

Approved Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Sequoia Union High School District
Wednesday, October 8, 2014

Call to Order	The regular meeting of the Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Weiner at 4:02 p.m., on Wednesday, October 8, 2014, in the Birch Conference Room at 480 James Avenue, in Redwood City, California.	
Recess to Closed Session	The Board of Trustees recessed to Closed Session at 4:03 p.m. to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. CONSIDERATION OF STUDENT DISCIPLINES/EXPULSIONSb. SUPERINTENDENT’S EVALUATION –GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957c. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS, Agency Designated Representative: James Lianides; Employee Organizations: Sequoia District Teachers Association (SDTA); Sequoia Adult School Federation of Teachers, and American Federation of State, Local, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)d. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS Agency Negotiator: James Lianides; terms and conditions; APN 046-112-530, 055-243-030	
Opened Public Session at 5:38 p.m.	The Board of Trustees returned to Public Session at 5:38 p.m. in Birch Conference Room at 480 James Avenue, in Redwood City, California.	
Roll Call	Present: Carrie Du Bois Olivia Martinez Alan Sarver Chris Thomsen Allen Weiner	Absent Amanda Breslauer, Student Trustee
Pledge of Allegiance	Trustee Thomsen led the Board of Trustees and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.	
Invitation to the Audience	President Weiner 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.	
Approval of Agenda	On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Sarver, the Board of Trustees approved the Agenda.	
Report Out on Closed Session	President Weiner reported that the Board took action in Closed Session and unanimously approved the expulsions of Student Numbers 2014-15-7 and 2014-15-8 (names of appear in official minutes) for the fall of 2014-15 semester and the spring of 2014-15 semester and established May 15, 2015, as the date that the students may apply for readmission.	
Amended Consent Calendar	Removed and voted upon later in the meeting: 8g. Approval of Contract for Parent Education Consultant	
Approval of Amended Consent Calendar	On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Du Bois, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar. Voting “yes,”—Trustees Du Bois, Martinez, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner; voting “no”—none, and absent—Student Trustee Breslauer.	
Quarterly Rep.-Wms. Complaints	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the report as presented.	
Approval of Minutes for Sept. 3, 10 & 17, Brd. Mtgs.	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the September 3, 10, and 17, 2014, Board meetings.	
Approval of Personnel Recommendations	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations as indicated.	

Approval of Field Trips	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the field trip requests for Carmont High School's American Government students to Santa Clara on November 15-16, 2014; AVID members to Half Moon Bay on October 24-25, 2014; Menlo-Atherton High School's Boys' Varsity Water Polo to Carmichael on October 17-18, 2014; JV/Varsity Boys' Basketball to Monterey on December 29-30, 2014; Social Studies students to Russia on June 23-July 3, 2015; Sequoia High School's Girls' Varsity Basketball Team to Salinas on December 26-31, 2014; Journalism students to Washington D.C. on November 6-9, 2014; AVID members to Northern California Colleges on October 20-21, 2014; Woodside High School's Green Academy to Boulder Creek on November 5-8, 2014, and the Board of Trustees ratified the M-A Girls' JV Water Polo Team traveling to Napa on October 3-4, 2014.
Authorization to Declare Property Surplus	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 the listed items in accordance with Education Code provisions.
Approval of Contract for Fire Sprinkler Equipment Services	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the contract for fire sprinkler equipment services in the amount of \$43,600.
Auth. Hiring CSDA Design Grp. for New Gym at Myrtle St.	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved hiring CSDA Design Group for the new gymnasium project at 1050 Myrtle Street in East Palo Alto.
Auth. Filing Categorical Exempt. Carmont HS New Classrooms	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees authorized the Superintendent to file a categorical exemption under CEQA for the new classroom project at Carmont High School.
Auth. Filing Categorical Exempt. Sequoia HS New Classrooms	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees authorized the Superintendent to file a categorical exemption under CEQA for the new classroom project at Sequoia High School.
Auth. Filing Categorical Exempt. Woodside HS New Classrooms	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees authorized the Superintendent to file a categorical exemption under CEQA for the new classroom project at Woodside High School.
Approval of Master Agreement HMC Architects for Design Svcs.	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Master Agreement as amended with HMC Architects for architectural design services.
Approval of Master Agreement LPA for Arch. Design Services	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Master Agreement as amended with LPA for architectural design services.
Approval of Master Agreement Quattrocchi Kwok Architects	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Master Agreement as amended with Quattrocchi Kwok Architects for architectural design services.
Approval of Master Agreement Spencer Assoc. for Design Svcs.	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Master Agreement as amended with Spencer Associates for architectural design services.
Approval of Pre-Constr. Agre. w/Cal Pacific for M-A Classroom Project Site Prep. & Demo. Work	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the pre-construction agreement with Cal Pacific Construction Inc. in the amount of \$137,000 for site work and demolition for the Menlo-Atherton new classroom building and addition.
Approval of Agreement w/TRA for EIR for Phase I Projects at Menlo-Atherton High School	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved proceeding with the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Menlo-Atherton High School and to enter into an agreement with TRA Environmental Sciences, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$195,225.
Special Recognitions	
Superintendent's Commendations	Superintendent Lianides recognized the Bilingual Parent Liaisons, who play the crucial role of parental resources to our greater school community. Dr. Lianides noted that these parent liaisons impact the lives of many of our district families by helping parents navigate the educational system, identifying needed resources for students, assisting parents in becoming comfortable making school contacts as well as interacting with staff. He commended the following parent liaisons for their excellent work assisting parents and having a voice in our schools:

