

Approved Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Sequoia Union High School District
Wednesday, June 29, 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 4:32 p.m., on Wednesday, June 29, 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 4:33 p.m. to consider Student Disciplines/Expulsions; and to conference with Legal Counsel—Anticipated Litigation, Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9 (one case).												
Opened Public Session 5:40 p.m.	President Sarver opened the Public Session of the regular meeting at 5:40 p.m. in Birch Conference Room at 480 James Avenue, Redwood City, California.												
Roll Call	<table><tr><td>Present:</td><td>Absent:</td></tr><tr><td>Carrie Du Bois</td><td>Abby Hartzell, Student Trustee</td></tr><tr><td>Georgia Jack</td><td>Bonnie Hansen, Assistant Superintendent</td></tr><tr><td>Alan Sarver</td><td>Matthew Zito, Chief Facilities Officer</td></tr><tr><td>Chris Thomsen</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Allen Weiner</td><td></td></tr></table>	Present:	Absent:	Carrie Du Bois	Abby Hartzell, Student Trustee	Georgia Jack	Bonnie Hansen, Assistant Superintendent	Alan Sarver	Matthew Zito, Chief Facilities Officer	Chris Thomsen		Allen Weiner	
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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 Jack, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees approved the Agenda.												
Report Out on Closed Session	President Sarver reported that the Board took action in Closed Session by a vote of five members (Trustees Du Bois, Jack, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner) in favor; none opposed, and no members absent, to approve the expulsions of three students, Case Numbers 2015-16-23, 2015-16-24, and 2015-16-25 (names to appear in official minutes), to expel for the spring 2015-2016 semester and fall 2016-17 semester and establish December 5, 2016, as the date that the students may apply for readmission.												
Amended Consent Calendar	The following item was removed from the Consent Calendar to be acted upon later in the meeting. 8a. Approval of Minutes for June 15, 2016, Board Meeting												
Approval of Consent Calendar as Amended	On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar. Voting “yes,”—Trustees Du Bois, Jack, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner; voting “no”—none, and absent— Student Trustee Hartzell.												
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 eight previously-expelled students (names to appear in official minutes) back into the district.												
Approval of Job Descriptions for Special Ed. Paraprofessionals	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the updated job descriptions for Special Education paraprofessionals.												
Approval of Job Descrip. Social Svcs. Mgr.-Comm. Schl. Coord.	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the job description for Social Services Manager-Community School Coordinator.												

Approval of 2016-17 Instr. Cal. for East Palo Alto Academy	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Instructional Calendar for East Palo Alto Academy for the 2016-17 school year.
Approval of Board Meeting Dates for 2016-17	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the SUHSD Board of Trustees' Meeting Dates for 2016-17.
Adoption of Board Bylaw 9150, Student Board Members	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted Board Bylaw BB 9150, <i>Student Board Members</i> .
Approval of Warrants	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Warrants for May 2016 totaling \$9,757,193.06
Report on District Contracts Under \$35,000	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees ratified the district contracts under \$35,000.
Acceptance of Gifts	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the gifts and requested that the school site sends a letter of appreciation to the donor where appropriate.
Approval of Contract w/ Yellow Cab for Transport Services	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the contract with San Mateo Yellow Cab.
Approval of Field Trips	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the field trip requests for Carlmont High School Cheer Team to Sonoma State University on July 15-17, 2016; EPAA students to UC Merced and UC Santa Cruz on October 20, 2016; Menlo-Atherton High School Science students to Nevada City on September 2, 2016, and the Sequoia High School Team Ascent to San Mateo on June 30, 2016.
Approval of Agreement for Specialized Vision and Assistive Technology Services for 2016-17	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the agreement with Adrian Amandi, Teacher of the Visually Impaired for Specialized Vision Services and Assistive Technology Services for a special education student for the 2016-17 fiscal year.
Approval of Architectural Proposal	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the architectural proposal from LPA, Inc. to design a secondary turf field in a fixed fee amount of \$149,800 and a not-to-exceed \$4,000 for reimbursable expenses for a total contract amount of \$153,800.
Approval of Changes to Facilities Master Plan for Menlo-Atherton	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the changes to the Menlo-Atherton High School Facilities Master Plan.
Approval of Bid for Exterior Gates at Sequoia High School	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the informal bid from Venezia Construction Inc., in the amount of \$78,875 plus a \$10,000 contingency for a total contract value of not-to-exceed \$88,875 to replace and remove the exterior gates at Sequoia High School as mandated by the Department of State Architect.
Approval of Testing, Inspection, & Geotechnical Services	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved hiring Consolidated Engineering Laboratories in the amount of \$82,914.30 for testing and inspection services at Redwood High School, and hiring Cornerstone Earth Group in the amount of \$35,600 for geotechnical services at Redwood High School.
Auth. to Declare 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.
Approval to Award Food & Supply Bid for 2016-17	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the bids and authorized the Superintendent to make purchases on a line-item basis from The Danielson Company, Sysco Food Services, Gold Star Foods, and Buchanan Food Service, for food, paper and cleaning supplies, totaling approximately \$350,000.

