

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 26, 2015**

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: Caroline Van Alst, William Ziegler, Thomas Newmeyer, Joshua Barrow, Ida Times

Superintendent: Steve Van Zant

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board and Superintendent convened closed session at 5:01 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Open session reconvened at 6:15 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Van Alst announced that the board voted unanimously to extend the suspended expulsion of student # 6148170764.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Newmeyer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ORDER

Trustee Van Alst asked that item 9.04 - Payment of Warrants, be pulled from the consent agenda. The rest of the agenda order was approved.

Barrow/Newmeyer/All to remove item 9.04, Payment of Warrants, from the consent agenda and approve the remainder of the agenda order.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Trustee Times announced that her brother Anthony passed away.

Trustee Ziegler said the facilities committee and the superintendent had a meeting with the architects to discuss the building plan developed five years ago. The architects will work on an update to the plan and report back to us, he said.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Alan Rothkop, the director of maintenance and operations, said that Willow Creek Academy's new lights are coming from China, so they have been delayed a bit.

At Bayside MLK Jr. Academy, fences are up and the gates installed. We must now order the appropriate signs for the fences. Gates will be locked once kids are in school and people will be monitored going in and out of our school. There are four web-based cameras operating on the premises.

In answer to a question from trustee Van Alst, Mr. Rothkop said that the grass at Willow Creek Academy is cut twice a year, in March and May. In the interim, custodians try to control the weeds; unfortunately, there is not enough time to keep them down as much as we would like.

Trustee Van Alst also asked about the sewage spill near the Robin's Nest campus. Mr. Rothkop said that the city's Public Works department was able to unblock the sewer line. We will work with the city of Sausalito to make sure that we do not have any breaks in the pipes, he said.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Van Zant said we have been busy with planning for the end of the year and the start of the 2015-2016 school year.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Newton said that the Bayside MLK Jr. Academy step-up ceremony will be on June 11 at 9:30 in the multi-purpose room. The 8th grade graduation will take place June 10 at 6 pm.

We will have a second Bike Give-Away during Saturday University on June 6. We have received a grant in conjunction with Marin Housing for our truancy program to provide incentives to our students to come to school on time, she told the board.

WCA REPORT

Head of School Royce Conner said that the Willow Creek Academy graduation ceremony will take place on Wednesday June 10 at the Manzanita Recreation Center.

Crossing the Bridge, the promotion ceremony for grades K through 7, will take place June 12 at 11 AM at the school.

FINANCIAL & BUSINESS

Public Hearing to Adopt the 2015-2016 Budget

Chief Business Official Paula Rigney said that as of today, we are deficit spending by \$331,000. Despite an increase in property taxes, our local income will decrease by \$84,000, because of gap funding measures in the Governor's budget. In special education, our excess costs have increased considerably. We are working on having an in-house program and pulling students from the non-public schools, but we will not know the exact special education numbers for our district until later in the year.

The amount of the Marin Community Foundation grants to the district will decrease by \$250K in the coming school year, she told the board.

Public Hearing on the 2015-2016 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Superintendent Van Zant said we are setting up our objectives for the year and working on aligning our academic goals with the budget. The template we are using is an improvement on last year's, but we are still working on filling in the numbers for the current year LCAP.

Trustee Barrow asked if there has been any parental engagement. Principal Newton said that our stakeholders have undertaken to be mentors to our 8th graders. They would like to make sure that our students improve their academic standing and attendance, she said.

Superintendent Van Zant said that in a perfect world, there is a lot of engagement from the community and everyone gets together to craft a plan that aligns the LCAP with the goals of parents and stakeholders; unfortunately, we are not living in a perfect world.

2015-2016 Budget Reserve Documentation

Chief Business Official Paula Rigney said this is a new requirement from the State: We must tell them why our reserves are more than twice the minimum required. Our reasons include our high special education costs, as well as an ending fund balance for ongoing operational expenses such as repairs to sewer lines.

Payment of Warrants - Batches 39-44

Trustee Van Alst said that historically, the payment of warrants report has not been detailed enough. It was difficult to see the sources and uses of the various funds. This new report gives a more detailed explanation of the account codes used by the State, as well as the purpose of each expenditure.

Barrow/Newmeyer/All to approve the payment of warrants

CONSENT AGENDA

Roll Call Ziegler /Barrow/5Ayes, 0 Nos, to approve the following consent agenda items:

Countywide Plan for Expelled Youth

Minutes of the April 21 and May 12, 2015 Board Meetings

Student Expulsion – Student #6148170764

Personnel Action Report

Field Trips

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Finance Committee

Trustee Van Alst said this is a standing committee currently comprised of myself and trustee Barrow. The board agreed that the current members should continue their work on the committee.

Ziegler/Newmeyer/All to approve the membership of Van Alst and Barrow on the Finance Committee.

Ad Hoc Academic Achievement Committee


Trustee Barrow said that in light of the report from the school on the students' academic achievement gap, we need to think outside the box and come up with creative solutions so that we do not keep doing the same thing. I am happy to volunteer my time to do that, he said. Trustee Times also expressed an interest in the committee.

Trustee Van Alst said Trustees Barrow and Times would be able to form the committee and that ad hoc committee meetings will not need to be noticed in advance. The board agreed to retain the committee for a year.

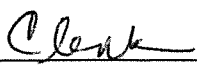
Newmeyer/Ziegler/All to form the Ad Hoc Academic Achievement Committee

ADJOURNMENT

Times/Van Alst/All to adjourn the meeting at 7:01p.m.

 6/25/15

Signature/Date



Title