Irma Gomez—Carlmont HS
Maricela Lopez—Woodside HS

Elvira Macias—Sequoia HS
Lilly Quinonez—M-A

Mayela Ramirez—Sequoia Parent Ctr.Coord.
Blanca Ventura—Redwood HS

The Superintendent introduced District Parent Coordinator Carmina Chavez noted that her leadership should also be recognized.

Public Comment

Carlmont High School Teachers Ashley Gray and Karen Ramroth extended an invitation to an upcoming event at Carlmont, “The Civil Rights Act: 50 Years Later,” which will take place on October 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Dennis Duarte suggested that the Board adopts California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Rule 205, which allows people who have not earned a 2.0 grade point average to compete in athletics.

Correspondence

None

Update on District Dashboard

Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Bonnie Hansen presented the district’s Dashboard indicators with exit criteria for 2013-14 and reported on increased graduation rates, fewer dropouts, University of California (UC) “a-g” senior completion rates, and student enrollment in a single Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate (AP/IB) class. Mrs. Hansen noted that strategies utilized to improve Dashboard data include: School Loop alerts to counselors, Cyber High now offered district-wide, data sharing with community partners, ongoing professional development, co-teaching special education students, and a growing affiliation with partner districts. Bonnie Hansen reported on strategies to improve graduation rates and “a-g” eligibility.

Dr. Lianides noted AP/IB participation rates have increased at Menlo-Atherton and Woodside high schools this year. Bonnie Hansen noted that Sequoia High School is listed among five high schools Nationwide chosen to partner with IB as a model for how to increase at-risk student participation in honors-level courses. She reported that next steps included earlier intervention and moving students into support groups.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Du Bois, Bonnie Hansen advised that all suspensions are tracked whether they are handled in-house or away from school. She said that narrative is very important but overall data shows what is going on. Trustee Du Bois said truancy should be highlighted on the Dashboard.

Woodside High School Principal Diane Burbank advised that School Loop is about completion and very popular among teachers because it creates opportunities. School Loop is about the work and how to support the students—parents and teachers feel that they can now support their students.

Trustee Thomsen said he appreciated the report and noted that the Dashboard is a living document. He looked forward to seeing the final numbers in January.

Trustee Martinez observed that we are going in the right direction; providing Dashboard data is a huge improvement.

Trustee Sarver said we need to be attentive to the data, and it is critical to see the year-on-year trends.

President Weiner suggested suspension data be divided and listed as “in-house” and “not in-house,” he shared concern about students serving suspensions off-site. He noted we are seeing better results on the numbers of graduates, fewer drop-outs, and more “a-g” college completion rates.

