

Approved Revised Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Sequoia Union High School District
Wednesday, December 10, 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, December 10, 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 4:05 p.m. to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. CONSIDER STUDENT DISCIPLINES/EXPULSIONSb. 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)c. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS Agency Negotiator: James Lianides; terms and conditions; APN 046-112-530, 055-243-030, and 046-112-950d. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE—GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957e. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE APPEAL HEARING—GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957 Position Title: Transportation Driverf. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION, Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Govt. Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2): Two Potential Cases	
Opened Public Session at 5:42 p.m.	The Board of Trustees returned to Public Session at 5:42 p.m. in Birch Conference Room at 480 James Avenue, in Redwood City, California.	
Roll Call	Present: Amanda Breslauer, Student Trustee Carrie Du Bois Olivia Martinez Alan Sarver Chris Thomsen Allen Weiner	Absent None
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.	
Pledge of Allegiance	President Weiner led the Board of Trustees and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.	
Annual Organization Meeting	President Weiner presided over the Annual Organization Meeting.	
Trustee Weiner Elected President for Second Term	<p>President Weiner nominated Trustee Martinez as President of the SUHSD Board of Trustees.</p> <p>Trustee Martinez said in reflecting upon this past year President Weiner's leadership has been exemplary, and said she preferred to nominate Trustee Weiner for a second term as President. Trustee Thomsen said the continuity of Mr. Weiner's working with staff would benefit the Board, and he seconded the nomination.</p> <p>There were no other nominations; on a nomination by Trustee Martinez, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees approved the nomination of Trustee Weiner as President for a second term. Voting "yes,"—Student Trustee Breslauer; Trustees Du Bois, Martinez, Sarver, Thomsen and Weiner.</p>	

Minutes for 12/10/14, Board Meeting

Page 2

Trustee Martinez Elected Vice President for Second Term	On a motion by Trustee Thomsen, seconded by Trustee Weiner, the Board of Trustees elected Trustee Martinez as Vice President.
Trustee Sarver Elected Clerk for Second Term	On a motion by Trustee Martinez, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees elected Trustee Sarver as Clerk.
Approval of Agenda as Amended	There was consensus to President Weiner's recommendation to move the Public Hearings, Item Numbers 14a. and 14b., up on the Agenda to be heard before Item No. 11, Public Comment. On a motion by Trustee Weiner, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the Agenda as amended.
Report Out on Closed Session	President Weiner reported that the Board took action in Closed Session and Trustees Du Bois, Martinez, Sarver, Thomsen and Weiner unanimously approved the expulsions of students numbered 2014-15-15, 2014-15-16, and 2014-15-17 (names to appear in official minutes) for the fall 2014-15 semester and the spring 2014-15 semester and established May 15, 2015, as the date that the students may apply for readmission.
Approval of Consent Calendar	On a motion by Trustee Sarver, seconded by Trustee Du Bois, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar. Voting "yes,"—Student Trustee Breslauer; Trustees Du Bois, Martinez, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner; voting "no"—none, and absent—none.
Approval of Minutes for November 19, 2014, Board Mtg.	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes for the November 19, 2014, Board meeting.
Approval of Personnel Recommendations	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations and the Addenda as indicated.
Approval of Field Trips	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the field trip requests for Carlmont High School's DECA students to San Jose on January 2-4, 2015; Social Studies students to Georgia and Alabama on February 13-19, 2015; Sequoia High School's Summer Bridge Program to Alcatraz on February 4, 2015.
Approval of New Textbook	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the new textbook, <i>The Orphan Master's Son</i> .
Approval of Bid for Video Equipment	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees awarded the bid for video equipment to the lowest bidder, North American Video, in the amount of \$32,263; in addition to a 9 percent sales tax cost of \$2,903.67, and the total expenditure for this project will be \$35,166.67.
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.
Approval of Contract with StarVista	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the contract with StarVista to provide counseling services at Menlo-Atherton High School.
Authorization to File 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 for a five-classroom building at Carlmont and Enviroplex for three modular classrooms at Menlo-Atherton High School.
Acceptance of Monthly Financial Reports	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the Monthly Financial Reports for November 2014.
Approval of CAHSEE Waiver	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the requested CAHSEE waiver.

