

Oxnard Union High School District

Oxnard, California

MINUTES FOR THE BOARD MEETING

January 15, 2014

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Oxnard Union High School District was called to order by President López Hanson at 6:30 p.m., January 15, 2014, in the District Office Board Room, 220 South K Street, Oxnard, California.

Trustees present:

Socorro López Hanson, President
Gary Davis, Ed.D., Vice President
Steve Hall, Ed.D., Clerk
Wayne Edmonds, Trustee
John Alamillo, Trustee

Administration present:

Gabe Soumakian, Ed.D., Superintendent
Gregory O'Brien, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent-Educational Services
Rocky Valles, Jr., Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources
Stephen Dickinson, Assistant Superintendent-Administrative Services
Consuelo Hernandez, Executive Director-21st Century Learning & Innovation
Maureen Sheldon, Executive Assistant

Translators present:

Lourdes Campbell

Guests present:

Kathy Greaves, Robert Greaves, Doug Campbell, Kevin Dicey, Steve McFarland, Terry Zinger, Wes Davis, MaryAnn Larrieu, Bill Dabbs, Lupe Reyes, Puneet Sharma, Wayne Lamas, Rod Leard, Kate Diamond, Gary Fullerton, Laurena Guizar, Chris Conte, and other interested parties.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Edmonds led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It is the recommendation of District Administration that the Board of Trustees adopt the Agenda of the January 15, 2014 Board meeting.

Motion: Moved by Trustee Alamillo, as amended, that public comment be moved prior to Closed Session. President Lopez Hanson suggested this be done both prior to and after Closed Session to accommodate everyone's needs. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hall and carried unanimously. Vote 5/0.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Laurena Guizar/Teacher & Cheer Coach at Rio Mesa High School:

- Addressed the additional cost for JV Cheer, and the fact that the season is 9 months long from April – March.
- Noted that additional funds are needed for more staff to help out with this program. Guizar stated that we need a larger stipend to attract someone due to the huge time commitment.
- Discussed the LCAP, and expressed that we need to look at areas that parents, teachers and the community wants. What programs do they want, smaller class sizes, as well as sufficient maintenance to maintain clean classrooms and better food for the teachers.

President López Hanson stated that normally the Superintendent responds to public comment when the board returns from Closed Session. She suggested that Ms. Guizar listen to the audio online in order to hear his comments.

5. CLOSED SESSION

The board went into Closed Session at 6:40 p.m. to discuss the following items:

- A.** Consideration of Confidential Student Issues Other Than Expulsion and Suspension, Pursuant to Education Code §35146
- B.** Conference with Legal Counsel – Litigation [Government Code §54956.9(b)] – Case VCBA06180A1
- C.** Conference with Legal Counsel – Litigation [Government Code §54956.9(b)] – Case VCBA06495A1
- D.** Conference with Labor Negotiator(s)[Government Code Section 54957.6] >Agency Negotiator: Rocky Valles, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent – Human Resources >Employee Organization: Oxnard Federation of Teachers and School Employees (OFTSE) Certificated Employees
- E.** Superintendent’s Evaluation

6. RECONVENE IN PUBLIC: REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTION

At 7:55 p.m. the Board reconvened in Open Session. President López Hanson reported out that two actions were taken which were to approve Resolutions required by our insurance program.

7. AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- OFTSE addressed Item 9A - Review of This Year’s Suspensions/Expulsions. With the help of district staff, a committee was put together with teachers from all sites to address problems district-wide. All teachers were thanked. Rob Edison, Liz McKenna, Monica Adrian, Kristen Kenney, Erin Bryan, Kathy Greaves and Doug Campbell were recognized for their assistance with recommendations on Synergy and the access questions that teachers had.
- The work of the committee is not complete. It was determined that discipline is not applied equally or consistently around the District. Second, it is outside our control to force administrators to enforce timely discipline with students.
- It was noted that in many districts teachers feel lack of support from their APs. The committee was successful in identifying the information gaps: (a) in Synergy this will enable teachers to better implement interventions via seeing problems/issues in other teacher’s classrooms to determine patterns; (b) students who are transferred due to discipline problems; (c) information pertaining to counseling notes and discipline notes from a prior school were not available to everyone. Such students must be identified and talked to early on. The key component is support.
- It was also stated that we must further identify log jams with discipline: staffing/secretaries supporting Aps were noted to be spending an inordinate amount of time calling subs. As such, they are not able to call in students who require counseling and timely discipline.
- A parent addressed the number of school days during the year, noting we are down from 185 to 179, with 177 academic days, and no instructional days. He added that he wants his children back at 180.
- The parent also expressed concerns over feels teachers being frequently pulled out of the classroom for off-site training. He stated that each site should use ‘mentor teachers’ to teach strategies on site, rather than having teachers go off-site for training.
- Concerns were also noted in the area of afternoon security.

**8. SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT – General Report, Gabe
Soumakian, Ed.D**

Soumakian reported on the following:

- Responded to those who had commented regarding JV Cheer, stating this is a negotiated item and he could not comment further.
- LCAP requirements – stated that during the Open Houses, we have coordinated with the principals where we will explain all of the Common Core information, LCCF, and the LCAP. Parents will be provided feedback questionnaires at that time.
- In early March we will bring a report to the board from all information gathered, and we will hold a public hearing at that time. The District must put together a LCAP plan that must be adopted prior to June 30, 2014. The State Board of Education has still not adopted this. Soumakian noted that he would be attending this meeting in Sacramento tomorrow.
- Discipline Committee – thanked IT and Doug Campbell, Kathy Greaves and others for their expertise, noting we have seen enhanced services. More positive information will come on this that will be shared with the board. He further stated that we are making great strides in implementing the new law to reduce expulsions/suspensions.
- Responded to comments regarding a reduction in instructional days, noting the board had already addressed this matter.
- Opportunity to participate with 150 teachers through a two day administrative training to review the Common Core. He added that the Common Core component requires professional development. We will continue to share feedback with the board that results from these trainings. He added that we have received all funding from the Common Core.
- Have been working with administration to ensure that our master schedule for the fall is tight and class sizes are appropriate. We are not experiencing lots of students moving out of the District.
- Last audit in December was very positive. We continue to work on how to minimize the deficit for the cafeteria fund.
- Have experienced positive meal participation; growth in free/reduced students who are eligible.
- Have provided trainings for the last three days on The Learning Management System. More information will come on this in future board meetings.
- Freshmen transition teachers – EEI. Our freshmen health & geography teachers were at the DO receiving this training. We have seen increased student engagement utilizing the Naviance tool. Naviance is being supported by Oxnard College as we build a transition to the community college systems.
- Community Law Enforcement Academy graduation will take place tomorrow night at the board room.
- Open Houses for all schools will take place in early February. We will provide information on the LCAP to all parents, and forums will also be made available for teachers and the community-at-large. This will also be part of a public hearing at one of our future board meetings.

9. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

**A. Report to the Board – Kathy
Greaves. Suspensions, Expulsions,
Behavior/Interventions, Saturday
School Report**

Greaves reported on the following: (Data is through December 2013)

- Saturday school figures have been cut in half from prior year with the high of 176 at HHS and OHS; low of 0 at ACHS.
- Suspension figures: reduced by almost four times over prior year, with a high of 102 at HHS, a low of 0 at Condor High School and 23 at ACHS. This is increasing the attendance and learning of our students.
- Expulsions figures: down by over 80 students over the prior year, with a high of 8 at HHS and a low of 0 at ACHS, CHS, FHS and 1 at RMHS.
- Attendance teams have been created at all schools. Attendance is up District-wide at all schools.
- Specific discipline areas on Synergy have been designed by Wes Davis and Doug Campbell.

