

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 8, 2015**

ATTENDANCE

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

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 6:10 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Van Alst announced that no action was taken in closed session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Newmeyer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ORDER

Trustee Times asked that the Principal's Report be moved to the top of the agenda. The remainder of the agenda order was approved.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Jonnette Newton said that the new school year started with a great back-to-school rally at Rocky Graham Park. In partnership with the Marin Housing Authority, the district has arranged for three capable parents to escort our students who are walking to school. As in past years, we had the Million Men March on the first day of school to show that men of color believe in the importance of education. We are communicating well with Willow Creek Academy and we are grateful to them for their cooperation. This week, our Saturday University will open for the new year. We will be teaching music as well as adult English classes and we hope to grow and add other programs. We are starting new clubs in our school; currently we have 20 clubs with 55 students attending. So far this year, attendance has been impressive, with only three or four tardy slips issued. We have doubled the number of kids eating breakfast to 77.

Teacher Ellen Franz announced the formation of a non-profit organization, the Center for Excellence, with a mandate to "empower students through the arts." We are looking for the generous support of patrons for our arts programs, she told the board. Dr. Shirley Thornton, one of the Center's founders, said that donations have reached the \$10,000 mark, including a \$5000 donation from the De Mund family.

Dr. Thornton announced that she has completed a Standard Operating Procedures manual for the district. As it is refined, we can look at the rules and tighten them up, she said.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Trustee Times said she attended the first day of school festivities. The children loved seeing the Million Men March and were lucky enough to hear Marin City resident Judge Stevens speak to them.

Trustee Newmeyer thanked everyone involved for the smooth transition of custodial responsibilities to Willow Creek Academy.

Trustee Van Alst said that as treasurer for the Marin County School Boards Association, she attended the annual meeting at Rancho Nicasio. The Global Book Exchange resolution before the board tonight came out of that meeting, she said.

FACILITIES MEETING REPORT

Trustee Van Alst said that committee members decided on two subjects during the meeting. One was to call for a "Request for Qualifications" for architecture services and the other was to decide which facilities projects should be moved to the top of the agenda.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Alan Rothkop, the director of maintenance and operations, said that following the fire at 33 Buchanan, the insurance adjusters have looked at the building and determined that our tangible property will be salvaged, cleaned and stored for us until we have a new space. In the meantime, Conscious Kitchen has graciously allowed us to use their office space.

At Bayside/MLK, the fences are up and the gates are operational. Mark Tong is working on cameras for the campus.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Van Zant said that Alan Rothkop did a great job getting the schools ready for opening day. He thanked Mark Tong for coming down to the district office building the night of the fire to save our computers. We will see what the insurance outcome will be, he said.

We are seeing a lot of positive outcomes at Bayside/MLK: fewer students arriving late, the completion of Dr. Thornton's operations manual, the flourishing after school program. Things are starting to come together for our school, he told the board.

Trustee Van Alst thanked the superintendent "for steering us in the right direction."

WCA REPORT

Head of School Royce Conner thanked Alan Rothkop for his help with the setup of Conscious Kitchen. Our enrollment stands at 376 students, the biggest we have ever been, he said. He invited everyone to come to the school's Fall Welcome Day on September 26.

CONSENT AGENDA

Roll Call/Newmeyer/Times, 3 Ayes, 0 Nos, 2 Absent, to approve the following consent agenda items:

Quarterly Report: Williams Uniform Complaints Act, July 2014 and July 2015

Minutes of the June 23, June 30 and July 27, 2015 Board Meetings and August 25, 2015 Facilities Committee Meeting

Memorandum of Understanding with the Marin City Health & Wellness Center

Personnel Action Report

Payment of Warrants – Batches 48 and 1-8

Instructional Minutes and Bell Schedule for the 2015-2016 School Year

Field Trips

Resolution 722 – Global Book Exchange

Trustee Van Alst said that this is a non- profit group that accepts our unwanted books and provides free books to institutions that need them. Showing our support through this resolution will allow them to go out and raise funds.

Roll Call/Times/Newmeyer/3 Ayes, 0 Nos, 2 Absent to approve Resolution 722 – Global Book Exchange

FINANCIAL & BUSINESS

Resolution 721- 2015-2016 “GANN” Limit Adoption

Chief Business Official Paula Rigney said this resolution establishes a limit on expenditures for our district in accordance with State laws.

Roll Call/Times/Newmeyer/3 Ayes, 0 Nos, 2 Absent to approve Resolution 721 - 2015-2016 “GANN” Limit

2015-2016 Consolidated Application for Funding

Paula Rigney said this application, which we take to the county office of education every year, explains our categorical funding plan.

Newmeyer/Times /3Ayes, 0 Nos, 2 Absent to approve the 2015-2016 Consolidated Application for Funding

2014-15 District Unaudited Actuals

Paula Rigney gave a Power Point presentation of the unaudited actuals for the 2014-2015 fiscal year., which showed that the district ended the year with a \$143K deficit.

Newmeyer/Times /3 Ayes, 0 Nos, 2 Absent to approve the 2014-15 District Unaudited Actuals

Request for Qualification – Architecture Services

Superintendent Van Zant said the approval of this request will allow us to make a start with architectural services for our facilities plan. By October, a master plan should be ready for the board’s review.

Newmeyer/Times /3Ayes, 0 Nos, 2 Absent to approve the Request for Qualifications – Architecture Services

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Resolution 720 – Public Hearing on Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

Paula Rigney said that this resolution indicates that we have sufficient instructional materials which are in line with Common Core standards.

Roll Call /Newmeyer/Times, 3 Ayes, 0 Nos, 2 Absent to approve Resolution 720 – Public Hearing on Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

Paula Rigney explained that this declaration will allow the district to hire personnel who may not be fully qualified for a particular position. This situation sometimes arises when there is a shortage of teachers.

Times/Newmeyer/3 Ayes, 0 Nos, 2 Absent, to approve Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

ADJOURNMENT

TimesNewmeyer/All to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Ada Qumei 10/13/15

Signature/Date

Clerk

Title