

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2012**

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: Thomas Newmeyer, Joshua Barrow, William Ziegler, Caroline Van Alst
and
Shirley Thornton, Ed. D. via Teleconference
Superintendent: Valerie Pitts, Ed. D.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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, Superintendent and Legal Counsel, Noel Shumway, convened in closed session at 6:01 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Open session reconvened at 7:09 p.m.

Announcement of Reportable Action Taken in Closed Session

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Thornton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD PRIOR TO OPEN SESSION

Barbara Sapienza thanked the board for the opportunity to talk about what's best for all the children of Bayside and Willow Creek Academy (WCA). She is a member of a committee discussing postponement of the decision in order to continue dialogue with parents and community. She is dedicated to building paths together and believes the board should keep Bayside at its present campus, find room for WCA on that campus, and find ways to work together.

Peter Sapienza stated that he represented a group of fifteen, who came together after hearing concerns from many about the plan to move Bayside to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy (MLK) campus. In an effort to influence the process, a letter was delivered to the board recommending a delay of up to a year for further investigation. Mr. Sapienza now presented a petition with signatures from a group of concerned citizens, requesting the board vote on consolidation of Bayside students at MLK be postponed for a year. He reported that 209 signatures had been obtained.

Bettie Hodges stated that she is part of a concerned committee trying to find a consensus of the optimum solution to the school problem; she is aware of financial issues. Ms. Hodges read a statement from Ethel Seiderman which opposed moving Bayside.

Mary DeMund believes that there are a number of unresolved issues around facilities and that it is vitally important to postpone a decision until those issues are resolved. She stated she had heard the move is due to finances but several persons do not understand how a loan in excess of \$3M will help. What specific savings/what specific cuts will be needed if the move is not made? Ms. DeMund asked, "What is the rush? All students are our future citizens."

Bettie Hodges asked whether MLK has been designated as a low performing school and, if so, what impact that has on the proposed consolidation.

Robert Woodrum: If WCA needs more space, why isn't the 200 Phillips Drive (Marin City) building being considered for WCA and the 630 Nevada Street (Sausalito) building for BA/MLK? It's not true that any child who wants to attend WCA can; what is the impact of more Bayside students attending WCA? Will it impact his number within WCA's lottery?

ANNUAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS 7:30 PM

Superintendent, Valerie Pitts, welcomed newly elected Trustee, Caroline Van Alst and re-elected Trustee, William Ziegler.

Oath of Office

Superintendent Pitts administered the Oath of Office to Trustees Van Alst and Ziegler, both of whom have been elected for four year terms.

Election of Board Officers and Appointment of the Superintendent to Board Secretary

Board members elected trustees to the following offices and appointed Superintendent Valerie Pitts Secretary to the Board:

- President – Newmeyer/Van Alst to nominate Bill Ziegler. Motion passed.
- Vice President – Ziegler/Thornton to nominate Joshua Barrow. Motion approved unanimously.
- Clerk – Newmeyer/Ziegler to nominate Caroline Van Alst. Motion approved unanimously.

Committee Designations/Appointments

Liaisons to Marin County Office of Education Committees and Marin Community Foundation were appointed as follows:

- Marin County School Boards Association (MCSBA): Thomas Newmeyer
- Golden Bell Committee: Caroline Van Alst
- Joint Legislative Advisory Committee (JLAC): Bill Ziegler
- Marin Community Foundation (MCF) Representative: Shirley Thornton primary; Joshua Barrow alternate

In-District Liaisons:

- Liaisons to in-district committees were appointed as follows:
- Facilities Committee: Thomas Newmeyer and William Ziegler
- Finance Committee: Caroline Van Alst and Joshua Barrow
- Discussions with Willow Creek Academy: Shirley Thornton and Joshua Barrow
- New committee, Communications: Joshua Barrow and Bill Ziegler

REGULAR SESSION

REPORTS

Trustee Reports

President Bill Ziegler acknowledged receipt of a letter to the board mentioned earlier by Mr. Sapienza.

Trustee Joshua Barrow noted that there has been extensive dialogue on moving Bayside since the last meeting, including the A-Team and their subcommittee. He acknowledged the frustration of the public's comments without board opportunity to discuss due to Brown Act requirements and asked everyone to attend the next meeting which will be more suited to the structure of dialogue.

President Ziegler, in agreement with Trustee Barrow, suggested a process whereby anyone can submit a written question directed to an agenda item, to any board member without limiting any other board member from speaking to the question. The board will attempt to respond if it is on the agenda.

Trustee Shirley Thornton disagreed with the suggestion. We (board members) are to listen; we would be moving away from our role to work on fact instead of opinion. There may be some discussions that will have to be deferred to further research and agendaized for a future meeting. She discouraged board members from responding at the moment without appropriate information.

President Ziegler agreed that, if needed, the topic could be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. He would like to address people's questions if possible.

Trustee Caroline Van Alst thanked everyone for putting their faith and trust in her; she has attended meetings for two years, feels up on issues and is willing to speak with anyone.

