

REDWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Redwood City, California

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

May 30, 2018

1. Call to Order

President María Díaz-Slocum called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, Redwood City School District ("RCSD"), 750 Bradford Street, Redwood City.

Present at the Board Meeting: President María Díaz-Slocum, Vice-President Dennis McBride, Janet Lawson, Alisa MacAvoy, Hilary Paulson and Superintendent John Baker.

Others present: Linda Montes, Wendy Kelly, Antonio Pérez, JF Lacasse, Leslie Crane, Rosemary Wood, Dana Hardester, Jim Balestine, Sarah LaTorra, Lisa Silberman, Elizabeth Plascencia, Karen Sigler, Marcus Kazmierczak, Indra Hernández, Kevin Gibson, Sue Jorgenson, Denise Gil, Grady Wright, Julie Guaspari, Alex Offermann, Martha Mendoza, Sara Shackel, Mary Elizabeth Redner, Margarita Pana, Brooke Wagner, Maria Stockton, María Orozco, Melanie Davenport, Karen Donnelly, Eneida Manriquez, Naomi Hunter, Rick Hunter, María Orozco, Jacqueline Tumalan, Ivanna Zelaya-Clark, Paulette Elliot, Tracy DaCosta, Shannon Cody, Roy Dorling, Leslie Stafford, Stacie Ciraulo, Ana Cervantes, Elena Pineda, Jude Noyes, Nick Faniorgiakis, Warren Sedar.

2. Welcome

President Díaz-Slocum welcomed those present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Changes to the Agenda

No changes to the agenda.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

5. Oral Communication

Karen Siegler, parent and PTO President at Roosevelt School, addressed the School Board by expressing her disappointment in the School District's decision to only have two kindergarten classrooms at Roosevelt School. Ms. Siegler commented that there are currently 19 students on the waiting list. Ms. Sigler added that Roosevelt School has the teacher and the capacity to offer space to the 19 students on the waiting list.

Elizabeth Plascencia, parent at Roosevelt School, commented that she became interested in Roosevelt School for its enrichment opportunities to students and the offered support from teachers to students in every subject.

Sarah LaTorra, parent at Clifford School and PTO and Site Council representative, addressed the School Board and Superintendent Baker with a concern regarding the lack of funds to purchase copy paper for homework assignments.

Brooke Wagner, biologist and parent at Roosevelt School, addressed the School Board by offering her services as a biologist. Ms. Wagner commented that she would present to the School Board and Superintendent Baker with a proposal for a chicken coop at Roosevelt School.

Karen Donnelly, parent at Adelante Spanish Immersion School, expressed her concern about increasing classroom sizes. Ms. Donnelly stated that she understood that the School District was undergoing tremendous budgetary pressure, but urged the School Board to reconsider classroom sizes and provide a solution.

Ivanna Zelaya-Clark, parent at Adelante Spanish Immersion School, addressed the School Board by expressing her concern with combination classrooms. Ms. Zelaya-Clark urged the School Board to reconsider smaller classroom sizes.

Jackelyn Tumalan, parent at Adelante Spanish Immersion School, asked the School District and Superintendent Baker to reconsider combination classrooms and not forget about the needs of Adelante Spanish Immersion School.

6. Special Study Session on Redwood City School District Budget

6.1 Study Session on Budget

Superintendent Baker introduced Business Services Consultant and former Superintendent of Sequoia Union High School District, Jim Lianides.

Mr. Jim Lianides provided the School Board and the audience with an executive overview of the Redwood City School District's current condition with its budget.

Mr. Lianides commented that the Redwood City School District faces insolvency in the near future; if no corrective measures are taken. In addition, RCSD has been affected by the loss of students to three charter schools, declining enrollment, and the continued rise of expenditures. Furthermore, Mr. Lianides expressed that RCSD is also impacted by the rising of worker's compensation costs, which are expected to rise to 4% in 2018-19. Mr. Lianides added that special education costs have risen, in part due to shortage of qualified special education teachers. Mr. Lianides commented that there has been an increase of students that require a one-on-one aide and although student enrollment has decreased, the number of special education student has not.

Mr. Lianides provided the School Board and Superintendent Baker with 3 budgetary scenarios.

Scenario 1 would frontload the majority of its cuts in 2019-2020. It would leave approximately \$1.5 million structural deficit at the end of 2020-2021 with \$2 million of one time RDA funds still available. This scenario would likely allow the district to avoid any reductions in 2021-2022 by using the remaining RDA funds to cover the deficit.

Scenario 2 would provide equally spaced budget reductions between 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. The district would still need to address the approximate \$1.5 million structural deficit. There would be \$1 million of one time RDA funds available at the end of 2020-2021, which will likely result in an additional small budget reduction in 2021-2022.

Scenario 3 would backload budget reductions and there would be no one time RDA funds available to address the \$1.5 million structural deficit in 2021-2022, therefore, additional reductions would be necessary in 2021-2022.

Based on the three scenarios presented, Superintendent Baker made the recommendation to adopt Scenario 2.

School Board President asked School Board members if they agreed to adopt Scenario 2 and all School Board members were in agreement.

7. Adjournment (Action Required)

The board adjourned the Closed Session meeting at 7:58 p.m. (Paulson/Lawson; 5-0).

Janet Lawson, Clerk