Approval of Job Description for Director of Food Services	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the updated job description for Director of Food Services.
Approval of Job Description for Food Service Supervisor	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the job description for the Food Service Supervisor.
Approval of Agreement, Maxim Nursing Svcs. for Sp. Ed. Students	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the agreement with Maxim for nursing services for Special Education students for 2016-17.
Approval of Agre. w/Premier Healthcare for Sp. Ed. Student	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the agreement with Premier Healthcare for nursing services for a Special Education student for 2016-17.
Approval of Interpretation Svcs. Agre. for Deaf Students 2016-17	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the agreement with Partners in Communication for interpretation services for two deaf students for the 2016-17 fiscal year.
Approval of Amended Contract with SchoolCity, Inc.	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees ratified approval of the amended contract with SchoolCity, Inc., in the amount of \$9,000.
Special Recognitions— Superintendent’s Commendations	Superintendent Lianides introduced the new Menlo-Atherton Administrative Vice Principal Daniel Chaja. Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services, Enrique Navas introduced the new Director of Purchasing and Support Services Timothy (Tony) Crapo.
Public Comment	Community Member Scott Hogrefe expressed concern over the non-reelection of Middle College Teacher Alison Liberatone earlier in the year.
Correspondence	President Sarver reported receiving correspondence from California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson for the final approval granted for the new buildings at Sequoia High School.
Report on Special Education and Effectiveness of Co-teaching in SUHSD	Director of Special Education Dr. Deborah Toups reported that 11 percent of SUHSD students are in Special Education. She presented data and described criteria for student eligibility and services. Dr. Toups reported the co-teaching model has been in place four years with dramatic improvement when students with disabilities are included in General Education classes. She reported on demographic data and noted an increased enrollment of 138 special education students. Director Toups reviewed Special Education revenue and expenditures in regard to district and site-level staffing. Sequoia District Teachers’ Association (SDTA) President Edith Salvatore said that input had not been sought from co-teachers this year. She noted that co-teachers need time to work together, and obtaining funding this past year had been difficult. Trustee Du Bois said she was most interested in a specialized program for certificates and diplomas, and is concerned about the kids that slip through the cracks. Debbie Toups advised that 55 Transition Resources for Adult Community Education (TRACE) students were working on receiving a certificate as opposed to a diploma. In response to questions posed by Trustee Thomsen, Dr. Toups said there are more mentally-severe students across the state. Dr. Lianides advised that \$30,000 is budgeted for substitute teachers and release time during the year. Director Toups advised that there is an emphasis on a Universal Design for Learning, and a renowned doctor is training staff on this learning program. In response to questions posed by Trustee Jack, Deborah Toups advised at Woodside there are nine pairs of co-teachers and 60 students will benefit. The teachers are co-teaching, and the planning is done during a release period. A sign of success is fewer suspensions.

Superintendent Lianides noted that improved grade point averages is also a sign of success; more Special Education students in co-taught classes are getting a “C” grade or better.

Dr. Toups noted that she will send the Board members definitions of the Response to Intervention (RTI) and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) models. She will also look at truancy rates.

