

REDWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Redwood City, California

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

April 15, 2015

1. Call to Order

President Dennis McBride called the meeting to order at 7:03 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, Hilary Paulson, Díaz-Slocum and Superintendent Christensen.

Others present: Deputy Superintendent Dr. John Baker, Chief Business Official Wael Saleh, Assistant Superintendent Jane Yuster, Sarah Stern-Benoit, Michael Levine.

2. Welcome

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

3. Changes to the Agenda

Superintendent Christensen requested to add 'Meet RCSD' video to Community / Staff Recognition.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

5. Community / Staff Recognition

5.1 "Meet RCSD" Video

Naomi Hunter, Director of Communications introduced to the School Board, Superintendent Christensen and the audience the "Meet RCSD" video.

5.2 Recognition of Kennedy Middle School

Superintendent Christensen, together with the School Board recognized Julie Eshelman, Moises "Moe" Montoya and Nancy Bloomquist and presented them with a Certificate of Recognition for their support and dedication to Kennedy Middle School .

6. School / Community Reports

6.1 Kennedy Middle School Report

Dave Paliughi Principal and Assistant Principal Lupe Guzmán updated the School Board on Kennedy Middle School's programs and activities. Principal Paliughi and Assistant Principal Guzmán presented the School Board with a video presentation that demonstrated student achievement, school climate, technology, music, art, and student activities.

Principal Paliughi and Assistant Principal Guzmán thanked their staff, teachers, students and parents for supporting Kennedy Middle School and attending the Board meeting.

School Board Trustees and Superintendent Christensen expressed their utmost thanks to Principal Paliughi and Assistant Principal Guzmán, the teachers, staff, students and parents at Kennedy Middle School for all their hard work and dedication.

6.2 2015 CELDT Report

Director of English Learner Services, Linda Montes commented that the 2015 CELDT was administered to 4,257 students in the Redwood City School District during the annual testing window from August through October of 2014. Ms. Montes added that the CELDT is used to determine initial identification of English Learners as well as to determine annual progress of English proficiency for students identified as English Learners.

Ms. Montes expressed that the CELDT results are the indicators used to determine whether a district has met annual academic achievement goals under Title III for English Learners.

Ms. Montes explained that the Redwood City School District annual growth expectations to meet AMAO 1 are that (1) English Learners at the Beginning, Early Intermediate, or Intermediate levels gain at least one performance level, (2) ELs at the Early Advanced and Advanced levels reach the English proficient level (all subtests are at an intermediate or above), and (3) ELs at the English proficient level are expected to maintain that level until they are reclassified (CDE: Title III Accountability Report Information Guide, 2014).

Ms. Montes stated that AMAO 2 requires that two separate groups of ELs attain the English Proficient Level targets. Ms. Montes further explained that the English Proficient Level is defined as a student demonstrating an Early Advanced or Advanced overall score on the CELDT with no subtest below a level of Intermediate. Ms. Montes added that the two separate groups who must meet the targets are (1) those ELs who have been in English language instruction educational programs for less than five years and (2) those ELs who have been in English language instruction educational programs for five years or more. The targets are set at 24.2% and 50.9% respectively.

Ms. Montes commented that the CELDT results indicate there is an increase percent of students meeting AMAO 2 in the Redwood City School District than in years past. Ms. Montes stated that schools that are providing daily Designated ELD through rigorous grade level content instruction are making greater gains than schools that do not

provide daily Designated ELD. Ms. Montes indicated that District wide there is an increase in the percentage of students who have been with the Redwood City School District for 5 years or more reaching levels of proficiency in English.

The entire School Board and Superintendent Christensen thanked Director of English Learner Services, Linda Montes, Deputy Superintendent Baker and ELD coaches for their hard work.

7. Discussion Items

7.1 Discussion Regarding Board Meetings Start Time

Board President McBride stated that he had received a request on behalf of RCTA President, Kevin Sugar to include a discussion item about the start time of board meetings. RCTA President Sugar made this request with the purpose of providing teachers, staff and parents with an opportunity to attend meetings at an earlier time.

Board President McBride provided a list of the start time of all neighboring districts. Board President McBride commented that a few districts start their meeting earlier due to the fact that they conduct their closed sessions before the public meeting.

Trustee Masur commented that starting board meetings at an earlier time would be difficult for her because of work.

Trustee Paulson commented that she felt it would be disrespectful for members of the audience to conduct closed session at an earlier time because closed session meetings run late at times.

