

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 22, 2013**

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: William Ziegler, Shirley Thornton, Ed. D., Thomas Newmeyer,
Joshua Barrow
Absent: Caroline Van Alst
Superintendent: Steve Van Zant

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 no reportable action was taken in closed session.

Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Joshua Barrow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Trustee Shirley Thornton reported that she had another meeting with Mr. Lewis Jordan, director of the Marin Housing Authority to discuss the position of students residing in public housing. The first Annual Back to School Celebration will be held on August 26 in the Golden Gate Village parking lot. There will be food and music to help parents and kids start off the new school year on a festive note. Trustee Thornton also noted that Superintendent Steve Van Zant accompanied her to a Rotary Club lunch in Sausalito.

Trustee Joshua Barrow said that he attended a training session on Special Education and budgeting procedures at the Marin County Office of Education.

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Steve Van Zant said that he attended the most recent WCA Board of Trustees meeting. He is looking forward to the Back-to-School Celebration and feels that given the dedication he has seen displayed by Daniel Norbutas, Vice Principal Tenisha Tate and all the teachers and staff at the school, we are assured of starting out from a great place.

Fran Nelson, the school librarian, congratulated the board for choosing an ideal superintendent for the district.

Willow Creek Academy

Head of School Royce Conner reported that the school year at Willow Creek Academy will begin on August 28. He thanked Director of Facilities Forrest Corson for the hard work that he and his staff put in during the school's move into the Bayside buildings at 630 Nevada Street. Many of the teachers are receiving Art Integration training at Dominican University. At this time, enrollment at WCA stands at 343, but this is subject to change as the school year begins. Of this number, 84 are from outside the district. Trustee Newmeyer asked how the school balances its need for additional classes and the number of out-of-district students who are accepted. Mr. Conner said that both reaching out to the community and active recruitment before the school's application and lottery process begins in the fall are crucial in increasing the number of in-district pupils.

Principal's Report

Bayside Martin Luther King Jr. Academy Principal Daniel Norbutas said that many of the school's teachers attended the Art Institute at Dominican University. Staff development days were devoted to common core standards, community building and learning about fairness and status issues for elementary school students. Teachers and staff are looking forward to a field-trip to Occidental for middle-schoolers which will take place on the first day of school and emphasize leadership and problem-solving skills. At the moment, enrollment at Bayside Martin Luther King Jr. Academy stands at 155, with 31 students in Kindergarten.

CONSENT AGENDA

Thornton/Barrow/All to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

Minutes of Board Meeting, July 25, 2013

Approval of Student Field Trip

Warrants – Batches 4 to 7

Construction Update

Director of Facilities Forrest Corson said that both the modular and portable buildings, as well as the play equipment being relocated from 630 Nevada Street will be ready for the first day of school. Additional playground equipment purchased by the district will be in place by October. Trustee Barrow offered to bring in community members to help out in preparing the school building for the first day of school.

Conscious Kitchen

Judy Shils of the non-profit organization Kids Turning Green, who is overseeing the cafeteria program at Bayside Martin Luther King Jr. Academy this year, gave a presentation about the concept of a Conscious Kitchen. With the help of many volunteers, including the head Chef at Cavallo Point in Sausalito and culinary arts students as well as other members of the community, the first ever fresh, local, organic and sustainable cafeteria program is being rolled out at the school. This is a pilot program that many other schools and colleges will be following and hoping to emulate, she said.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Superintendent Steve Van Zant asked for a first reading of the following board policies and administrative regulations regarding charter school oversight, and the renewal and revocation of charters, as well as rules governing the disposal of school property:

BP and AR 0420.4 – Charter Schools

BP and E 0420.41 – Charter School Oversight

BP 0420.42 – Charter School Renewal

BP 0420.43 – Charter School Revocation

BP 3270 – Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies

AR 3270 – Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies

BP 3280 – Sale or Lease of District-Owned Real Property

AR 3280 – Sale or Lease of District-Owned Real Property

He said that a reading of these policies would help to clarify any murky issues and provide a framework for an agreement that all sides can agree on. The district has an MOU with Willow Creek Academy, but as the board is aware, there are ongoing differences of opinion, such as with the Supplemental Grant. Ideally, we will have prior discussions before the charter is renewed and eliminate much of the conflict, he said. Both the charter and the MOU are set to be renewed by June 30 next year.


FUTURE MEETING

Superintendent Van Zant explained that holding regular board meetings on the last Thursday of each month is problematic since budgets are due to the County Office of Education on the 15th. He suggested that during the next organizational meeting, the board discuss moving regular board meeting times to a different week.

In the meantime, there will be a special board meeting on September 12, so that the budget can be voted on before going to MCOE on the 15th.

ADJOURNMENT

Thornton/Newmeyer/All to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

 Oct 28, 2013

Signature/Date

Vice President

Title