

REDWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Redwood City, California

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

March 11, 2015

1. Call to Order

President Dennis McBride called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at the District Office, Redwood City School District ("RCSD"), 750 Bradford Street, Redwood City.

Present at the Board Meeting: President Dennis McBride, Trustees Alisa MacAvoy, Shelly Masur, Díaz-Slocum and Superintendent Christensen.

Others present: Deputy Superintendent Dr. John Baker, Chief Business Official Wael Saleh, Assistant Superintendent Jane Yuster, Yvonne DiSalvo, Whitney Wood, Raquel Beltrán, Elizabeth Silva, Enrique Silva, Alicia Verduzco, Marta Marcos de Silva, Gonzalo Rangel, Gloria Rangel, Josh Griffith, Rosa Chávez, María Álvares, Lucia Sánchez, Matilde Villagómez, Celeste Mahoney, Barbara Mahoney, Lorena Amaya, Beatriz Carrillo, Angélica Navarro, Felipe Montaña, Isabel Limón, Glenda Sánchez, Shannon Bryant, Michelle Griffith, Elsa Aispuro, Steven Bary, Marco Barrera, Anna Dávila, Erasmo Dávila, Graciela Dávila, Cecilia Andrade, Angel Nava, Cherill Roth.

Trustee Paulson arrived tardy to the meeting.

2. Welcome

President McBride welcomed those present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Changes to the Agenda

Trustee MacAvoy requested to move Action Items 9.3 and 9.7 to Consent.

4. Approval of Agenda

The board approved the agenda, as amended (MacAvoy/Díaz-Slocum; 4-0).

5. Community/Staff Recognition

5.1 DELAC Video

Eliana García, Assistant to the Superintendent introduced a video that contained three interviews from two teachers and Taft Community School's Coordinator. Ms. García commented that every board meeting would be led by a video containing interviews from students, parents, teachers, staff, principals, and RCSD alumni.

5.2 Fair Oaks Community School Recognition

Superintendent Christensen, together with the School Board recognized Gloria and Gonzálo Rangel and Enrique Silva and presented them with a Certificate of Recognition for their support and dedication to serving Fair Oaks Community School.

6. School/Community Reports

6.1 Food Service Planning Committee Report

Wael Saleh, Chief Business Official provided the School Board with an update about what the Food Service Planning Committee has been working on for the last few months, as the Redwood City School District has been working on the LCAP draft.

CBO Saleh added that the Food Service Planning Committee is comprised of two board members, parents, two students, food service's manager, RCSD Wellness Coordinator, and himself. CBO Saleh expressed that he and the committee have met about three times to discuss the child nutrition program that the Redwood City School District has in place and whether RCSD should consider other food services' provider.

CBO Saleh commented that the committee has met to discuss the food quality, variety, finances, if the students like the meal options, staffing, equipment, and legal process.

7. Oral Communication

None.

8. Consent Items

The board approved the Consent Items (MacAvoy/Masur; 4-0), taking the following action:

8.1 Recommendation re: Approval of the Inter-Agency Agreement Between San Francisco State University and the Redwood City School District

8.2 Recommendation re: Approval of the Inter-Agency Agreement Between University of San Francisco and the Redwood City School District

8.3 Recommendation re: Approval of Field Trip Request to Alcatraz, Clifford School

8.4 Recommendation re: Approval of Field Trip Request to the California Association of Student Leaders (CASL), Roy Cloud

8.5 Recommendation re: Approval of Disposal of Obsolete Equipment

9.3 Recommendation re: Approval of Agreement Between Beals Martin and the Redwood City School District

9.7 Recommendation re: Adoption of Resolution 13, Authorized Signatures – attachment

President McBride (Ayes)
Trustee MacAvoy (Ayes)
Trustee Masur (Ayes)
Trustee Díaz-Slocum (Ayes)

9. Action Items

9.1 Recommendation re: Fair Oaks Community Schools' Proposal to Add a Middle School

Superintendent Christensen introduced to the School Board and the audience the recommendation to open a sixth grade classroom at Fair Oaks Community School. Superintendent Christensen commented that she and Deputy Superintendent Baker worked closely with Principal Josh Griffith after a number of parents expressed interest in opening a sixth grade classroom at Fair Oaks. Superintendent Christensen commented that Principal Griffith surveyed Fair Oaks parents and presented the survey results to his ELAC and Site Council and received positive support.

