

U N A D O P T E D M I N U T E S

of the Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
January 19, 2016

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Macias at 6:00 p.m.

Governing Board of Trustees present: Sylvia Macias,
Francisco “Javi” Santana, Jan Baird, Deborah Pacheco, Elias
Alvarado

Others present:

Gail Baxter, Superintendent

Cecilia Laidemitt, Associate Superintendent of
Administrative Services and Personnel Management

Mark Keriakous, Associate Superintendent of Business Services

Martha Mestanza – Rojas, Associate Superintendent of Educational
Services

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Lake Marie Student, Nicole Camarena

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments by the public.

PRESENTATION

Shilo F. Gorospe a partner from Vivranek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP presented to the Board of Trustees the highlights of the 2014-2015 Building Fund (Measure I) Financial Report and Performance Audit, and the 2014-2015 Annual Financial Audit Report.

SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Lisa Palomino, Principal at Lake Marie School accompanied by 3rd grade teacher at Lake Marie, Ms. Fuller and several students from Lake Marie, Nicole Camarena, Earl Boudreau, Derek Smith, Grace Carnelas prepared a presentation entitled, “Students use of the 21st Century Skills and Project-based Learning Culminating Experience”. The presentation highlighted the framework of the 21st century learning that helps students to develop and implement the essential skills that students need to be successful academically. Skills that students learn are critical thinking, problem solving, effective communication and collaboration. Each student demonstrated how part of learning skills in the 21st Century involves the use of technology. Technology, such as computers, or tablets, provided the students the means to research to build knowledge. In this presentation the students researched and compiled the information about how Italy celebrates Christmas.

COMMENTS BY TRUSTEES

Trustee Alvarado thanked the students, parents and teachers for the presentation. Trustee Alvarado stated that he really appreciates to see their progress. Trustee Alvarado stated that he is very excited to see some of the things that the Superintendent is currently doing. One, of the things is that the Superintendent is accelerating the relationship between teachers, workers and administrators and pursuing of workshops and other activities that will enable greater participation, greater cooperation, greater problem solving and hopeful that the outcome will be very visible in the near future. Trustee Alvarado mentioned that there will also be workshops for Board Members to help get on board with all of the changes that are taking place in the classrooms. Trustee Alvarado stated that he feels very optimistic and excited about all of the possibilities which the future holds for us.

Trustee Pacheco stated that she is looking forward to the upcoming workshop.

Trustee Baird stated that she is looking forward to the New Year.

Trustee Macias thanked Principal, Lisa Palomino from Lake Marie, 3rd grade Teacher, Ms.Fuller and the students from Lake Marie for the wonderful presentation that they put together for the Board.

Trustee Macias stated that she enjoyed the Holiday/Winter Programs and had the opportunity to attend all of them. Trustee Macias stated that all of the programs were well put together and very well attended. Trustee Macias stated that the Kinder program was very cute, and just very nice to see how they were all very excited.

Trustee Macias stated that she had the opportunity to attend Peggy Archer's Retirement Celebration and that it was very well done. Trustee Macias commented that Mrs. Baxter did a very good job. Trustee Macias stated that it was very nice to see how touched Peggy was to see the entire presentation and very nice to see her so happy.

Trustee Macias stated that the McKibben winter program was also very well put together. Trustee Macias thanked the Principals for saving her a parking spot, which allowed her to not have to walk a long distance at all the school sites and able to enjoy the winter programs.

Trustee Macias stated that the Graves Middle School Band concert was excellent and enjoyed the concert very much. The band played so well and Trustee Macias stated that it is nice to see how much the band is growing.