Update on Site Master Plan
and Phase I Projects

Aaron Jobson of Quattrocchi Kwok Architectects reported that the Facility Master Plan Framework and Phase I planning had been finalized to ensure district-wide consistency. He reviewed the Educational Specifications. The scope of work priority for Phase I is to provide a quality classroom experience for the 2017-18 school year, utilizing an economy of scale by combining projects. Mr. Jobson advised that the projects reported on October 8 for Carlmont, Menlo-Atherton and Woodside had not changed; all three schools will have ten additional classrooms. The project at Sequoia High School was changed to a single story classroom building in order for more students to enjoy the

outdoors, which also represented a significant cost savings. The budget for Phase I projects is aligned with the facility needs project list and total \$73,193,803.

In response to a question posed by President Weiner, Enrique Navas, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services, advised that we now have a fairly accurate measurement of square footage; the Board will be provided with updated budget information. Superintendent Lianides advised that project costs are impacted by time factors, as well as whether staff chooses to enter a Lease-lease Back agreement or requests hard bids. President Weiner said he would like to see a Phase I budget and an overall expenditure plan for Measure "A" funds.

Architect Jobson reviewed the Facility Master Plan Framework, defining goals, the organizational structure, and a communications plan for updating the community and obtaining community engagement. The Educational Specifications identified programs across all four schools.

Trustee Thomsen said the Educational Specification is the most important piece and asked about the time horizon. To which Mr. Jobson advised the Educational Specifications were a living document. Trustee Thomsen said he would like to know if the 35-student high-performing classroom space could be utilized in 20 years. He asked if the building structures could accommodate different types of instruction. Architect Jobson said we construct buildings to last and carefully balance current and future needs. He noted that teachers should have their own classrooms, which makes them more accessible to students.

Trustee Sarver said the Educational Specifications state the need for teacher flexibility and facility design, which help shape teachers. It is exciting to see that careful thought and the range of planning effort is really being balanced. He agreed that there is a need to keep the overall budget feasible and balanced. Trustee Sarver said he wanted to see work certifications that would provide the district access to external funding because it is likely there will be a statewide bond. Enrique Navas assured the Trustee that documentation was being submitted.

Trustee Martinez said she was impressed at how far along the district was in planning. In response to a question posed by Trustee Martinez, Mr. Navas advised that the architect is investigating the Menlo-Atherton Pride Hall issue.

President Weiner said he shares Trustee Thomsen's concerns about building for the future. He noted he was pleased with the engagement and collaboration of the teaching staff.

Presentation of Initial Proposal by AFSCME Sequoia Federation of Supervisors for 2014-15	Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources David Reilly said this is the initial bargaining proposal received from American Federation of State, Local, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 829 Sequoia Federation of Supervisors specific to the supervisors, plant managers and Maintenance and Operations lead employees.
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Presentation of SUHSD's Initial Proposal to AFSCME OT&P & M&O Units	David Reilly advised that the SUHSD is "sunshining" its initial contract proposal to the AFSCME Office, Technical, and Paraprofessionals (OT&P) and Maintenance and Operations (M&O) bargaining units.
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Discussion of Strategic Planning Process	Dr. Lianides said the strategic planning process is well underway. Numerous input meetings took place, and the question asked was what attributes do students need for future success. Yesterday was the first meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee; it will meet again in two weeks, then a subgroup will develop a draft Strategic Plan for review by the committee in December.
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Trustee Thomsen noted yesterday's meeting began with a generalized discussion and then strategies were discussed. The conclusion was that the characteristics listed related to the whole student, who is curious and perseveres. He said there should be awareness of the huge expectations placed on teachers. Trustee Thomsen noted it is important to create a safe and happy campus in order to provide motivation for learning.

Trustee Du Bois said she was disappointed because she had pushed for the strategic plan, and the entire Board should have attended the committee meeting as opposed to Board members meeting individually with the consultants.

She also was not in agreement of there being only one initial question from the consultants, “What 21st century skills do our students need?” Trustee Dubois said her questions were, “What do teachers need in order to close the achievement gap, and how do we get more minority kids into advanced classes?”

Trustee Sarver said he thought the consultant’s question was open-ended, and he liked the fact that the input was diverse and wide-reaching. Trustee Sarver thought it would be helpful to hold a separate discussion Board meeting to provide an opportunity for the entire Board to interact. He thought a strategic plan was the umbrella and the Board should have an active voice.

Dr. Lianides noted that a great deal of work is going to be done by a subcommittee who will take the information and develop a draft Strategic Plan. Superintendent Lianides suggested that a Board Study Session with the subcommittee following its meeting on October 21.

