

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
August 23, 2012**

**ATTENDANCE**

Board Members Present: Thomas Newmeyer, William Ziegler and Shirley Thornton, Ed. D.  
Superintendent: Valerie Pitts, Ed. D.  
Board Members Absent: Mark Trotter and Karen Benjamin

President Thomas Newmeyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**M/s/c Thornton/Ziegler/all** to approve the agenda order

**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 6:01 p.m.

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Open session reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

**Report Out from Closed Session**

President Newmeyer announced that there was no reportable action taken in closed session.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Trustee Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

There was no public comment.

**REPORTS**

**Trustee Reports**

- Trustee Thornton reported that the first day of school went exceptionally well; she thanked Principal Norbutas, Principal Newton and Assistant Principal Tate for a smooth beginning and for their visible presence as students arrived and throughout the day.
- Trustee Ziegler thanked Daniel Norbutas for joining SMCS D and encouraged the audience to keep attending board meetings.
- President Newmeyer noted a great fundraising effort by Willow Creek Academy under way.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Valerie Pitts reported that there were numerous people on hand to welcome students for the first day of school. New teachers will be introduced at a September 13 special board meeting.

## **School Site Administrator Reports**

Daniel Norbutas, Chief Academic Officer and Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy Principal, thanked board members for the opportunity to work at SMCS D. He reported on teaching staff attendance at International Baccalaureate (IB) training during the summer and their current focus on IB learner profiles. Mr. Norbutas also gave an overview of curriculum and culture discussions held during the first 2012/2013 staff development day. Both certificated and classified staff participated.

Jonnette Newton, Bayside Elementary Principal, reported on a great beginning; teachers are excited and prepared as a result of much advance planning. The response from dads who signed up to participate at school with their sons/daughters was overwhelming. A leadership retreat for parents is scheduled this Saturday at Bridge the Gap Marin City. Ms. Newton thanked the board for their support.

Carol Cooper, Willow Creek Academy Head of School, shared that enthusiasm is high two days into the new school year. The WCA board and staff have begun discussions of an Annual Fund with parents. WCA's 2012/2013 fundraising goal is \$300,000.

## **ENSURE THAT ALL STUDENTS WITHIN SMCS D REACH HIGH LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT**

### **Extended School Year Report**

Superintendent Pitts reported that students in grades 5-7, who attended four weeks of district summer school, all achieved their goals. Data has been requested from every summer program provider and will be presented at a future meeting.

### **Board Statement on Equity, Resolution #662 and Rubric – Third Reading**

Superintendent Pitts presented a revised equity statement and rubric.

Trustee Thornton suggested a brochure to the community and posting on the district website when the documents are finalized and approved by the board.

Trustee Ziegler, noting that the rubric includes extensive standards, asked how the district would follow up. Superintendent Pitts will link the standards to district goals and report progress on a regular basis.

President Newmeyer thought the language that states that the district "will provide additional and differentiated resources to support the success of its students" might be too broadly worded. He asked for accountability; he asked that Trustee Trotter's suggestion from a prior meeting as it related to Willow Creek Academy be incorporated.

Superintendent Pitts accepted accountability for Bayside and MLK, saying "We already do this – we are going to focus on closing the achievement gap by doing all those things." However, Superintendent Pitts clarified that it is different with WCA even though WCA has the same responsibilities.

Trustee Ziegler thought that equity of funds to close the achievement gap might become an issue between the district and WCA.

Trustee Thornton responded that the district is responsible for Bayside and MLK; WCA is raising its own funds.

Superintendent Pitts noted that MOU discussions with WCA will soon begin.

Trustee Ziegler, noting that WCA has requested supplemental funds from the district, asked “Would we not give WCA money if they also have an achievement gap?”

Trustee Thornton responded, “It’s not our job to do this for WCA.” She again asked for a legal opinion of what the district board’s role/responsibility is to the schools of the district, in particular to the charter school. Dr. Thornton added, “WCA has its own board and its own house.”

Superintendent Pitts recommended that the WCA board should weigh in on this topic.

Trustee Ziegler agreed that both boards must meet on a collaborative basis.

No action was taken. The next step is for the district board to hold a discussion with the WCA board.

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

### **Budget Update**

Superintendent Pitts reviewed slides prepared by School Services of California for the 2012 School Finance and Management Conference, which included:

- Themes
- Effects of the Recession Are Still With Us
- Cuts to Education Are Likely to Continue
- Losses to Education Continue to be Deep
- Managing Educational Agencies Will Continue to be Difficult
- California’s Education Spending
- General Fund Revenues
- Risks to the State Budget
- Major Changes from the May Revision to the Final State Budget
- Funding Per ADA – Actual vs. Statutory Level
- Prop 30 – The Schools & Local Public Protection Act of 2012
- Prop 38 – Our Children, Our Future
- What Happens if They Both Pass?
- Prop 98 – The Promise
- Prop 98 – The Picture Today
- Governor’s Tax Initiative
- The Future of Proposition 98
- Special Education
- Special Education – Pending Issues
- Mandate Reform
- School Facilities Issues – Surplus Property and Charter Schools
- Basic Aid
- Basic Aid – Our Advice (School Services of CA)
- Ending Fund Balance Example
- Multiyear projections – Our Advice (School Services of CA)
- November 2012 Election
- And Finally... (Some encouraging words).