Trustee Macias reported that she attended the LCAP meeting with Mr. Santana. Trustee Macias thanked Martha Mestanza-Rojas for a good presentation. Trustee Macias reported how the group was able to break-out into smaller groups and brainstorm on the verbiage used for some of the goals. This was a great opportunity to meet others and had a good collaboration. Trustee Macias thanked Dr. Fraijo for the presentation which highlighted what is happening in our District and in the direction that we are going. Trustee Macias stated that through the presentation it helped to see that we are part of a great, elite team of educators that all have been attending to different meetings. This is a once in a life time opportunity and as highlighted through Dr. Fraijo's presentation, we may not have this opportunity again. Trustee Macias stated how touched she was with all the words that everyone shared at the meeting, especially the words "We believe that students can achieve". Trustee Macias stated that she too believes in those words, "that students can achieve". Trustee Macias stated that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity and we are all glad to be invited to be a part of this. Trustee Macias stated how grateful she is that we have such an elite team of administrators and educators. Trustee Macias stated that she knows that if we all work together we will achieve great success.

REPORTS

Mrs. Gail Baxter, Superintendent reported that the Governor has unveiled the Governor's budget proposal. Mrs. Baxter stated that the budget process starts in January each year with the Governor unveiling what the Governor's thoughts are regarding the budget. The proposed budget in January will change significantly before the budget is officially adopted by July 1. Between now and April there will be a lot of politics happening in Sacramento, such as different legislators trying to get different wording, special projects funded, and some trade deals will be going on. In the month of May is when the District will get the Governor's May revised budget, which will provide a better idea of what will be adopted as the final budget.

Mrs. Baxter stated that each year School Services of California coordinates a "Budget Workshop" and a combined team from the District is invited to attend, including the representatives from SWTA and CSEA. This year the Administrative team and Keith MacInnes, SWTA Co-President and Josie Tafoya, CSEA President attended. It is important for all to hear a common message and common information.

Mrs. Baxter stated that at the budget workshop, the message conveyed is still good, as education is still being funded better than it has been in past years. Mrs. Baxter stated that the Governor is closing the gap of LCFF faster than was expected. This gap closure was not expected until 2021 and the Governor is ahead of schedule and closing the gap much quicker. Mrs. Baxter reported that the Governor is underestimating revenues at this time of year.

The Governor underestimates what the revenues are going to be and this may be the case again as the property taxes came in higher than expected. What the Governor does and what may be expected to be seen at the May Revision is that we will see one-time money again. Mrs. Baxter stated what one-time money means and how this makes it very difficult for Districts to plan. Mrs. Baxter stated that the First Interim Report that was board approved last month was sent to LACOE, and LACOE returned it because the one-time money in the budget was shown rolling over for 3 years and one-time money cannot be shown as income more than one time. Each year we have to wait to see what the one-time money is going to be and then include it in the LCAP. The adjustment was made and resubmitted to LACOE, LACOE approved the report with the revision. The revision will be on the 2nd Interim Report and will be returning to the Board for review. Mrs. Baxter stated that the State Department and the Office of the Legislative Analyst both mentioned that there are a lot of precautions that Districts need to take when budgeting. This is the longest period of time in California history that they have seen an incline in finances and we simply do not know when the next recession will hit. They are not predicting that there will be another recession within the next year or two, but they are cautioning about never knowing when a recession can hit. Mrs. Baxter reported that the State Department and the Office of Legislative Analyst is reminding districts that the increase for PERS and STRS package between now and 2021 increases every year significantly, and that eventually 19.1% of salary will be the Districts portion that goes into the STRS fund and 20.4% for PERS. They also cautioned that the temporary sales tax is scheduled to go away in 2016, and the individual income tax in 2018. The Districts are being cautioned to plan ahead for when those go away.

Mrs. Baxter reported that this is the first time that the Governor has recognized that there is no funding that is going into STRS and the Governor understands that there is a concern with Prop 30 money going away but it doesn't mean that he is putting any money into either of these areas to prepare for the future needs. Mrs. Baxter reported what is not included, is that there is no schools facilities bond included in the Governor's budget, there is no new funding to address the increase to the employee contribution of the PERS and STRS, and there is no new funding for transportation.

Mrs. Baxter reported that Healthcare is another area that Districts are being cautioned about and also the impact of declining enrollment to districts. Declining enrollment is happening in nearly every district in the state now. At the same time that there is declining enrollment we are creating a greater need for teachers because class size reduction is coming in place.

