

SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 15, 2017

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: Joshua Barrow, Ida Green, Debra Turner, Caroline Van Alst
Absent: Thomas Newmeyer
Superintendent: Will McCoy

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board and Superintendent convened closed session at 5:31 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Open session reconvened at 6:13 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Barrow announced that no action was taken in closed session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Green led the pledge of allegiance.

REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA

Trustee Van Alst said that concerns have been raised by the County Superintendent that she has a common law conflict of interest in decisions that affect the relationship between the district and the charter school, arising from the fact that she has children attending the charter school. She continued: Although I do not believe that a conflict exists, given the nature of the allegations and the ongoing investigation of the district by the Attorney General, I am recusing myself from two items on the agenda: 10.01: District Structure Committee Report and 12.03: 2017-2018 Heartland Schools Solutions for Menu Planning.

She requested that those items be moved to the end of the agenda.

M/s/c Van Alst/Turner to move items 10.01 and 12.03 to the end of the agenda.

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Trustee Green said that it was good to have a break during the summer months. Trustee Turner said she is looking forward to working on the campus beautification project. Trustee Van Alst said that the campus looks much improved.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

David Suto, a local resident, said he is more hopeful about the start of the new school year, but still concerned about academic standards for the middle school and the fact that we are not teaching subjects such as a foreign language or musical instruments. He continued: We are already underfunded by \$.5 to 1 million every year. We have about 18 months the current surplus is exhausted. We must look at all alternatives including bond, parcel tax, and internal or external consolidation to solve our financial problems.

Bettie Hodges, director of the Freedom School, thanked the Board, the Superintendent and all those who supported the summer program at Bayside MLK Jr. Academy. It was the largest summer school so far with 82 students attending; 65 completed the term. In addition, this year Freedom School added a class for the second grade, a counselor and a volunteer-based math class for one hour a day. She said that she would be happy to work with the district to raise money for field trips to amplify the school curriculum.

CORRESPONDENCE

District Response to Grand Jury Letter Regarding "The Budget Squeeze"
District Response to Grand Jury Letter Regarding "Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)"

Superintendent McCoy said these are draft responses that must be reviewed by the Board. Amy Prescott said that the main issue addressed in both letters is post-employment benefits.

DISTRICT REPORTS

Superintendent McCoy read a report from Tara Seekins, the Head of School at Willow Creek Academy. This year, former teacher Emily Darawish will be returning on special assignment to support school administrators. Enrollment is projected to be 419.

Turning back to Bayside MLK Jr. Academy, he gave a PowerPoint presentation on corrective actions that have been completed and those that are still in progress. Mr. McCoy said that this year, the plan for counseling services includes an extensive array of mental health and social support for the students, including the services of five interns, a clinician for 15 hours a week and peer counselors. He thanked the Marin County Office of Education and the Marin Health & Human Services agency for services which will allow the District to save over \$70K during the current fiscal year.

PRINCIPAL

David Finnane, the new Principal at Bayside Martin Luther King Jr. Academy, gave details of his background in education and his past experience at the Ross Valley School District. He introduced the teaching staff and gave an update on assignments for teachers as well as classified staff. He said that he has been impressed with the passion that staff have shown for the school. There is much to be done, but we have already accomplished a lot, he told the Board.

Jennifer Puckett, the new Community School Coordinator, said the idea of a community school is to achieve optimum learning for the students while strengthening families. She reported that she has been talking to service providers and members of the community as well as students to better understand the needs of the school.

Felicia Younger, the new Parent Liaison, said that she has planned a new orientation for parents to discuss ways to connect with the school as well as other parents.

Barbara Sapienza, a school volunteer, said she is excited to see the staffing additions for the new school year. She said it is important for the administration to know what children, parents and teachers think will help them.

Barbara Killey, a school volunteer, said that in the past she has seen parents driven away when they see that their opinions are not taken seriously. She asked about the arts and PE as part of the curriculum.

EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS PLAN

Superintendent McCoy said this is a plan that the district must file with the State. It will be brought to the Board next month for adoption.

David Suto said that the plan has zero dollars for professional development and does a poor job of mentoring and supporting new teachers.

GOVERNANCE CALENDAR

Superintendent McCoy said that this calendar lays out activities of the district for the Board and members of the public. He invited trustees to comment on the calendar and suggest changes. An updated version will be brought to the Board at the next meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Roll Call Van Alst/Green to Approve the Following Consent Agenda items:

Payment of Warrants – Batches 49-50 (16-17) and Batches 1-4 (17-18)

Minutes of the June 20 and July 26, 2017 Board Meetings

Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints

California Endowment Grant to Support the Summer 2017 Freedom School Program in the amount of \$20,000

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None
Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of the Revised 2017-2018 School Calendar

M/s/c Van Alst/Turner to approve the Revised 2017-2018 School Calendar
Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of the 2017-18 QSS Business and Financial Data Processing Services Contract

M/s/c Van Alst/Turner to approve the 2017-18 QSS Business and Financial Data Processing Services Contract
Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of the 2017-2018 Garden Education Coordinator Contract

M/s/c Van Alst/Turner to approve the 2017-18 Garden Education Coordinator Contract
Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of the 2017-2018 Agreement with Fagen Friedman & Fulfroost for Legal Services

M/s/c Van Alst/Turner to approve the 2017-18 Agreement with Fagen Friedman & Fulfroost for Legal Services
Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of the 2017-2018 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

M/s/c Van Alst/Green to approve the 2017-2018 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators
Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of the 2017-2018 Revised Memorandum of Understanding with the Hannah Project for Summer School in the Amount of \$25,000

M/s/c Green/Van Alst to approve the 2017-18 Revised Memorandum of Understanding with the Hannah Project for Summer School in the Amount of \$25,000
Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of the Agreement with the Flippen Group to Provide Professional Development on August 21, 2017 in the Amount of \$5,500

M/s/c Turner/Green to approve the Agreement with the Flippen Group to Provide Professional Development on August 21, 2017 in the Amount of \$5,500
Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of the Revised 2017-2018 Board Meeting Calendar

M/s/c Van Alst/ Green to change the next board meeting date from 9/12/17 to 9/14/17 and to defer action on the Revised 2017-2018 Board Meeting Calendar until the September board meeting
Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of the 2017-2018 Memorandum of Understanding with the Boys and Girls Club

M/s/c /Turner/ Van Alst to approve the 2017-2018 Memorandum of Understanding with the Boys and Girls Club, with additional district funding to serve all students who wish to participate

Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer

PERSONNEL ACTION REPORT

M/s/c Van Alst/Turner to approve the Personnel Action Report with the following amendments:

Elimination of Mofo Wamba - science teacher assignment

Change of Michael Stern assignment from math to math and science

Change of Holcomb assignment to 5th grade

Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer

Approval of Hiring of LeShawn Holcomb under a Variable Term Waiver, Multiple Subject Credential, 5/6 combination class

M/s/c Turner /Green to approve the Hiring of LeShawn Holcomb under a Variable Term Waiver, Multiple Subject Credential, amended to show that the assignment will be for the 5th grade.

Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Van Alst, Green

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer

At 9:07 pm, trustee Van Alst left the meeting.

District Structure – Ad Hoc (Turner, Barrow)

Terena Mares of the Marin County Office of Education gave an update on data collection and analysis of the proposed feasibility study of a merger between Mill Valley and SMCS.

2017-2018 Heartland Schools Solutions for Menu Planning

M/s/c Turner/Green to approve the 2017-18 Contract with Heartland Schools Solutions for Menu Planning

Ayes: Barrow, Turner, Green

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst


ADJOURNMENT


M/s/c Green/Turner to Adjourn at 9:17 p.m.

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst

 9/14/17
Signature/Date


Title