President Weiner said the Superintendent’s suggestion was a worthwhile idea. He noted that the kinds of things that came out of the first meeting and the caliber of the discussion were quite extraordinary.

David Reilly suggested giving the process time, he had found the discussion helpful; he wants to see kids have goals where they take risks to make it okay to experience failure. The focus is on the effective domain.

Edith Salvatore said she attended the teachers’ meeting with the consultants at Sequoia High School and noted we (teachers) have been answering that question for the past decade. She was pleased to see a more detailed timeline distributed this evening and asked what teachers needed to do to get students to these skills. Mrs. Salvatore made suggestions on additional fine-tuning of the timeline. She noted that this past weekend was World Teacher Day, and as a teacher it is most important for students to learn basic academic skills, to be themselves, and to follow their interests.

Miguel Rodriguez, Principal of Redwood High School, said we look at being more inclusive to serve all students in greater parts of the population.

Trustee Thomsen said he liked the Superintendent’s suggestion, which would engage the entire Board. President Weiner noted that a Strategic Plan is the “What” and the teachers’ need is the “How.” Trustee Thomsen suggested utilizing the Dashboard because what is measured is that which is most valued. David Reilly suggested giving the process time and ultimately everyone will be satisfied.

Public Hearing Opened 8:13 p.m. AFSCME OT&P & M&O proposal to SUHSD	President Weiner opened public hearing at 8:13 p.m. on the Bargaining Proposal from AFSCME’s Office, Technical and Paraprofessional (OT&P) and Maintenance and Operations (M&O) bargaining proposals to the district.
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Public Hearing Closed at 8:13 p.m. There were no comments received, and President Weiner closed the public hearing at 8:13 p.m.

Public Hearing Opened 8:14 p.m. Res. No. 1529, Suffi. of Textbooks	President Weiner opened the public hearing at 8:14 p.m. on adopting Resolution No. 1529, Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials.
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Public Hearing Closed at 8:14 p.m. There were no comments received, and President Weiner closed the public hearing at 8:14 p.m.

Adoption of Res. No. 1529, Sufficiency of Textbooks	On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Sarver, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 1529, a resolution on Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials. Voting “yes,”—Trustees Du Bois, Martinez, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner; voting “no”—none, and absent—Student Trustee Breslauer.
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Approval of Contract for Parent Education Consultant	In response to a question posed by Trustee Martinez, David Reilly advised that Director of Student Services Donald Milhaupt will coordinate with Charlene Margo of CSM Consulting to provide a series of Parent Education programs at the comprehensive high schools.
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On a motion by Trustee Martinez, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees approved the contract with CSM Consulting to provide Parent Education series services to the district.

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

Superintendent Lianides said last week at Costaño Elementary School in East Palo Alto, the Silicon Valley Community Foundation Black Legislative Caucus met concerning the transition from eighth to ninth grade and how students taking Algebra in eighth grade end up repeating Algebra in ninth grade. First, Dr. Gloria Hernandez-Goff, Superintendent of Ravenswood City Elementary District, complimented the relationship between Sequoia district and Ravenswood; then one of the presenters, Dr. Morgan Marchbanks, Principal of East Palo Alto Academy, showed a chart where 97 percent of math students were properly placed and Sequoia district was used as an example how districts are doing it right.

President Weiner noted that on October 11 he will be participating in an Education Update organized by Assemblyman Rich Gordon on the Local Control Funding Formula and Common Core.

Trustee Du Bois said she had met with San Mateo County Office of Education staff on foster kids, and visited a Golden Bell candidate at Hoover School, where there is a powerful language development program for English Learners. She also met with Jeff Duncan-Andrade, San Francisco State University, who is an expert in dealing with at-risk students.

Trustee Thomsen said he had visited the Child Development Center at Redwood High School, and the program exhibited a number of Best Practices. He commended Trustee Sarver for his leadership on the "Save the Music Festival," and he noted that the praise at Costaño School was directed at the Superintendent.

Meeting Adjourned to Closed
Session at 8:30 p.m.

On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Sarver, the Board of Trustees adjourned to Closed Session at 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned Closed
at 9:00 p.m.

The Board of Trustees adjourned Closed Session at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Weiner, President

Alan Sarver, Clerk