Approval to Hire Geotechnical Engineers	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved hiring Cornerstone Earth group in the amount of: \$36,600 for the new classroom building at Carlmont High School, and \$43,925 for the new five-classroom building and addition at Menlo-Atherton High School.																
Approval of Revised Criteria for Reclassifying EL Students	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the revised criteria for reclassifying English Learner (EL) students for 2014-15.																
Special Recognitions																	
Superintendent’s Commendations	<p>Superintendent Lianides recognized the Menlo-Atherton Girls’ Varsity Volleyball Team, which won 30 games and lost 4. The following students and Coach Ron Whitmill were recognized:</p> <table><tr><td>Leanna Collins</td><td>Lauren Heller</td><td>Ally Ostrow</td><td>Kelsey Tonsfeldt</td></tr><tr><td>Jacqueline DiSanto</td><td>Chloe Johnson</td><td>Alexa Roumeliotis</td><td>Katie Wilcox</td></tr><tr><td>Rachel Gerber</td><td>Devin Joos</td><td>Kiana Sales</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Eliza Grover</td><td>Kirby Knapp</td><td>Kaitlin Tavaréz</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Dr. Lianides commended Association Student Body (ASB) presidents from the comprehensive high school sites as well as the ASB representatives from Redwood High School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elise Dimick, Carlmont High School• Lindsay Andrew, Menlo-Atherton High School• Megan Day, Sequoia High School• Monica Chanda, Woodside High School• Erika Andrade, Maria Del Rio, Priscilla Fernandez; Redwood High School	Leanna Collins	Lauren Heller	Ally Ostrow	Kelsey Tonsfeldt	Jacqueline DiSanto	Chloe Johnson	Alexa Roumeliotis	Katie Wilcox	Rachel Gerber	Devin Joos	Kiana Sales		Eliza Grover	Kirby Knapp	Kaitlin Tavaréz	
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Eliza Grover	Kirby Knapp	Kaitlin Tavaréz															
Public Comment	None																
Correspondence	None																
Public Hearing Opened 6:00 p.m. Property for School Use at 535 Old County Road, San Carlos	<p>President Weiner opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. on the feasibility and suitability of a property for school use located at 535 Old County Road in the City of San Carlos CA.</p> <p>Enrique Navas, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services, reported that staff has been sharing with the community the need to expand facilities due to increased student enrollment. Last June the voters approved a \$265 \$264 million general obligation bond. Mr. Navas said this is a great opportunity to offer more diverse educational programs to students. He noted that the district plans to build a school with a theme on the property located on Old County Road that will house between 300 and 400 students estimated to arrive at the school in the fall of 2017. Staff has looked at properties, of which there are very few on the market, that are near targeted student populations and anticipated enrollment growth, are accessible to transportation, and have the potential for joint use. Assistant Superintendent Navas showed an aerial map of the property. He reported that the California Department of Education (CDE) Facilities Division’s initial evaluation ranks the site as a “2” out of “5,” with a “1” being most suitable. Due diligence has been conducted concerning site inspections, research, and outreach. The purchase contract due diligence period ends on December 22, 2014, with the closing date scheduled for January 6, 2014. Mr. Navas thoroughly reviewed the CDE Site Selection Criteria (5 California Code of Regulations [CCR] sec. 14010).</p> <p>Angel Lorenzini, San Carlos resident, expressed concern about traffic congestion, parking, and older kids in Laureola Park.</p> <p>Scott Hafer, San Carlos resident, suggested that the district should buy a larger property and build a large school. He said the purchase of this property would disrupt his quiet community.</p> <p>In response to a question posed by San Carlos resident Scott Highton, President Weiner said no decisions have been made concerning other properties, and the district is under contract for 535 Old</p>																

County Road. Superintendent Lianides said we are planning for a school of 400 students, and we have no designs on the park.

Mr. Highton advised that the residents are under both airport traffic and helicopter standard flight patterns. His concern is traffic and the fact that Holly Street, Old County Road, and Industrial Way are all overtaxed.

Michael Schwartz, San Carlos resident, encouraged the Board to look into the traffic issues and requested that the neighbors be included. He noted it could be a good thing for the community

Bill Capote, San Carlos resident, said parking is a major issue and asked where the students would park. He also asked if the school would have a closed campus.

Romy Radulescu, San Carlos resident, noted that 535 Old County Road is a small site and suggested that Redwood Shores could better accommodate a high school. December 22 is 11 days away, many studies are needed; she asked when the studies would be performed.