In response to questions posed by Trustee Weiner, the Superintendent advised that the expenditure for “NPS/NPA” was for residential care for about 50 students, the cost of which has been now been placed upon the district. He asked if some students are miss-diagnosed and/or labeled as Special Ed when they could be Limited English Proficient (LEP). Dr. Toups said the district inherits LEP students, and it takes five to seven years for these students to speak the language. Dr. Lianides said the English Learner Task Force can look at the percentage of English Learners that have Individual Educational Plans (IEPs).

SDTA President Edith Salvatore said she is not encouraging release days, which costs more than paying a substitute teacher. Expenditure planning needs to be utilized by co-teaching pairs to ensure there is funding for every pair.

President Sarver noted the overall picture is trending toward great improvement. We are seeing the positive impact of co-teaching on the Special Education student, and there is no impact on the non-Special Education student in the areas of grades and behavior. If teachers receive more training on the Universal Design Model, we will need to accommodate LEP students.

Follow-up on Possible Transition from “At Large” Election Method to “By District” Election Method

Superintendent Lianides advised that on June 15, 2016, the Board discussed the alternate method of elections, which is electing Trustees “*By District*,” where the population is apportioned into districts and each district’s electorate votes for, and elects, a single Trustee that must reside within the apportioned district. He noted there was a presentation by the National Demographics Corporation (NDC) which works with public entities on these issues. On May 19, 2016, the Board received a letter from the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) notifying the District if it failed to move to the “*By District*” method of elections MALDEF would file a lawsuit under the CA Voting Rights Act and seek to recover expert and attorneys’ fees. Dr. Lianides said he had requested input for tonight’s discussion by notifying parents, the media, and all staff. He noted that this item will be brought back for Board action on August 17, 2016.

SDTA President Edith Salvatore said SDTA members are very interested in moving Board elections to even years, which would increase voter turnout. With “*By District*” elections, families could more easily approach their elected officials.

Community Member Rich Ginn suggested including partner elementary district parents in the district’s communications regarding “*By District*” elections. He noted that no matter how the districts are divided there are challenges. He suggested carving out a Latino region, and to then splitting the district’s comprehensive high school site boundaries to avoid regional partiality.

President Sarver said Board members want to hear from the community; there are many sides to the decision whether to move to “*By District*” elections, and they want to consider alternatives as well. Phase One would be looking at how sub-districts would be drawn, and Phase Two would be the actual implementation timeline to develop a process and changing elections from odd to even years.

In response to questions posed by Trustee Weiner, Deputy County Counsel David Silberman advised that if the District moved to even-year Board elections, they could still be staggered with two members on the ballot the first even year and three members running for election the next even year. Attorney Silberman said having one “*At Large*” election and many “*By District*” elections would not comply with the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA). A district based on race is not permitted, but communities of culture or socio-economic interests can be considered. County Counsel advised the CVRA is not forgiving, and an “*At Large*” election system cannot be maintained. It would require a lawsuit to determine that; no public entity has defeated a CVRA lawsuit, and it would be risky and expensive.

Trustee Thomsen suggested meeting with community members, presenting tenets, and discussing principles. Trustee Du Bois suggested developing board policy expectations that members should represent the entire district; she noted it is difficult to find people who want to run for office. Trustee Thomsen agreed that norms for Board culture should be developed; he cautioned against “*by district*” lines being drawn around high school boundaries.

Trustee Jack said she agreed with Trustee Du Bois that it is difficult to get people to run for office, especially in low income communities.

President Sarver said the greatest challenge is that all Board members are representing every student and parent throughout the District. He suggested preliminary tenets and maps be prepared for community member discussions.

Community Member Jay Siegel cautioned that community attitude politics is difficult.

(There was a short recess at 7:46 p.m.)