## **FACILITIES**

### ***Maintenance, Operations and Transportation Report***

Forrest Corson, Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation, gave a power point presentation which showed:

- Deep cleaning in the classrooms and minor maintenance repairs
- A new dump trailer to save money on debris removal; staff works hard at recycling/renewing
- Special projects
- Assistance to teachers for room setup and/or for program setup
- Sustainable landscaping due to limited manpower to maintain
- Robin's Nest Preschool opening at the former site of the district office
- Staff trainings.

Mr. Corson concluded a look at his department's busy summer by noting the first day of transportation today – all good- some students came to school with their dads for the Million Father March. Board members commended Mr. Corson and his staff for making the campus look great.

## **ATTRACT, RETAIN AND INSPIRE HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF**

### **Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

**M/s/c Ziegler/Thornton/all** to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

### **Enrollment and Staffing Report**

Paula Rigney, Business Manager, reported that the total enrollment (Bayside plus Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy) was 128 students on the opening day of school, August 23. Staffing has been increased where lacking.

## **PROVIDE SAFE, HEALTHY, POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

### **Sausalito Marin City School District Response to the 2011/2012 Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report "Restorative Justice: its Time Has Come in Marin County"**

Superintendent Pitts reviewed a proposed district response to the Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report "Restorative Justice: its Time Has Come in Marin County". There was no public comment.

**M/s/c Ziegler/Thornton/all** to approve the response as written

Superintendent Pitts reviewed for first reading:

- Board Policy 5131.2 Bullying (New Policy)
- Board Policy 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment (Policy Update)

A second reading and board action will be agendaized for the September 27, 2012 board meeting.

## **GOVERNANCE/PLANNING**

### **Informational Session – Tax Initiative: Propositions 30 and 38**

Superintendent Pitts reviewed slides from a power point presentation titled, “Public Education Funding: How Did We Get Here and Where Are We Headed?” prepared by Schools Services of California and the League of Women Voters, which addressed:

- The Munger/PTA Initiative
- The Governor’s Initiative
- Education Funding Initiatives
- A Detailed Comparison of the Two Major Initiatives
- Comparison of the Initiatives
- What if They Both Pass?
- Weighted Student Formula
- Weighted Student Formula – January Proposal
- Weighted Student Formula Changes

These slides were in addition to slides reviewed under the budget update.

### **Board Bylaw 9270 Conflict of Interest Code**

Superintendent Pitts reviewed for first reading: Board Bylaw 9270 Conflict of Interest Code (Policy Update). Second reading/board action will be agendized for the September 27, 2012 board meeting.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**M/s/c Roll Call Thornton/Ziegler/ Ayes 3 Noes 0** to remove Resolution #669 - Tax Anticipation for discussion and approve the remaining consent agenda as follows:

- Minutes of the regular meeting of May 24, 2012 special meeting of May 31, 2012, regular meeting of June 14, 2012, special meeting of June 21, 2012 and regular meeting of June 28, 2012
- Payments of Warrants
- Consolidated Application Part 1
- Personnel Action Report
- Quarterly Report: Williams Act.

### **Resolution #669 - Tax Anticipation (TAN)**

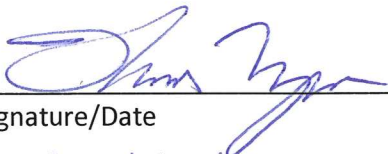
Paula Rigney, Business Manager, explained the resolution and responded to board questions.

**M/s/c Roll Call Ziegler/Thornton Ayes 3 Noes 0** to approve Resolution #669 - Tax Anticipation (TAN)

Trustee Ziegler requested more information be provided to the board about non-routine and large payments occasionally noted on the list of Payment of Warrants. Superintendent Pitts welcomed board members’ questions at any time; she also offered to bring grant budgets to the board so they see what the grantor sees. Contract information is already scheduled for the September 27 agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Thornton/Ziegler/all to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

 9/26/12  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature/Date  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 President  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title

**FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

- Staff Development Report
- STAR Assessment/CST/Multiple Measures Report
- Annual Arts Grant Report
- Instructional Materials Resolution
- Sunshine Negotiations
- Honoring Tenured Teachers
- Business Update

**SAVE THE DATES**

**Future District Meeting Dates**

All meetings are held at the District Office, 200 Phillips Drive, Marin City at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. \*The first meeting date of each month will be allocated to additional special meetings on facilities issues, special meetings, community forum, etc. as needed. The only or second meeting date of each month will be allocated to regular board meetings.

- September 13\*
- September 27
- October 11\*
- October 25
- November 15                    Third Thursday; one November meeting due to Holidays
- December 6\*                    First Thursday    due to Holidays
- December 13                    Second Thursday due to Holidays

**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.

**Upcoming Dates and Important Events**

Please visit the District website [www.smcsd.org](http://www.smcsd.org)