Tim Smallman, San Carlos resident, reported that Laureola Park used to be a school and was sold off, and now homes sit on the property. He suggested that the Board look at other alternatives being mindful of its predecessors.

Tim Hilborn, San Carlos resident, said the community had received no indication this was happening. He asked for the names of the members of the selection committee and the bond oversight committee. Other information requested included regulations concerning railroad tracks, gas lines, a traffic study, and potential health and safety risks.

Superintendent Lianides said there is a community meeting tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. at 480 James Avenue, Redwood City in Birch Conference Room. He said the facility would visually blend into the park and additional parking will be provided. The school could be a benefit to the community by offering educational opportunities to the residents.

Student Trustee Breslauer said as a student of Carlmont High School she grew up in San Carlos and has experienced the increase in population. She believes in the importance of providing a quality education to the students of San Carlos.

Trustee Sarver said he was one of two Board members on the Capacity Task Force and is on the Real Estate Acquisition Committee. Our starting point was an awareness of ongoing enrollment growth. We have looked carefully at opportunities for acquiring a new comprehensive high school site and the cost would take the entire \$265 million bond. We looked at supplementing facilities with small magnet schools, which will provide opportunity for expansion and flexibility to add more schools later on. There are a very small number properties available and only a fraction were for sale. It is a project that cannot be done by a community group. This property has an excellent outdoor space adjacent to the property and is close to public transportation. Space will be built into the high school that can be used by the community during school off hours.

Superintendent Lianides advised that the number of parking spaces will be determined by California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Trustee Thomsen said he agreed that there is need to be inclusive and aware of parking and transportation issues. He disagreed with comments made concerning the school population; he sees great students and relationships in our schools. Small schools are at the heart of the community; when we talk to the community the thing heard most often is, "I want neighborhood schools."

Trustee Du Bois said she is cautious about traffic and parking, which puts more pressure on the neighborhood. She noted there is great demand for a small theater in San Carlos.

Susanne Dunlap, San Carlos resident, said the Old County Road area would love to have a high school but with a new hospital and two new hotels going in parking and traffic are the issues. She suggested considering other alternatives.

Urmika Shah, San Carlos resident, requested more transparency and suggested a meeting be held in the community building at Laureola Park.

Gary Yip, San Carlos resident, suggested there be more meetings where other options can be explored. He asked about purchasing other property or would this be a four-story building.

Rita Fusaro, San Carlos resident, said there are no plans for transportation in this area; she noted that the quality of life is questionable. She expressed concern that the city may not have our best interests at heart.

Ms. Marsters, San Carlos resident, said there are better places for students to attend school than at the intersection of Old County Road and Holly Street and noted that communication is key. San Carlos City Councilman Mark Olbert said he was willing to remove toxic problems in other properties that might be better for a school.

Allie Davidson, San Carlos resident, said her family enjoys Laureola Park, to which everyone walks and no one drives.

President Weiner noted that he is aware that this proposed facility has added to community members' stress; however, he will vote in favor of proceeding with the project. He told those present that they would find this school district quite eager to work with community members to mitigate concerns. As a public official, President Weiner said he has to think about the 10,000 students who will be in the Sequoia Union High School District by the year 2020.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Martinez, Superintendent Lianides advised that this school will have a theme. Based upon a parent and student survey, the top two choices are Health/Science and Digital Arts/Computer Science. We have additional work to do, and the theme will be selected by June 2015. We will then design the facilities, with the potential school opening in the fall of 2017. Dr. Lianides said he looked forward to an inclusive process working with the community; our goal is to develop a school that enhances the community and provides more facilities than what exists today. The students attending the new school will reside in the north part of our district, Belmont, San Carlos, Redwood Shores, and Redwood City. The school would not have attendance boundaries and will be attractive to students. There is a growing need that students want alternative types of education, and this school will be an asset to the San Carlos community.

In response questions posed from the audience, Superintendent Lianides advised that the district has already conducted many of studies, and Phase I environmental reports will be accomplished prior to closing. Once the size and scope of the project is identified, a traffic study will be conducted.

President Weiner said there is a meeting scheduled for tomorrow evening with Trustees Du Bois and Sarver, and there will be a number of meetings to follow.

Public Hearing
Closed at 7:51 p.m.

President Weiner closed the public hearing at 7:51 p.m. on the feasibility and suitability of a property for school use located at 535 Old County Road in the City of San Carlos.