Discussion of Expulsion Placement Practices

Superintendent Lianides reported that the District has been referring its expelled students to the San Mateo County Office of Education instructional program, Gateway Community Day School, and the costs have risen considerably over the last three years. This past year SUHSD sent less students to Gateway, yet the costs were \$1.1 million, and SMCOE is estimating next year’s cost to be \$70,000 per student. County Superintendent of Schools Anne Campbell is exploring some alternatives to possibly cap the costs at \$45,000 per student. Dr. Lianides said he will work issues out with SMCOE because it is in the District’s best interests to utilize Gateway in 2016-17. However, SUHSD may be Gateway’s only client this fall, and the costs for less students could be \$1 million more than was paid last year.

Trustee Du Bois said some students expelled are very at-risk, and she felt good about putting kids at Gateway because they received a lot of support there.

Dr. Lianides advised there are short- and long- term issues to resolve. The District can re-direct monies and program for 2017-18, the immediate challenge is what to do this fall. The Board is asked if it approves spending \$1.27 million on Gateway in 2016-17; one potential solution would be to develop a program with *Live in Peace*. The Superintendent noted he is hoping to work out something with SMCOE to carry us through 2016-17.

Trustee Thomsen said we want to ensure that these kids are well-served. It seems like conversations with SMCOE are critical to reduce the cost, and he had confidence that the issues would be resolved.

Trustee Jack said we are having expulsion problems with good students and are sending them to Gateway. She noted it had been agreed to look at discipline policies; there are policy models, such as the San Diego Trauma Informed Discipline Policy.

Trustee Weiner said there are no options when expelling students who are a danger and should not be on our campuses. He suggested looking at the discipline policy to ensure there are suitable alternatives in our District. Trustee Weiner suggested getting the best deal we can from Superintendent Campbell for 2016-17 and setting up an internal supportive discipline policy-structured arrangement.

President Sarver said we are reaching a critical economic failure point with Gateway; we acknowledge the difficulty of implementing an in-house alternative in 2016-17, and the complexity in developing long-term solutions in-house targeted for the 2017-18 school year. There should be site visits to observe discipline practices. The Board needs to decide where these issues rank in priority.

Trustee Weiner said he wanted to see the discipline policy and community day program planning decided together. He noted as program alternatives to expulsion are identified, services will be more intelligently refined.

Dr. Lianides said it is really a question of practice, which does not have to be reflected in policy. Out of the 25 students expelled this year, we are probably discussing a Gateway-type program for about 10 students. In the long run, we need to build a small program in the district that can address the students that cannot be on a comprehensive high school campus. There are qualified district staff that can operate a program for 10 to 15 students.

Trustee Jack expressed her support of utilizing Gateway next year to provide time to design a future program to be implemented in-house.

Superintendent Lianides said he heard direction to not move quickly, to do our best with Gateway this coming year, and plan to provide a community day school program in 2017-18.

Trustee Thomsen proposed that an MOU be written delineating the costs SMCOE will charge SUHSD for Gateway in 2016-17.

Discussion of Board Bylaw
BB 9320, Meetings & Notices

Following discussion, edits were agreed upon on pages: BB 9320(b), paragraphs one, two, and three; and BB 9320(c), paragraphs six and seven.

In response to Trustee Du Bois' suggestion to start Board meetings at 7:00 p.m. and to publish a calendar of board items for the entire school year, Trustee Jack suggested a compromise of beginning Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. and Public Session at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Weiner agreed to the proposed start time and suggested that the Board endeavor to end meetings no later than 10:00 p.m. Dr. Lianides said a calendar of board items for 2016-17 will be presented on August 17.

Superintendent Lianides said the revised Board Bylaw BB 9320 would be brought back for approval.

Sequoia District Teachers Association (SDTA) President Edith Salvatore said by starting meetings at 6:00 p.m. the Board would have more staff involved than at 7:00 p.m., and she would be happy if meetings ended at 10:00 p.m. She suggested that presentations should be limited to eight minutes, and the meetings should be more disciplined.

Approval of SUHSD Consoli-
dated Application for 2016-17

On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by Trustee Jack, the Board of Trustees approved the SUHSD Consolidated Application for 2016-17 for Title I, Part A (Basic Grant); Title II, Part A (Teacher Quality); Title II, Part A Immigrant, and Title III, Part A LEP funds.