By the year 2020 the District will need to have class size from grades K-3rd at 24-1. Mrs. Baxter explained that this means that the District is not releasing teachers each year, and that we are projecting to keep about the same amount of teachers next year but student enrollment decline is estimated to be between 70-80 students. Mrs. Baxter stated that the income that is lost for those students will impact the District negatively.

Mrs. Baxter reported that there is a rising cost of minimum wage and Districts are cautioned on how to plan the rise of minimum wage. Mrs. Baxter stated that included in tonight's agenda there is an agenda item presented to the Board asking to increase the salary schedule for one of our substitute groups so that the District can comply with the increase of the minimum wage.

Mrs. Baxter reported that overall the information at the Governor's budget workshop was good news. Mrs. Baxter stated that we are ahead of schedule on the LCAP but it does come with a lot of cautions.

Mrs. Baxter reported on the Carmela Property. We are still in negotiations with Storm Properties over the Carmela property. A lease draft has been submitted to the Storm Properties attorneys for review and we are waiting for them to return it to our attorney for review. Storm Properties is interested and wanted to make sure that they were the sole company that the District is negotiating with on the property. At this time Storm Properties is the sole company. Mrs. Baxter reported that the District is waiting for a response from Storm Properties and their attorneys and hoping that for the February meeting we may have substantial information to report.

Mrs. Baxter closed her report, by reporting on the Leadership Collaborative and the work that is happening in the District. Mrs. Baxter stated that the Collaborative Leadership team has grown from the original 7 team members that started to the core team now comprised of 18 team members. With this growth leadership team meetings have changed. Initially the meetings would start at 9-11:30 a.m. and it was all business with each administrator from each department reviewing their items on the agenda. Throughout the collaborative meetings we hear a very loud message "that Collaboration is the key to success at the school level". Mrs. Baxter stated that meetings were changed for all to collaborate. The administrators from each department now e-mail communications to the Principals throughout the week, such as upcoming report due dates and specific information that the principal's might need. Mrs. Baxter reported that now the leadership meetings have changed to start at 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. allowing the Principals to attend an open forum to ask any questions of the managers that they would like information on or need clarification on from any communication

that was sent to them through-out the week. The Principals also have the opportunity to share how they are approaching some of the projects that were sent to them. From the hour of 9:00 -11:30 a.m., the four instructional couches are invited to join the group, Patricia Vega-Jeter, Co-President of SWTA gives up time from her classroom to be a part of this meeting, and Josie Tafoya also attends as a representative from CSEA. Mrs. Baxter stated that the focus is on what is going to make a difference and what are the next steps in our plan and practices that are going to have a positive impact on our students.

Mrs. Baxter stated that one of the things that our Leadership Collaborative team has worked on is our communication piece. The same PowerPoint presented by Dr. Fraijo at the LCAP meeting was projected and shared with the Board and the public.

Mrs. Baxter stated that the belief statement of the South Whittier Leadership Collaborative is, "Given the opportunities and resources there is no limit to what a student can learn." The teachers and the administration hold the opportunities and the resources our students need to be successful.

CONSENT

On a motion by Trustee Santana seconded by Trustee Pacheco and unanimously carried the consent portion of the agenda was approved with the approval of the minutes dated December 15, 2016 pending research and possible correction.

Approval of Minutes

Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting held December 15, 2015

Purchase Order List No. 07

Approved Purchase Order List No. 07

Contract/Memorandum of Understanding List No. 07

Approved Contract List No. 07

Contracts:

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14-15-014A – CONTRACTOR: THINK Together; SERVICE: Providing after school education and safety grant program services, DURATION: Adjusted/Amended Time period for the Contract: 07/01/15-06/30/17; COST TO DISTRICT: Additional \$35, 000.00

15-16-074 – CONTRACTOR: Leeway School; SERVICE: Non Public School Individual Service Agreement for Student #1192148493; DURATION: 09/30/2015 – 10/30/2015; COST TO DISTRICT: \$4,447.95

15-16-075 - CONTRACTOR: Approach Learning and Assessment Centers, Inc. DBA Olive Crest Academy; SERVICE: Non Public School Individual Service Agreement for Student # 1192148493; DURATION: 12/04/2015-06/30/2016; COST TO DISTRICT: \$38, 760.00

