contract w/Allan France to Provide District Project Management Services	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved amending the original contract with Allan France, in the amount of \$45,000, for an additional \$60,000. This will provide project management services for the Carlmont S-Wing and other district projects as appropriate. The contract will be amended for an amount not to exceed \$105,000.
Approval of Agreement with Jack Schreder and Associates	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the agreement with Jack Schreder and Associates.
Approval of Contract with Health Connected for 2015-16	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the contract with Health Connected for 2015-16.
Authorized Declaring Textbooks Obsolete/Non-accountable	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.
Acceptance of Gift	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the gift and requested the school to send a letter of appreciation to the donor where appropriate.
Approval of MOU with EPAA Consortium for 2015-16	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Memorandum of Understanding with East Palo Alto Academy (EPAA) Consortium for 2015-16.
Approval of SUHSD LCAP Revision Update for 2015-16	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees certified the SUHSD Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Revision/Update 2015-16.
Approval of Grant Supporting Adult School's Transitional Advising to College & Careers	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved and accepted the grant from Sobrato Family Foundation in support of transitional advising in regard to College and Career programs at Sequoia Adult School.
Special Recognitions	Superintendent Lianides welcomed Student Trustee Abby Hartzell, who is a senior at Sequoia High School. Ms. Hartzell is in the International Baccalaureate program at Sequoia, and she recently visited/worked in a village in Nicaragua.

Menlo-Atherton Teacher Lance Powell was recognized by the Superintendent for receiving the Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators for employing innovative approaches to environmental education and using the environment as a context for learning for his students.

District Common Core State Standards Tech Specialist Melissa Hero was recognized by Dr. Lianides for serving as a mentor teacher in the Exploratorium's New Teacher Institute program where she helped middle and high school teachers develop curriculum and resources.

Superintendent Lianides commended district and site technology staff in doing an amazing job of preparing the school sites for the opening of school. Those staff members recognized were Daryl Ambruso, Clint Barret, Miguel Calvillo, Sergio Mendez, Sal Oliveras, Hugo Reyes, Josue Vasquez, and Oscar Vazquez.

Public Comment

None

Correspondence

None

Opening of School Reports  
from Sites

Lionel de Maine, Adult School Chief Operations Officer, reported working on the new Adult School at Redwood High School. During the summer new classes started for English-as-a-Second Language and General Education Development (GED) test preparation, and seven students graduated. Mr. de Maine reported that 73 students are attending classes on the Canada College campus. The Adult School was awarded a grant for \$60,000 from the Sobrato Foundation, and Assembly Bill AB86 will create pathways for low-level students to get into college. Mr. de Maine said he is working with JobTrain to create a program.

Ralph Crame, Carlmont High School Principal, reported that there are two new administrators on campus. As principal, he is redefining what teachers need, and staff meetings will be more engaging. Mr. Crame commended Chief Facilities Officer Matthew Zito for getting Carlmont up and running while major construction was underway; Mr. Zito was very helpful in resolving teachers' issues. Principal Crame reported that classes are running smoothly, and the teachers have been real "troopers."

In response to a question posed by Trustee Thomsen, Principal Crame advised that we are excited about Common Core reading across the curriculum—both Math and English are going well. There have been articulation challenges and staff has met with partner schools to ensure parents receive the right message.

Amika Guillaume, East Palo Alto Academy (EPAA) Principal, thanked the district and Technology staff for the support. She has been working with parents and students, and looking at the level of instruction and Common Core. The EPAA freshmen class is full. School policy is to get everyone to school on time. A community fair is planned tomorrow at lunch time.

Simone Rick-Kennel, Menlo-Atherton Principal, reported the school opening has been very productive with Arena Check-in and hosting the district-wide professional development day. The site professional development looked at initiatives utilizing Common Core growth mindset. A scavenger hunt was held on campus. M-A has 16 new teachers, two new guidance counselors and a new Administrative Vice Principal. Enrollment is at 2,260, there are 622 ninth graders. The After School Honor Centers are up and running; there has been a positive vibe on campus. Staff continues to emphasize Common Core, and the second-annual leadership meeting with Ravenswood City district is planned for November.

Miguel Rodriguez, Redwood High School Principal, said the opening of school was good, even with the significant changes which will make Redwood into a top-notch facility. The second annual Meditation Retreat was held. For professional development staff attended an event facilitated by the Live in Peace staff at Green Street in East Palo Alto. Redwood Instruction Elana Henderson was honored as the Certificated Teacher of the Year. We held the first all-school assembly, and legacy students returned to Redwood to build school pride. There are 294 students enrolled with 50, fifth-year students; 30 students have signed up for the new Adult School class. School starts at 8:45 a.m. and ends at 2:37 p.m. This is the second year Quiet Time is offered through the Redwood Environmental Academy of Leadership (REAL) program. Mr. Rodriguez reported that Redwood

has a full time Bilingual Liaison and a new Adolescent Counseling supervisor. We are recruiting founding members for the Redwood High School Educational Foundation.

Sean Priest, Sequoia High School Principal, reported that 76 teachers took advantage of coming in for four hours of paid curricular time prior to the start of school. The enrollment is 2,081; and new courses, to create equity and access, include International Baccalaureate (IB) Spanish, French, and Mobile Apps Design. For ninth graders both Honors and International College Advancement Program (ICAP) English are offered; 57 percent of ninth graders are enrolled in regular classes.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Du Bois, Principal Priest advised that staff was being strategic about addressing the needs of the student and the work assignments.