Superintendent's Report

A Team Report

Superintendent Pitts reported that the A Team met December 11 for dialogue, reflection, and about recent issues being discussed in the community. The A Team would prefer to make a recommendation to board after hearing further input. She distributed a draft document, Community Input Process:

Community Meetings in Marin City and Sausalito (Dec. 18, Jan. 8, Jan 15)

Dec. 18 facilitated by SMCS; Jan 8; facilitated by Presbyterian Church Sausalito;

Jan. 15 facilitated by SMCS D

Community formed/teams/small groups meet independently the next 6 weeks

If teams, appointed spokespersons can funnel any questions to Superintendent Pitts and Trustee Joshua Barrow.

Teams agree to keep each other informed by designated key contacts and email point people.

Key contacts report back to Superintendent Pitts and Trustee Barrow with their recommendations/considerations by Feb. 1

Town Hall to hear presentations/recommendations on Tuesday Feb. 5

Revised recommendations from community due on Feb. 11

Culmination at board meeting in Feb.

School Site Administrator Reports

Bayside Elementary Principal, Jonnette Newton, reported on:

- First trimester at an end; report cards have been distributed
- K-2 decorated the Sausalito ferry to San Francisco, an annual event, for community education
- Wind and brass ensemble field trip to hear another student band at Hall Middle School
- Developing community circles.

MLK, Jr. Academy Principal, Daniel Norbutas, reported on:

- Field trips
- Health and wellness screenings in conjunctions with Marin City Health & Wellness Clinic
- Winter event.

Willow Creek Academy Head of School, Carol Cooper, reported on:

- Third grade class gingerbread house at Bay Model for Sausalito competition
- Today, students are inside eating for the first time in eleven 11 years; JMs. Newton was thanked for helping coordinate a successful transition.

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

Single Plans for Student Achievement (SPSA)

Superintendent Pitts described what the SPSAs include and how they are used. Principal Norbutas added that an important piece of each action plan is to set measurable goals for students. Staff responded to questions about costs: the format is drafted around budget time to inform budget discussion; there are ongoing and one- time expenditures.

M/s/c Newmeyer/Barrow/all to approve 2012/2013 Single Plans for Student Achievement for:

1. Bayside Elementary School
2. Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy

A five minute recess was taken at 8:43 p.m.

FACILITIES

Award of Contract for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy New Classrooms Project

President Ziegler asked if there were any written questions; there were none. Todd Lee (Greystone West) discussed what preconstruction services are. Trustee Newmeyer explained the need to identify a builder to complete designs for site work discussed at a prior meeting. The project was bid out; two bids were received. The contract being considered tonight is only for preconstruction services (\$35,000) so that the architects can continue their work.

M/s/c Newmeyer/Van Alst/all to award the contract to JL Modular for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy new classrooms project preconstruction services.

Resolution No. 674: Authorizing the Commencement of Proceedings in Connection with the Financing of Capital Improvement Projects for the District, Appointing a Financial Advisor, A Bond Counsel and a Disclosure Counsel in Connection Therewith

Superintendent Pitts explained that a couple scenarios to finance had been considered –this discussion is about Certificate of Participation. Mark Pressman (Wulff, Hansen & Co.), who advised earlier on a bond, responded to financing questions from the board. The board indicated an interest in moving forward; more information will be obtained for both parties over the next week.

M/s/c Newmeyer/Barrow/ Roll Call Ayes 5 Noes 0 to approve Resolution No. 674

MAINTAIN SOUND FISCAL DISCIPLINE AND OPERATIONS

First Interim Report and Budget Revisions: District

Paula Rigney, Business Manager, shared information and responded to board questions.

M/s/c Ziegler/Newmeyer/all to approve the First Interim Interim Report and Budget Revisions for Sausalito Marin City School District to enable the District to file it by the due date of December 14; however, the approval is with the understanding that every category is subject to further review and discussion by the board.

First Interim Report: Willow Creek Academy

Willow Creek Academy Treasurer, Clark Warden, reviewed the report. Superintendent Pitts noted that there are inconsistencies in three places; the district and WCA need to discuss anomalies and move forward.

M/s/c Newmeyer/Barrows/all to accept the WCA First Interim Report.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms/s/c Newmeyer/Van Alst /Roll Call Ayes 5 Noes 0 to approve the consent agenda:

- Minutes of the regular meeting of November 15, 2012
- Minutes of the board study session of November 26, 2012
- Payments of Warrants

- Updated Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 1312.3 Uniform Compliant Procedure

ADJOURNMENT

Thornton/Newmeyer/all to adjourn at 10:05 p.m.

Caroline Van Oort 1/24/13
 Signature/Date
Clerk
 Title

FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

- Physical Fitness Assessment Results
- Review of Independent Auditor’s Report
- Accept WCA Independent Auditor’s Report
- Budget Revisions (Per Governor’s Workshop)
- WCA Budget Revisions (Per Governor’s Workshop)
- Adopt Budget Development Calendar
- Quarterly Report: Williams Act
- Schedule Annual Budget Study Session for March
- AB1200 Disclosures
- Grade Level or Program Report
- Resolution – Lincoln’s Birthday Observation
- Annual Certificated Seniority/Credentials Held List
- WCA MOU: Proposed Revisions by either party due on or before February 1 of each year
- WCA Prop 39 Request: Preliminary District Response due on or before February 1

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.

- January 24
- February 28
- March 28
- April 25
- May 23
- June 13 Two meetings in June
- June 27 Two meetings in June

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 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming Dates and Important Events

Please visit the District website www.smcsd.org