15-16-076 - CONTRACTOR: ISOM Advisors, A Division of Urban Futures, Inc.; SERVICE: To perform advisory services, continuing disclosure services and perform consulting services regarding the refinancing of and sale of bonds.; DURATION: 01/20/16 – Date of issuance of the final series of bonds; COST TO DISTRICT: \$75, 000.00

Travel and Conference Report No. 07

Approved the Travel and Conference Report No. 07

Williams Second Quarter Report on Uniform Complaints 2015-2016

On a motion by Trustee Santana seconded by Trustee Pacheco and unanimously carried the Williams Second Quarter Report on Uniform Complaints 2015-2016.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Single Plan for Student Achievement (Carmela & Graves Middle School (SPSA)

On a motion by Trustee Pacheco and seconded by Trustee Alvarado and unanimously carried the Single Plan for Student Achievement (Carmela & Graves Middle School (SPSA) was approved.

Proposed Board Policy 0460 Philosophy, Goals, Objectives and comprehensive Plans – Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

On a motion by Trustee Pacheco seconded by Trustee Alvarado and unanimously carried the Proposed Board Policy 0460 Philosophy, Goals, Objectives and Comprehensive Plans – Local Control Accountability Plan – (LCAP) was approved.

GENERAL

Resolution No. 15-16-10 – Provide for Board Member Salary Payment

On a motion by Trustee Santana seconded by Trustee Baird and unanimously carried Resolution No. 15-16-10 to Provide for Board Member Salary Payment – Deborah Pacheco was approved.

Proposed Board Policy 4154, 4254, 4354 Health and Welfare Benefits (First Reading)

The Board of Trustees conducted the first reading of the proposed Board Policy 4154, 4254, 4354 Health and Welfare Benefits. Any questions and/or comments please direct to the Superintendent prior to the next board meeting.

Proposed Administrative Regulation 4154, 4254, 4354 Health and Welfare Benefits (First Reading)

The Board of Trustees conducted the first reading of the proposed Administrative Regulation 4154, 4254, 4354 Health and Welfare Benefits. Any questions and/or comments please direct to the Superintendent prior to the next board meeting.

BUSINESS

Acceptance of the 2014-2015 Building Fund (Measure I) Financial and Performance Audit

On a motion by Trustee Baird and seconded by Trustee Santana and unanimously carried the Acceptance of the 2014-2015 Building Fund (Measure I) Financial and Performance Audit was approved.

Acceptance of the 2014-2015 Annual Financial Audit Report

On a motion by Trustee Baird seconded by Trustee Pacheco and unanimously carried the Acceptance of the 2014-2015 Annual Financial Audit Report was approved.

PRESENTATION: Eric Hall & Associates

Bob Nicholson, Vice President of Eric Hall & Associates presented the information compiled by the Superintendents' facilities Advisory Committee comprised of teachers, principals, parents, administrators, to identify the needs that are needed throughout the District. Mr. Nicholson presented the recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

Consider the exploration and feasibility of a facility bond measure for the South Whittier School District

On a motion by Trustee Santana seconded by Trustee Pacheco and unanimously carried to consider the exploration and feasibility of a facility bond measure for the South Whittier School District was approved.

Classified Substitute Salary Schedule 7

On a motion by Trustee Alvarado seconded by Trustee Pacheco and unanimously carried the Classified Substitute Salary Schedule 7 was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
ON CLOSED SESSION
ITEMS

There were no public comments on closed session items.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Trustees commenced closed session at 7:34 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

The Board of Trustees resumed open session at 8:51 p.m.

PERSONNEL

Classified Personnel Report No. 01-19-16-07

On a motion by Trustee Pacheco seconded by Trustee Santana and unanimously carried the Classified Personnel Report No. 01-19-16-07 was approved.

Certificated Personnel Report No. 01-19-16-07

On a motion by Trustee Pacheco seconded by Trustee Santana and unanimously carried the Certificated Personnel Report No. 01-19-16-17 was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.