Approval of East Palo Alto
Academy (EPAA) Consolidated
Application for 2016-17

On a motion by Trustee Du Bois, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees approved the East Palo Alto Academy Consolidated Application for 2016-17 for Title I, Part A (Basic Grant); Title II, Part A (Teacher Quality), and Title III, Part A-Immigrant funds.

Approval of SUHSD Local Control
Accountability Plan for 2016-17

On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by Trustee Jack, the Board of Trustees approved the SUHSD Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) for 2016-17.

Approval of EPAA Local Control
Accountability Plan for 2016-17

On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Weiner, the Board of Trustees approved the East Palo Alto Academy's amended LCAP for 2016-17.

Adoption of Proposed Budget
for 2016-17

Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services Enrique Navas advised that the Governor signed the trailer bill and noted that staff will attend the 2016-17 State Budget workshop next week. The Proposed Budget contains information from the May Revise State Budget plus changes spelled out in the Assumptions presented to the Board.

In response to questions posed by Trustee Weiner and President Sarver, Assistant Superintendent Navas advised that there is a designated reserve for new initiatives; in August staff will happily make adjustments for co-teaching planning time. We have budgeted \$1.1 million in 2016-17 for Gateway. Mr. Navas said he plans will present the 2016-17 budget in the “bubbles” format.

On a motion by Trustee Du Bois, seconded by Trustee Jack, the Board of Trustees adopted the Proposed Budget as the Official Budget for 2016-17, as presented.

Approval of Budget for Teacher Effectiveness Grant

On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Du Bois, the Board of Trustees approved the Budget for the Teacher Effectiveness Grant.

Approval of Construction Bid for Redwood High School Multi-Purpose & Classroom Building

Superintendent Lianides advised the low bid was the best staff could do, and it is anticipated that some costs can be recovered with the passage of a state facilities bond in November. At this time approximately \$1.9 million will need to be transferred from the “additional small campuses” budget for this project. In response to a question posed by Trustee Weiner, President Sarver said when the Measure “J” bond was approved eight years ago, the unexpended funds were utilized for additional projects at the sites.

On a motion by Trustee Jack, seconded by Trustee Weiner, the Board of Trustees approved the Redwood High School Multi-Purpose Room and Classroom Building Project bid with Gonsalves & Stronck in the amount of \$17,783,000 (base bid and contingency) and Alternate 1 for Gymnasium Bleachers for \$41,000, for a total contract amount of \$17,824,000.

Adoption of Res. No. 1577, Requesting San Mateo County to Levy Taxes in Anticipation of the Issuance of Bonds

Assistant Superintendent Enrique Navas advised that this is the second series of bonds scheduled to be sold from the June 3, 2014, election. Resolution No. 1577 is being brought before the Board to formally request that, pursuant to Education Code Section 15252, the Board of Supervisors of the County adopts a tax rate and levies tax for the remaining bonds in an amount estimated at \$100 million.

On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 1577, to ensure that property taxes are levied during fiscal year 2016-17 for the payment of the Bonds. The Bonds are expected to be sold in December 2016. Voting “yes,”—Trustees Du Bois, Jack, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner; voting “no”—none, and absent— Student Trustee Hartzell.

Approval of Amended Minutes for 6/15/16, Board Meeting

In response to a question posed by Trustee Jack, Dr. Lianides advised that her recommended edits would be made to the June 15, 2016, Board meeting minutes.

On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by President Sarver, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes as amended for the June 15, 2016, Board meeting.

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

President Sarver said that Closed Session for the Special Board Meeting called for July 27 will start at 4:30 p.m.

Trustee Du Bois reported visiting the Boys’ and Girls’ Club and also attended a retreat for the Redwood High School Foundation. She noted that a volunteer is needed for Redwood fundraising.

Trustee Weiner suggested a task force be convened for Community Day School policy and program planning. Dr. Lianides advised that this is a longer-term process; principals, and administrative vice principals should be included on the task force. President Sarver suggested that the Board be represented by Trustees Jack and Weiner.

Adjourned Meeting at 10:26 p.m.

On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Du Bois, the Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 10:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Sarver, President
Chris Thomsen, Clerk