Public Hearing
Opened at 7:52 p.m. on
Property for School Use at
150 Jefferson Drive, Menlo Park

President Weiner opened the public hearing at 7:52 p.m. on the feasibility and suitability of a property for school use located 150 Jefferson Drive in the City of Menlo Park CA.

Enrique Navas reported that staff has been sharing with the community the need to expand facilities due to increased student enrollment. Last June the voters approved a \$264 million general obligation bond. Mr. Navas said this is a great opportunity to offer more diverse educational programs to students. He noted that the district plans to build a school with a theme on the property located on Jefferson Drive in Menlo Park that will house between 300 and 400 students, largely accessible to those living in the areas of East Palo Alto, Fifth Avenue, Fair Oaks and near Menlo-Atherton High School. He advised there are very few purchase options on the market that are located near targeted student populations, anticipated enrollment growth, accessible to transportation, and have the potential for joint use. Mr. Navas showed an aerial map of the property.

He reported that the California Department of Education (CDE) Facilities Division's initial evaluation ranks the site as a "2" out of "5" with a "1" being most suitable. Due diligence has been conducted concerning site inspections, research, and outreach. The purchase contract due diligence period ended today, with an option to extend to January 14, 2015. The closing date is presently scheduled for January 6, 2015, with an option to extend it to March 2, 2015. Mr. Navas thoroughly reviewed the CDE Site Selection Criteria (5 California Code of Regulations [CCR] sec. 14010).

Frank Petrilli, attorney representing property owners in vicinity of the site, said there is a lot going on in the area of 150 Jefferson Drive, in Menlo Park. In response to his request, Enrique Navas advised that he would be the staff contact with whom to discuss opportunities for cooperation.

Trustee Thomsen noted that this is an attractive property because it is not in a neighborhood. However, it is perceived as being in the far reaches of the district's attendance boundaries.

In response to a statement made by Trustee Sarver, Dr. Lianides said the lack of public transportation will be addressed as we move forward. What is most appealing is that the property is located next door to Facebook and Intuit, and the area is rapidly changing from industrial to high-tech. This school would be attractive to students.

Trustee Martinez noted that there isn't an area that is not impacted by traffic, and she suspects more public transportation will be implemented; she advised that the district will need to be creative with school start times.

Public Hearing Closed at 8:11 p.m. President Weiner closed the public hearing at 8:11 p.m. on the feasibility and suitability of a property for school use located 150 Jefferson Drive in the City of Menlo Park.

Annual Report from Everest Public High School

Christopher Lewine, Executive Director of Everest Public High School, reported that Everest's new freshmen class enrollment was at 114 students. He reviewed the school's demographics, admissions, and other statistical data. He said the charter school's goals focused on college, character, and community; its mission was preparing students for success in college and building students' character. He noted Everest holds a strong record of success in that 100 percent of its students met "a-g" college course requirements and 96 percent of its graduates were eligible to attend four-year colleges. Everest is piloting Next Generation Learning Initiatives and will be sharing the results with the educational community across the Nation.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Thomsen, Mr. Lewine said technology is viewed as a tool, and we are excited about what can be developed and offered to students. We view our parents as partners, and our initiatives are directed at parents understanding the program.

Trustee Martinez commented on how well Everest has integrated into the community which is half residential and half retail.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Sarver, Director Lewine said transportation and parking issues come to mind because we do have students who park in the area and we do hold events. Many students take the train or bus and also carpool.

In response to a question posed by President Weiner, Mr. Lewine said instructional collaboration is informal, and our teachers who know district teachers are in contact; the high schools have been letting Everest students utilize their space for athletics.

Update on Live in Peace Program

Superintendent Lianides said the Live in Peace program has a Memorandum of Understanding with the district for use of classroom space at Green Street in East Palo Alto; Heather Starnes, Executive Director, will present student successes occurring this school year. Ms. Starnes said the majority of the students in the program come from Redwood High School. She noted we are trying to leverage student interest in technology to connect them with positive outcomes. She said there is a lot of energy and student interest in coming to the center. Heather Starnes said the program will offer four classes in January, and Stanford students will be teaching boot camp.

The program has a grant with San Mateo County looking at truant students and/or those students having experienced a run-in with the law. Students also work with Ed Cardona on credit recovery. Ms. Starnes advised that when fun positive activities are offered, kids get back on track. The program has generated support and resources from outside services.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Du Bois, Ms. Starnes said if we provide the most at-risk students access to Green Street, more of those students will get to the doorsteps of the comprehensive sites.