Furthermore, Superintendent Christensen added that if the recommendation brought forward to the School Board to add a sixth grade classroom for the 2015-16 were to be approved, Fair Oaks would recommend to add a seventh and eighth grade class in the following years.

Superintendent Christensen addressed Trustee Paulson's concerns by commenting that the Redwood City School District Human Resources' Department was working arduously to obtain certificated staff for the new sixth grade classroom at Fair Oaks and would also attend a job fair to recruit staff.

Principal Griffith added that many parents voiced their concern about east side Redwood City not having a middle school close by. Principal Griffith thanked parents for participating and filling out a survey to express their desire for a sixth grade classroom at Fair Oaks.

Whitney Wood, community member, expressed her amazement at all the responses received from parents and members of the School Board in regards to the addition of a sixth grade classroom at Fair Oaks. Ms. Wood expressed that she is interested in learning how the addition of a sixth grade classroom at Fair Oaks would align with the District's strategic plans related to the Facilities Master Plan and the grade configuration.

In response to Ms. Wood's commentary, Superintendent Christensen expressed that the Redwood City School District had a grade configuration committee several years ago and after several conducted surveys, the District learned that there was a high demand for additional K-8 schools in the east side of Redwood City.

The entire School Board thanked all the parents that participated and filled out surveys and thanked Principal Griffith for his leadership and support for opening a sixth grade classroom.

The Board approved to add sixth grade at Fair Oaks Community School (Díaz-Slocum/Masur; 5-0).

President McBride (Ayes)
Trustee MacAvoy (Ayes)
Trustee Paulson (Ayes)
Trustee Masur (Ayes)
Trustee Díaz-Slocum (Ayes)

9.2 Recommendation re: Approval of the 2014/15 Second Interim Budget Report for RCSD

The Board approved the 2014/15 second interim budget report (MacAvoy/Díaz-Slocum; 5-0).

President McBride (Ayes)
Trustee MacAvoy (Ayes)
Trustee Paulson (Ayes)
Trustee Masur (Ayes)
Trustee Díaz-Slocum (Ayes)

9.4 Recommendation re: Adoption of Resolution 10, Reduction of Elimination of Certificated Services for Fiscal Year 2014/15

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources commented that the Education Code requires that certificated employees, comprised of administrators, teachers, counselors or any other staff member that has obtained a credential from the state, be notified by March 15th if their services will be needed for the following school year. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources added that certificated staff are funded under the General Fund and can also be funded under Categorical Funds; Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster added that certified staff could also be funded under PTA and/or Measure W.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster commented that with Resolution 10, RCSD has to examine what is going to happen to Categorical Fund and non-General Fund positions. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster reiterated that FTE (Full Time Equivalence) refers to positions and not people. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster explained that Resolution 10 reduces positions for the following school year.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster added that two additional resolutions would need to be approved, which are a resolution for the release of temporary staff and a resolution for the non-reelection staff.

The Board approved the adoption of Resolution 10, reduction of elimination of certificated services for fiscal year 2014/15 (McBride/Masur; 5-0).

President McBride (Ayes)
Trustee MacAvoy (Ayes)

Trustee Paulson (Ayes)
Trustee Masur (Ayes)
Trustee Díaz-Slocum (Ayes)

9.5 Recommendation re: Adoption of Resolution 11, Determination of Order of Employment for Certificated Employees for Elimination of or Reductions in Particular Kinds of Services for Fiscal Year 2015/16 and Approval of the 2014/15 Certificated Seniority Report

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster explained that when a reduction of particular kinds of services occurs, the staff members' seniority is taken into account. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster commented that the seniority list was sent out twice during the 2014-15 school year and asked everyone on the list to confirm that all the information included on the list is correct. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster added that the Human Resources Department also seeks for the approval of staff members on the list who were hired on the same date to participate in a process called "tie break."