Diane Burbank, Woodside High School Principal, reported first meetings for PTSA, staff, Aspirations Advocates, tomorrow is the "Big Read" and a Quaglia Institute visit. Woodside has new freshmen teams for both football and volleyball. There is after-school tutoring and night studying in the library. The first on-line submission of athletic packets was accomplished.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Martinez, Principal Burbank advised that Homecoming at Woodside will be the third week in October.

Trustee Thomsen said Board members value input from the principals and encouraged the principals to participate in the Board's deliberations. He thanked the principals and said it was great hearing their reports.

Trustee Sarver noted that three of the principals are new to their roles, and it is encouraging to see a mixture of people who have come up through the ranks bringing with them best practices and new concepts.

#### Math and English Placements for Incoming Ninth Graders

Bonnie Hansen, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, reviewed the history of incoming ninth grade placements and she noted that teacher recommendation does play a role in the placement of students in both English and math classes.

Brandon Lee, Director of Research and Evaluation, reported after much research and in conjunction with partner districts, new objective criteria were established for student placement. The computer-adaptive system selected is "Let's Go Learn" (LGL) Diagnostic Online Reading Assessment (DORA) and Diagnostic Online Math Assessment (DOMA). Director Lee reported teacher recommendation continues to be the only subjective measure used for student placement. He reviewed the data presented concerning ninth grader enrollment in English and Math. Next steps are to add the Smarter Balanced measurement; improve readability of the Let's Go Learn criteria for students and parents, and work closely with partner districts to ensure every student has a test score. Director Lee advised that staff will continue to use data to ensure placement criteria measures are used.

Superintendent Lianides noted that parents have the ability to move their students' level placement either up or down.

Trustee Du Bois said teachers play a big part and she did not want to see their voice being taken away. Assistant Superintendent Hansen advised that teacher opinion was not taken away.

In response to questions posed by Student Trustee Hartzell, Assistant Superintendent Hansen advised that the elementary school teachers have instant access to the Let's Go Learn (LGL) formative assessment. The students receive a printout of the results. For the math, the results state what areas the student needs to work on.

In response to a request, Mrs. Hansen said she would send Trustee Martinez the data concerning the number of incoming ninth graders placed in Algebra Readiness and the elementary district from which they came.

Trustee Thomsen requested this first year LGL data as well as comparative data. He advised he was supportive of the direction in which the district is moving.

Trustee Sarver said this is a great example of strong articulation at work to support the work of the eighth graders within our partner districts.

Woodside Principal Diane Burbank said it is positive having a district-centered program that treats all students the same. She thinks the program is working, and said we will be seeing improved grades.

Report on 2014-15 Outcomes &  
2015-16 Budget for Sequoia  
Health Care District

Wellness Coordinator Karen Li reported on the Sequoia Healthcare District's (SHD) long existence in central and southern San Mateo County. In 2010 the Healthy Schools Initiative was launched to support school districts within the SHD geographic boundaries. Dr. Li reported that over half of the funds SUHSD receives from SHD go to staff salaries; in addition there are standard subcontracted services, plus more flexible additional grants to non-profits. Dr. Li stated that social, emotional, and mental health are top priorities for the Health Care District; and \$530,000 is only 12 percent of the SUHSD's mental health budget. Some of the many programs initiated in 2014-15 were concussion management and baseline neuron-cognitive testing at Carlmont and Woodside high schools; CPR/AED and Heimlich training at M-A; student cardiac screening; student health fairs at all sites; a pilot on Mindfulness at Sequoia; Quiet Time training at Redwood; parent and community education programs; growth mindset, distracted driving, parent outreach to East Palo Alto Academy, and a biannual staff newsletter.

Superintendent Lianides said this report will be presented each year; the staffing budget will remain the same, what will change are the programs. Staff will be looking at the mental health services in the district to ensure that there is no redundancy or gaps.

Approval of MOU with  
Acknowledge Alliance

Trustee Du Bois said she wanted to highlight the work of both Acknowledge Alliance and Youth Community Service, which do such a good job working with the district's most at-risk students. She suggested that in the future there be presentations from these two non-profit organizations. Eighty-nine percent of the students these programs work with do not drop out of school.

On a motion by Trustee Du Bois, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees approved the contract with Acknowledge Alliance to provide individual and group counseling services.

Approval of Agreement with  
Youth Community Service

On a motion by Trustee Du Bois, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees approved the contract with Acknowledge Alliance to provide individual and group counseling services.

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

Superintendent Lianides advised that on Wednesday, September 23, 2015, the League of Women Voters will sponsor a Candidates' Forum here at the district at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Lianides reported a smooth opening of school.

Trustee Sarver reported attending Senator Hill's gathering on August 14, who is working on the district's behalf to sponsor Senate Bill 799, which will change the reserve cap. He went to the North Fair Oaks Festival, which is a great community event; attended the first Redwood City 2020 meeting; a San Mateo County School Boards Association Retreat, the opening of F-Wing at Menlo-Atherton, and the first M-A traffic study meeting.

Trustee Du Bois reported attending the San Mateo County School Boards Association Conference on substance abuse and self-harm.

Trustee Martinez said she attended the North Fair Oaks Festival and Convocation.

Student Trustee Hartzell said she enjoyed hearing the principals' reports on the opening of school.

Superintendent Lianides reported receiving an invitation from the Ravenswood City Elementary District Board of Trustees to hold a joint meeting at their district office on Thursday, October 1, 2015. He noted there would be a SUHSD Special Board Meeting on October 7, 2015, to approve the M-A bid opening for Increment II.

Board Adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

On a motion by Trustee Martinez, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Sarver, Clerk