Trustee Sarver said as with developing small schools, we need to enhance our partnerships. We are seeing the same opportunities coming into place in site we are pursuing in East Menlo Park. We are also looking at ways to partner with the Green Street program.

Update on San Mateo County
Investment Pool

Enrique Navas, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services, noted he has provided the investment reports from San Mateo County Tax Collector-Treasurer for the quarter ending October 31, 2014.

Update on Phase I Construction
Projects

Aaron Jobson of Quattrocchi Kwok Architects reported that master planning and determining facilities needs is an ongoing process; they are in the process of reviewing draft master plans with committees, updating demographics, and working with the Maintenance Department on a capital repair plan and cost estimates, which will be presented in March. He provided updates on the projects at Carlmont, Menlo-Atherton, Sequoia, and Woodside high schools as well as the new East Palo Alto Academy gymnasium on Myrtle Street. Mr. Jobson said that Education Specifications will be brought to the Board for approval in January.

Trustee Sarver noted that our relatively small school district is working in a much larger environment of escalating costs, and he appreciated the approach being taken to be effectively honed in on costs.

Trustee Martinez suggested that the district's website contain a link to Mr. Jobson's bond construction update, in order for people to see where their tax dollars are being spent.

Trustee Thomsen said if we have to pare costs in light of budget pressures, he hoped we will continue to build the best possible learning environments.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Martinez, Mr. Navas said Menlo-Atherton's Pride Hall project is part of Phase II.

Matthew Zito, Chief Facilities Officer, noted that this summer the great challenge will be seven construction projects going on at the same time as summer school being taught at two sites; in addition to sequencing the Carlmont projects. After these initial projects have been completed there will be another set of buildings to construct.

Enrique Navas noted that staff has also retained consultants to look at the district's food service areas.

President Weiner said it would be helpful to have knowledge of any construction project changes and/or adjustments being made. He requested information on the total budget; he wanted to know if **the overall goals of the bond campaign** would be realized, and what kind of tradeoffs we are seeing. Enrique Navas said he would present the first budget report in January or February. Mr. Zito said a book would be put together on Phases I, II, and III that would include the budget.

(Trustee Du Bois temporarily exited the Board Room.)

Approval of Financial Audit
Report for 2013-14

Sheldon Chavan of Chavan & Associates, LLP, said there were three phases to the audit, and this year the focus was on federal and state compliance for the Human Resources Division; he noted there were no findings.

In response to questions posed by Trustees Weiner and Thomsen, Mr. Chavan advised that next year auditors will be required to look at the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Chavan will audit the finances of East Palo Alto Academy.

On a motion by Trustee Martinez, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees approved the Financial Audit Report for 2013-14 by a vote of four “ayes” and zero “nays.” (*Trustee Du Bois was temporarily absent.*)

(*Trustee Du Bois returned to the Board Room.*)

Update on Strategic
Planning

Bonnie Hansen, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, reported that 2,539 participants took the survey, and there was strong participation across the schools. On December 2, 2014, the Strategic Planning Committee met and separated into four groups to process survey data. The results were that all four groups found that Core Academics and UC A-G requirements were the high school experiences most important for student success. Mrs. Hansen reported that the Strategic Planning Subcommittee was meeting the next day and on January 15, 2015, to develop the first draft of the plan; which will be presented to the Board on February 4, 2015.

Trustee Thomsen noted that it appears that the responses to the eight survey questions are close, and it is reassuring that the community is interested in what our schools do.

Trustee Du Bois noted the survey should result in Board and district priorities. She suggested obtaining input from the charter schools. Trustee Du Bois said this is an opportunity to develop policies into the plan, such as not leaving kids behind.

Trustee Thomsen said the small schools are a small piece of this as well. We want to receive comments from Board members on big items.

Dr. Lianides said there is going to be an implementation plan developed, and specific programs will be part of that; what we are discussing is a “big picture” of the district. He suggested staying the course; in February you will see the draft plan, and the Board can decide then.

Trustee Sarver said he appreciated the mechanism from this broader level of general input, which elaborates on things our group generated. This is a starting point for putting together a plan.

