

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
July 25, 2013**

**ATTENDANCE**

Board Members Present: William Ziegler, Caroline Van Alst, Shirley Thornton, Ed. D.,  
Joshua Barrow  
Superintendent: Valerie Pitts, Ed. D. (Absent)

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

The agenda order was approved.

**PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD PRIOR TO CLOSED SESSION**

There was no public comment.

**CLOSED SESSION**

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

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Open session reconvened at 6:00p.m.

**Report Out from Closed Session**

President William Ziegler announced that the board approved the contract for the new Superintendent, Steven Van Zant, who is slated to begin work on August 1, 2013. Mr. Ziegler asked him to say a few words. Mr. Van Zant said that he is looking forward to his new assignment in Sausalito/Marin City. His prior district was the Mountain Empire Unified School District in San Diego County, with 1500 students who live across 1606 square miles on the border with Mexico. The seven small communities that the district serves range from a school with 1400 students to one with just 50 pupils. There are also ten charter schools in the district. During his five years as Superintendent of the Mountain Empire district, he learned to bring together the charter and public schools and inculcate the idea that we are only as strong as our weakest student. He said that he recently went on a tour of the Sausalito Marin City district and met many of those he will be working with. He hopes to make sure that all students move forward together, regardless of which part of town they come from.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Trustee Joshua Barrow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD PRIOR TO OPEN SESSION**

There was no public comment.

**PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Denise Suto, the science teacher at MLK reported on the summer school program. All students completed the program successfully and the parents cooperated fully with the teachers. She mentioned

one student, DaVaris Williams, who has been mentored by the chef at the restaurant in Cavallo Point. She reminded the board that there are many more exciting opportunities such as this for the students in our school.

### **Trustee Reports**

Trustee Barrow talked about the district's continuing dialogue with the Marin Community Foundation regarding grants, and said that he expects the Foundation to make a decision by late September.

Trustee Thornton said that MCF is looking at the Transforming Schools grant in particular and their main concern is the Marin City children and how they are being educated. She is looking forward to a potluck Open House in September when all the community will come together to celebrate the opening of the school and see all the facilities that will be here to serve them.

Trustee Van Alst said that she attended the Fourth of July Parade where attendance has grown tremendously. It is great to see families engaged with their community.

Trustee Ziegler said that he and Trustee Newmeyer attended a meeting with Jonathan Logan of the Marin City Community Services District about a proposal to renovate the ball field at MLK. Mr. Logan is working on a joint-use agreement and a construction agreement to present to the Board. He is also talking to Marin Community Foundation about a \$1.5 million loan for the project.

The trustees agreed that a formal announcement will go out to announce the selection of the new superintendent to the community.

### **MAINTAIN SOUND FISCAL DISCIPLINE AND OPERATIONS**

#### **Budget Update**

Business Manager Paula Rigney gave an update on the budget, showing the changes that came about as a result of reinstating certain certificated and classified positions.

#### **Facilities Update**

Director of Maintenance and Operations Forrest Corson gave an update on the construction project. As of now, all contractors are three days ahead of schedule. The site work around the modular buildings is scheduled to be completed before the start of school. Landscaping work is slated to finish around the middle of September.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Thornton/Van Alst/All - Roll Call, Ayes 5 Noes 0** to approve the following consent agenda items:

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 27, 2013

Approval of Payments of Warrants

**FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

Resolution: Temporary Transfer of Funds, Tax Anticipation (TAN)  
State 2013-2014 Consolidated Application  
Response to Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report

**Future Board Meeting Dates**



August 22  
September 26  
October 24

**Future Charter School Board Meeting Dates**

Meetings are open to the public and generally held on the school campus, 33 Buchanan Street, Sausalito. With the exception of the December meeting, meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Thornton/Van Alst/all to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

 7/23/13  
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Signature/Date  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title