

REDWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Redwood City, California

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

April 8, 2015

1. Call to Order

President Dennis McBride called the meeting to order at 5:30 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, Hilary Paulson and Deputy Superintendent John Baker.

Others present: Chief Business Official Wael Saleh, Assistant Superintendent Jane Yuster, Naomi Hunter, Celeste Mahoney, Barbara Mahoney.

Superintendent Christensen was not in attendance as she was at a conference.

2. Closed Session (90 minutes)

The School Board went in to closed session at 5:31pm to discuss the Public Employee Appointment (Govt. Code §54957) Title: Superintendent

3. Welcome (Board Meeting Commences – 7:04pm)

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

4. Changes to the Agenda

Trustee MacAvoy requested to move Action Item 11.1 to Consent.

5. Approval of Agenda

The board approved the agenda, as amended (MacAvoy/Masur; 5-0).

6. Community/Staff Recognition

6.1 "Meet RCSD" Video

Naomi Hunter, Director of Communications introduced a video that contained three interviews from teachers, parents and students.

6.2 Recognition of Orion

Deputy Superintendent Baker, together with the School Board recognized Camelia Roe, Diane Wakeham, María Castañeda and Jaqueline Steenhuis and presented them with a Certificate of Recognition for their support and dedication to serving Orion School.

7. School/Community Reports

7.1 Orion School Report

Cathy Okubo, Principal, updated the School Board on Orion's programs and activities. Principal Okubo presented the School Board with a Power Point presentation that demonstrated student achievement, school climate, technology, music, art, and student activities.

Principal Okubo thanked his staff, teachers, students and parents for supporting Orion and attending the Board meeting.

School Board Trustees and Deputy Superintendent Baker expressed their utmost thanks to Principal Okubo, the teachers, staff, students and parents at Orion School for all their hard work and dedication.

7.2 Redwood City Education Foundation (RCEF) Report

RCEF President Erika Pretell, addressed the School Board with a Redwood City Education Foundation (RCEF) update on its efforts to support and enrich the education of students in the Redwood City School District. Ms. Pretell discussed RCEF's partnerships, current focuses and goals moving forward.

The School Board and Deputy Superintendent Baker thanked RCEF President Erika Pretell for her presentation and RCEF's collaboration with the Redwood City School District.

8. Discussion Items

8.1 Results of a Voter Opinion Research Project for Placing a Potential Bond Measure on the Ballot

Bryan Godbe of Godbe Research addressed the School Board with results of a voter opinion research project for placing a potential bond measure on the ballot. Mr. Godbe stated that Godbe Research conducted an 18-minute survey of 500 (n=500) total Redwood City School District voters regarding the feasibility of placing a potential future bond measure on the ballot in the District, based on voter support. Mr. Godbe added that the survey was administered via Internet and telephone, with the Internet survey conducted first and de-duplicating the phone sample to avoid contacting voters who completed the Internet version of the survey. Mr. Godbe commented that the purpose of the survey was to learn more about the community's perceptions of its schools and facilities, and to gain an understanding of potential voter support for a school facilities bond to improve Redwood City schools.

9. Oral Communication

None.

10. Consent Items

The board approved the Consent Items (MacAvoy/Paulson; 5-0), taking the following action:

10.1 Recommendation re: Approval of Field Trip Request to Palo Alto Baylands, Hawes School

10.2 Recommendation re: Approval of Field Trip Request to the Nature Bridge Environmental Education Program, Taft Community School

10.3 Recommendation re: Approval of Field Trip Request to Pillar Point Harbor, Taft Community School

10.4 Recommendation re: Approval of Field Trip Request to Alcatraz Island, Selby Lane School

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

11.1 Recommendation re: Approval of Agreement Between the Redwood City School District and the City of Redwood City to Renew Redwood City 2020 Partnership for Fiscal Year 2014-15

President McBride (Ayes)

Trustee MacAvoy (Ayes)

Trustee Paulson (Ayes)

Trustee Masur (Ayes)

Trustee Díaz-Slocum (Ayes)

11. Action Items

Action 11.1 was moved to Consent, per Trustee MacAvoy's request.

12. Board and Superintendent Reports

12.1 Report from Board Members and Superintendent

Trustee MacAvoy announced that the Make Time for Fitness event has been scheduled for May 21st. Trustee MacAvoy commented that the Make Time for Fitness committee has been working collaboratively and are currently seeking yoga instructors.

Trustee Paulson reported attending a County Committee on School Board Organization meeting. Trustee Paulson reported attending multiple bond meetings. Trustee Paulson also attended two Familias Unidas ceremonies.

Trustee Masur reported meeting with Assemblymember Kevin Mullin.

President McBride reported attending the Familias Unidas ceremonies and thanked Victoria Orozco for helping him translate his speech for the ceremony.

Deputy Superintendent Baker attended the Familias Unidas ceremony and attended a DELAC meeting at Taft Community School.

12.2 Report Out on Closed Session for Public
Employee/Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Retention: Gov. Code §54957 (4 cases),
March 25, 2015

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

12.3 Report Out on RCTA Negotiations Update, March 25, 2015

School Board President McBride reported that Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster provided an update and no direction was given.

12.4 Report Out on CSEA Negotiations Update, March 25, 2015

School Board President McBride reported that Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Yuster provided an update and no direction was given.

12.5 Report Out on Update on Public Employee Appointment (Govt. Code §54957)
Title: Superintendent, March 25, 2015

12.5.1 Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Jane Yuster will present the results from the 2 Town Hall meetings and online surveys

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Jane Yuster provided the School Board with a presentation about the characteristics that the new RCSD superintendent should possess based on community, parent, staff, and administrators' input at the town hall meetings.

The School Board selected Deputy Superintendent Baker as the new RCSD Superintendent, effective July 1, 2015.

The School Board expressed their appreciation to Deputy Superintendent Baker for his numerous years of service and dedication to the Redwood City School District and welcomed him as the new superintendent starting July 1, 2015.

Deputy Superintendent Baker thanked the School Board, administrators, and members of the community, staff, teachers, parents and students for their tremendous support!

13. Information

13.1 Information on Summer School

Deputy Superintendent Baker provided the School Board with an update on the different summer school programs that will be offered throughout the Redwood City School District.

14. Correspondence

Board members expressed receiving correspondence regarding the criteria for the hiring of a new superintendent.

15. Other Business/Suggested Items for Future Agendas

President McBride requested to agendize a discussion item, per RCTA President Kevin Sugar about starting board meetings at an earlier time.

16. Board Agenda Calendar

16.1 Changes to Schedule of Board Agenda Items

Superintendent Christensen reported that there have not been any changes to the schedule of board agenda items.

17. Closed Session

17.1 Closed Session for Public Employee

Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Retention: Gov. Code §54957 (3 cases)

17.2 RCTA Negotiations Update

At 9:45 p.m. Trustees McBride, MacAvoy, Paulson, Masur and Díaz-Slocum went into closed session with Deputy Superintendent Baker and Assistant Superintendent Jane Yuster.

The board came out of closed session at 10:30 p.m.

18. Adjournment

The board adjourned the meeting at 10:31 p.m. (Masur/Díaz-Slocum; 5-0).

Hilary Paulson, Clerk