President Weiner said he wanted the subcommittee to reflect on whether the strategic plan ~~is on~~ **should be based on the expertise of the Strategic Planning Committee members** ~~disaggregating functions~~ or whether we go with community input; the Board should not be shy, as elected representatives of the district, about having its own views.

Edith Salvatore, President of the Sequoia District Teachers Association (SDTA), said SDTA wanted to thank the Strategic Planning Committee for distributing the survey, being inclusive, and including information about the small schools. Whether or not the survey input is used in the final plan, she appreciated the opportunity to provide input.

Trustee Thomsen suggested that the subcommittee do its work and said then the Board will respond.

Update on Redwood Task
Force

Superintendent Lianides reported that the last meeting of the Redwood Task Force will be held tomorrow, and he asked the Board if there was agreement with all of the points listed in the background. Assuming that there is agreement, these recommendations will be presented to the Board in January. He advised that this too is a “big picture” document and a committee will work on implementation. This is a key opportunity because funds have been set aside to upgrade Redwood facilities.

Trustee Martinez said the recommendations for revamping instruction programs looks terrific.

President Weiner noted on Item (3) in the background statement under, “Implement Small Learning Communities” (a) “Founded on engaging themes and linked to careers,” these are different concepts giving students exposure to subjects of interest to them. President Weiner stated that small learning communities are a way to engage student learning.

Trustee Sarver said he liked the structure of the recommendations and the way the Redwood community has been engaged. He suggested that Board members attend a Linked Learning session offered at the CSBA Annual Conference; the focus of that movement is college and career preparation.

Edith Salvatore said she was concerned about the timing and implementation of the changes. It is important to get the entire Redwood staff involved in the discussion and to develop concrete steps necessary for implementation. She encouraged Board members to discuss their final recommendations.

(Student Trustee Breslauer was excused and left the meeting at 10:34 p.m.)

Discussion of Possible Joint Study Session with Community College District Regarding a Small School

Dr. Lianides said Ron Galatolo, Chancellor of San Mateo County Community College District has been discussing with staff the possibility of working in partnership with the district and offering community college classes at one of our proposed small high schools. The Community College Board is interested in discussing this partnership with the Sequoia Board and suggested a joint meeting on Wednesday, February 25.

Trustee Thomsen said in the past we have discussed a joint meeting Ravenswood City Elementary District Board and he suggested that be considered. This Board has not had a conversation about small schools, and he preferred having that discussion first.

Trustee Du Bois said she was interested in joint meetings with both the Ravenswood district and Community College boards.

Trustee Sarver agreed that we move forward with preliminary discussions with both boards.

Trustee Martinez said there is a possibility that the Community College could bring in new ideas. She worries about misconceptions; however, the college district is a great resource. She noted it would need to be very preliminary.

President Weiner said he was in favor of doing more work concerning the content of the **small school theme** ~~classes~~.

Superintendent Lianides said he saw the outcome to be less dependent on a theme and more about the commitment of the Board to develop a partnership. He advised that there may be a program at the Menlo Park site similar to Middle College, and those students could take Common Core classes as well. By late February we should have narrowed down themes and will know more about any industrial development. What we can do is research the date, and if we find ourselves not ready an adjustment can be made.

Trustee Weiner said we need to **agendize** ~~agenize~~ a discussion about small schools and talk about what information is needed. Let us proceed in that fashion.

Adoption of Res. No. 1530, Acquisition of Property at 150 Jefferson Drive, Menlo Park

On a motion by Trustee Martinez, seconded by Trustee Sarver, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 1530, Acquisition of Property at 150 Jefferson Drive, in Menlo Park California. Voting “yes,”—Trustees Du Bois, Martinez, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner; voting “no”—none, and absent—Student Trustee Breslauer.

Adoption of Res. No. 1531,
Acquisition of Property at 535
Old County Road, San Carlos

In response to a question posed by Trustee Du Bois, Superintendent Lianides said he has had several conversations with Jeff Maltbie, San Carlos City Manager, who is not aware of any specific industrial properties that could possibly be cleaned up. Dr. Lianides stated that going after polluted properties is a multi-million dollar and time-consuming process; schools are regulated at the same level as hospitals. If we are not pursuing this property we will need to begin at zero.

President Weiner said the resolution authorizes the Superintendent to negotiate an extension, and the President said he continues to be in favor of adopting the resolution. He encouraged the Superintendent to have a discussion with San Carlos City Councilman Mark Olbert to see if he is aware of any viable property options.