The Board approved Resolution 11 (Paulson/Díaz-Slocum; 5-0).

President McBride (Ayes)
Trustee MacAvoy (Ayes)
Trustee Paulson (Ayes)
Trustee Masur (Ayes)
Trustee Díaz-Slocum (Ayes)

9.6 Recommendation re: Adoption of Resolution 12, In Support of Restricting Mobile Food Vendors Near Schools

Board President McBride suggested adding to Resolution 12, "Carts or trucks attract a rush of students and pose a physical safety issue to our students and neighborhood nuisance and traffic hazard."

Trustee MacAvoy added that Wellness Coordinator, Andrea Garen has been working with the City of Redwood City and San Mateo County regarding the restriction of mobile food vendors.

The Board approved Resolution 12 (Masur/Díaz-Slocum; 5-0).

President McBride (Ayes)
Trustee MacAvoy (Ayes)
Trustee Paulson (Ayes)
Trustee Masur (Ayes)
Trustee Díaz-Slocum (Ayes)

9.8 Recommendation re: Non-Reelection of Certificated Probationary Personnel

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster commented that when a teacher comes to the District, they are hired either as a temporary teacher or they begin the process to become tenured staff. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster expressed that the process of becoming a tenured staff member is a two-year period, in which the staff member is evaluated four times. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster commented that the non-reelection of certified probationary personnel is a list of staff members who are believed to not be a fitting match for the Redwood City School District.

The Board approved the non-reelection of certificated probationary personnel (MacAvoy/Paulson; 5-0).

President McBride (Ayes)
Trustee MacAvoy (Ayes)
Trustee Paulson (Ayes)
Trustee Masur (Ayes)
Trustee Díaz-Slocum (Ayes)

9.9 Recommendation re: Release of Temporary Teachers

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster explained that if categorical funding is reinstated, then the temporary teachers' contracts could be renewed and the temporary teachers released could return to the Redwood City School District.

The Board approved the release of temporary teachers (Masur/Paulson; 5-0).

President McBride (Ayes)
Trustee MacAvoy (Ayes)
Trustee Paulson (Ayes)
Trustee Masur (Ayes)
Trustee Díaz-Slocum (Ayes)

10. Board and Superintendent Reports

10.1 Report from Board Members and Superintendent

Trustee MacAvoy reported visiting Taft Community School and John Gill School and commented that she had enjoyed the visits and saw a lot of engaged learning. Trustee MacAvoy added that she attended the Big Lift meeting, together with Sandra Portasio and Edna Carmona and further commented that the Redwood City School District was not chosen to proceed to the following phase of the Big Lift application process. Trustee MacAvoy reported seeing Supervisor Carol Groom at an event and asking her about this and was told that the plan is to fund all the communities eventually. Trustee MacAvoy reported meeting with Kyle Tashman, Chris Beth and Sandra Portasio to discuss community schools and what other opportunities might be offered at Clifford School. Trustee MacAvoy commented that Sandra Portasio would work closely with

Kerry Dees and Kyle Tashman. Trustee MacAvoy reported attending the North Star musical, Beauty and the Beast. Trustee MacAvoy participated in the CSBA Legislative Action Day in Sacramento and met with Assemblymember Kevin Mullin and Senator Jerry Hill and spoke to other board members in the state regarding funding.

Trustee Paulson reported attending the first bond committee meeting. Trustee Paulson reported attending the Lunar New Year in Downtown Redwood City, together with Trustee Masur. Trustee Paulson reported speaking to Mayor Jeff Gee about the possibility of having students march in the Chinese New Year celebration in San Francisco. Trustee Paulson reported meeting with Deputy Superintendent Baker and Naomi Hunter. Trustee Paulson reported attending the 2+2 meeting and commented speaking to Supervisor Warren Slocum about possible funding for housing. Trustee Paulson reported attending the Innovate Public Schools' meeting and reported that the meeting had been well attended. Trustee Paulson commented that the meeting was scripted and presented information about how many Latinos are working in Facebook.