Trustee Díaz-Slocum commented on behalf of the Latino community and stated that the Redwood City School District would run the risk of having a low attendance from the Latino community because of work and family commitments.

Trustee MacAvoy commented that she liked the idea of starting board meetings at an earlier time, but expressed that if the Redwood City School District wanted community input, families would have a hard time attending as they try to help their children with homework and start dinner.

In summary, the entire School Board elected to keep start time for board meetings at 7:00pm.

8. Oral Communication

None.

9. Consent Items

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

- 9.1 Recommendation re: Approval of Amendment Between the Family Engagement Institute (FEI), Foothill-De Anza Community College District Foothill-De Anza Community (FHDACCD) and the Redwood City School District for the Fiscal Year 2014-15 – attachment
- 9.2 Recommendation re: Ratification of Warrant Register, March 16, 2015 through April 3, 2015 – attachment
- 9.3 Recommendation re: Approval of Agreements between RCSD and Infinity Communications and Consulting and RCSD and AMS.net – attachment
- 9.4 Recommendation re: Approval of Field Trip Request to Great America, Hoover Community School – attachment

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

10. Action Items

- 10.1 Recommendation re: Approval to Hire TBWB

Sarah Stern-Benoit addressed the School Board with the recommendation to approve the hiring of TBWB to guide the RCSD in evaluating the electoral feasibility of a bond measure for the ballot and implementing a public outreach and communications program to raise awareness of the District’s funding needs.

Ms. Stern-Benoit commented that the District has been engaging in a Facilities Master Planning Process for the past year to determine its facilities needs in the areas of student safety and 21st century learning to provide improved educational programming to its students. Ms. Stern-Benoit added that the District has focused its Facilities Master Planning Process on the feedback of its community of parents and educators to determine the needs and highest use of its facilities for student learning. Now, the District would like 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. Ms. Stern-Benoit commented that the District recently hired Godbe Research to poll voters regarding the feasibility of placing a potential future bond measure on the ballot in the District, based on voter support. Ms. Stern-Benoit added that the results of the poll, presented at the April 8th board meeting, were very favorable.

The Board approved to hire TBWB (Masur/Díaz-Slocum; 5-0).

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

11. Board and Superintendent Reports

11.1 Report from Board Members and Superintendent

Trustee Paulson reported attending the CELDT Reclassification ceremonies at MIT. Trustee Paulson also reported attending an event at Hawes Community School. Trustee Paulson reported attending the RWC2020 meeting, together with Trustee MacAvoy and commented that it had been a great meeting.

Trustee MacAvoy reported attending the CELDT Reclassification ceremonies, Familias Unidas ceremony. Trustee MacAvoy expressed that she enjoyed attending both ceremonies! Trustee MacAvoy attended a tour of the CDC's at Hoover, Taft, Selby Lane and Garfield and added that it had been a wonderful tour. Trustee MacAvoy expressed that the CDC's seem to be operating smoothly.

Trustee Masur reported attending the Familias Unidas event. Trustee Masur reported meeting with the Deputy of the Department of Assessments.

Trustee Díaz-Slocum reported attending the same events as the rest of the board members.

Board President McBride reported attending the same events as the rest of the board members and added that he attended the A-Z Salad Bar at Fair Oaks, together with Deputy Superintendent John Baker.

Superintendent Christensen commented that she is absolutely thrilled that Deputy Superintendent John Baker was selected as the upcoming Superintendent of the Redwood City School District.

11.2 Report Out on Closed Session for Closed Session for Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Retention: Gov. Code §54957 (3 cases), April 8, 2015

School Board President McBride reported that the School Board received an update from Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Jane Yuster and no action was taken.

11.3 Report Out on RCTA Negotiations Update, April 8, 2015

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

12. Information

12.1 Quarterly Williams Report, January 1, 2015-March 31, 2015

Neither questions nor comments from the School Board or Superintendent Christensen.

13. Correspondence

14. Other Business/Suggested Items for Future Agendas

None.

15. Board Agenda Calendar

15.1 Changes to Schedule of Board Agenda Items

Superintendent Christensen reported that no changes to the schedule of board agenda items have been made.

16. Closed Session

16.1 Closed Session for Public Employee

Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Retention: Gov. Code §54957 (5 cases)

16.2 CSEA Negotiations Update

At 8:55 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 9:30 p.m.

17. Adjournment

The board adjourned the meeting at 9:31 p.m. (MacAvoy/Díaz-Slocum; 5-0).

Hilary Paulson, Clerk