Trustee Martinez reminded the Board that the district has been working with the most experienced commercial realtors in the county. The realtor, Board members and district staff are all aware of the community impact and none of us are taking this lightly.

On a motion by Trustee Sarver, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 1531, Acquisition of Property at 535 Old County Road, in San Carlos California. Voting “yes,”—Trustees Du Bois, Martinez, Sarver, Thomsen, and Weiner; voting “no”—none, and absent—Student Trustee Breslauer.

Approval of First Interim Budget
for Fiscal Year 2014-15

Enrique Navas stated that the First Interim Report presented to the Board for approval has been prepared in accordance to state regulations and the Board has received all documents. In response to a question, Mr. Navas stated that the expenditures for 2014-15 increased due to recent salary increases granted to staff as well as local grant expenditures. He reported that property tax revenue is projected to increase to 6.17 percent in the current year with the out years projected to be at 4.5 percent. The multi-year projections reflect continuous tax funding in short term sales, income tax increases and one-time state funding of \$900,000 for Common Core. Mr. Navas said the reduction in charter school funding was due to lower Average Daily Attendance. For the current year the budget projects deficit spending of \$1.9 million and the pattern continues in the out years, due to additional staffing for increased enrollment. Health insurance benefits continue to increase at a rate of 5 percent each year. The beginning General Fund balance was at \$13.6 million with an ending balance at \$11.7 million; Fund 17 contains a \$4.6 million reserve, and the current unfunded liability for retirees is noted. Mr. Navas advised that 82.3 percent of General Fund expenditures are for instructional salaries. He stated caution needs to be taken in regard to additional staffing due to enrollment growth and noted that five years out two funding sources (Proposition 30) will discontinue, resulting in a \$3 million loss of revenue.

In response to a question posed by Trustee Thomsen, Mr. Navas said this year’s budget includes the 2014-15 salary increases; however, no additional increases have been budgeted for the out years.

On a motion by Trustee Sarver, seconded by Trustee Thomsen, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the First Interim Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-15.

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

Superintendent Lianides reported that the weather is being carefully monitored, and the Maintenance and Operations Department is fully mobilized and prepared for tomorrow’s storm. Dr. Lianides requested that there be a moment of silence for Sequoia High School alumni Ed Nordness, who recently passed away.

President Weiner suggested that the Board have earlier input in next year’s budget building process. The Superintendent suggested holding a study session in February to discuss budget priorities.

Trustee Martinez requested that there be a report presented to the Board on athletic programs; there have been changes in the scope and number of students served. She advised that the memorial service for Ed Nordness is on Saturday. She received a letter from the Sequoia Alumni Association that it has donated \$4,000 to Sequoia High School under the Cherokee Grant Program, which represents a great effort.

Dr. Martinez said she attend Assemblyman Kevin Mullin's Education Advisory Committee and reported that the Governor does not want to extend Proposition 30; he will be reorganizing the funding process for the facilities construction program, and Assembly Mullin wants to hear from school districts in regard to the reserve cap issue.

Trustee Sarver said he attended a community meeting with Assemblyman Jerry Hill, who has heard from numerous school districts in regard to the reserve cap and said he will do something about it. Trustee Sarver said there will be another "Four Corners" meeting in February. He and the Superintendent met with Ravenswood City Elementary District in a "Two by Two" meeting, which is a positive working group. Trustee Sarver recommended Board members attend at least one Linked Learning workshop at the California School Boards Association Annual Conference.

Trustee Du Bois said she had attended the inspiring Sequoia High School's Dream Club event. She also attended the Jefferson Luncheon at the Community College sponsored by its foundation, where teaching and the impact of technology was discussed.

Trustee Thomsen said he attended a meeting of the San Mateo County Committee on School District Organization, and the organization will be changing the trustee areas.

Enrique Navas reported that, in regard to the previous discussion concerning the reserve cap, this initiative will not affect any school district in the short term (within the next four or five years); and we are working toward changing the outcome.

There was a moment of silence honoring Ed Nordness.

Adjourned meeting to reconvene
Closed Session at 11:30 p.m.

President Weiner adjourned the meeting at 11:30 p.m. to reconvene in Closed Session.

Adjourned Closed Session at
11:45 p.m.

President Weiner adjourned Closed Session at 11:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Weiner, President

Alan Sarver, Clerk