Trustee Masur reported attending the computer giveaway at Taft Community School, together with Board President McBride and Deputy Superintendent Baker. Trustee Masur reported that it was great to see families receiving their computers immediately. Trustee Masur expressed that during the Lunar New Year celebration in Downtown Redwood City, she was approached by a parent that wanted their child enrolled in the Mandarin Immersion Program at RCSD. Trustee Masur thanked Board President McBride, Deputy Superintendent Baker, Dr. Linda Montes and Naomi Hunter for reaching out to parents and providing insightful information about the Mandarin Immersion Program at John Gill School.

Trustee Díaz-Slocum reported attending the Sequoia Awards' celebration and reported that many of RCSD alumni received awards. Trustee Díaz-Slocum reported attending the 2+2 meeting. Trustee Díaz-Slocum stated that she hopes there will be a continuous conversation about housing.

President McBride reported attending the California Association for Bilingual Education conference in San Diego, together with Deputy Superintendent Baker, Principal Amanda Rothengast and Ninfa and Secundino Zuno. President McBride reported participating in the climate meeting and reported attending the DELAC meeting. President McBride commented that Eliana García, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent provided a heart-felt story about her experience as a student in the Redwood City School District and growing up in the North Fair Oaks' community.

Superintendent Christensen reported attending the AASA Superintendent's Conference in San Diego and commented that she had the opportunity to visit two community schools. Superintendent Christensen added that they had attended a presentation on summer learning. Superintendent Christensen commented that she attended a presentation by Proximity Learning, a program that offers Spanish and Mandarin as electives. Superintendent Christensen expressed that she and Deputy Superintendent Baker will have a meeting with a representative from Proximity Learning to learn more about the program and determine whether it would be a program that would benefit the Redwood City School District.

10.2 Report Out on Closed Session for Teacher/Certificated Layoffs/Non Re-elects, February 25, 2015

School Board President McBride reported that Assistant Superintendent Yuster provided an update on the process and no specific action as taken.

10.3 Report Out on Closed Session for Closed Session for Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Retention: Gov. Code §54957 (2 cases), February 25, 2015

School Board President McBride reported that there were no cases to discuss.

10.4 Report Out on RCTA Negotiations Update for Board of Education Regular Meeting, February 25, 2015

School Board President McBride reported that there was no discussion about RCTA negotiations.

10.5 Report Out on CSEA Negotiations Update for Board of Education Regular Meeting, February 25, 2015

School Board President McBride reported that there was no discussion about CSEA negotiations.

11. Information

11.1 2014/15 Second Interim Budget Report for Connect Community Charter School

Chief Business Official Wael Saleh presented Connect Community Charter School's

12. Correspondence

Trustee Masur reported receiving a phone call from a parent expressing their concern with the addition of 6th grade at Fair Oaks Community School.

13. Other Business/Suggested Items for Future Agendas

Superintendent Christensen commented that a Superintendent subcommittee would be developed with the purpose of promoting RCSD schools. Superintendent Christensen expressed that it would be ideal to appoint two board members to serve in the committee.

14. Board Agenda Calendar

14.1 Changes to Schedule of Board Agenda Items

Superintendent Christensen reported that RCEF's report to the School Board was rescheduled to April 8th and Kennedy Middle School's report was rescheduled to April 15th.

15. Closed Session

15.1 Closed Session for Public Employee

Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Retention: Gov. Code §54957 (2 cases)

15.2 RCTA Negotiations Update

At 9:35 p.m. Trustees McBride, MacAvoy, Paulson, Masur and Díaz-Slocum went into closed session with Superintendent Christensen, Deputy Superintendent Baker and Assistant Superintendent Jane Yuster.

The board came out of closed session at 10:10 p.m.

15. Adjournment

The board adjourned the meeting at 10:11 p.m. (Masur/Díaz-Slocum; 5-0).

Hilary Paulson, Clerk