- Progressive discipline
 - Teacher utilizes more interventions.
 - Counselors advise students/parents through Student Success team.
 - Attendance Advisor advises student/parents on importance of attendance for success.
 - Referrals handled with parent conferences/Saturday School/Alternative Learning Centers.
 - Suspension is last resort; child removed from learning environment.
- Other means of correction
 - Effective January 2013 new Education codes that require other means of correction be used prior to suspension, including supervised suspension.
 - May occur if a student's presence cause a danger to others.
- Key reduction strategies
 - Early intervention, parent/student conferences, restorative justice (mediation), Counselor Success Team Meetings, metal & canine detection, in-school suspension, detention (Sat School), community service.
 - Saturday School – vendor offered to pilot at one school and declined. We continue to do this with our own staffing.
 - Trustee Hall thanked Ms. Greaves and the committee.
 - Much discussion continues on trying to determine 'why' specific behaviors are happening. Have been holding freshmen transition lessons on bullying, and other training for students district-wide.
 - Dr. Soumakian thanked Ms. Greaves and others for their work in these two critical areas in the LCAP: school climate and student engagement. This information allows us to demonstrate that we are effectively addressing these matters.

B. Report to the Board – MaryAnn Larrieu. Prop 39 Guidelines/Projects and Energy Updates/EPA Energy STAR Awards

Larrieu reported on the following, along with Mark Starkey/Cenergistic who is the marketer for the program.

- OUHSD has been an energy STAR partner since 2012.
- Have received awards for all six high schools, and our success is recognized on a national level. Must use 35% less energy and generate 35% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than our peers of similar size and structure across the nation. This is based on our conservation alone.
- Prop 39 is known as the California Clean Energy Jobs Act. This is a five year program: money gained rolls over. We are expected to receive about \$725K for the first year, 2013/14 via meeting specific criteria.
- Applications will be completed next month. We are putting together a list of projects that will meet this criteria; will bring to the board for consideration at future meetings.
- Energy Conservation Savings to-date: \$1,237,412 or a 15% savings in just three years into the program.
- Trustee Alamillo stated that these monies originally came out of the Measure H funds, adding, once we have raised sufficient funds, we should put it back into said funds. He added that he wanted to discuss this further at the February Study Session. Trustee Edmonds echoed these concerns.
- Replacing older heating systems does qualify for this project.
- Rancho Campana will be built with these energy efficient features.

C. Report to the Board – Steve Dickinson. Rancho Campana High School Lease-Leaseback Update

Dickinson reported on the following: (Gary Fullerton, Kate Diamond, Rod Leard present)

- S.C. Anderson and HMC held two meetings for sub-contractors to-date, with one being held January 10, and a second being held today, January 15.
- Proposals are due back to S.C. Anderson on January 30. Between that date and February 12, they will be generating the Gmax.
- Have approximately 50 proposal packages.
- Have approximately 3-4 interested contractors in each of those divisions. Are trying to generate more interest in those areas of low participation.
- Plans have been submitted to a number of planning rooms across the state.

- Tentative ground breaking is scheduled for Saturday, March 1.
- More information will be forthcoming on January 22.
- Trustee Alamillo asked if the board had set a ceiling on this project and if we had a contingency plan. Trustee Davis agreed that this item should be agendaized as a future study session item

10. ACTION

A. Consideration of Approval of Revision of Board Policy 6146.1: General Graduation Requirements, First Reading.

Approved

Gregory O'Brien reported:

- Noted that back on December 18, 2013 we had a public hearing which is a requirement in order to make a change. Assembly Bill 1330 passed in 2012 allows for schools in LEA districts to make a change to the graduation requirements. Currently there is a requirement that a student either has a visual arts or performing arts or foreign language credits, but now a student can add one year or 10 credits of CTE to meet that requirement.
- At the end of last year there were several members of the District Curriculum Committee that wished to discuss this at the beginning of the year. The first reading was on October 3 before the District Committee, and it was approved unanimously on October 24. Some of the changes were to change the term foreign language to world language, and to add the adoption of Career Technical Education to the current graduation requirement that states world languages or visual performing arts. We would be adding an additional CTE. It was clarified that not all CTE classes will meet A-G requirements.
- The committee also voted to divide twenty credits between the three options, rather than ten or two full years. They then reduced the electives from 70 to 60. We also wanted to add the Integrated Math Pathways to the requirements. Back on December 12th we divided math into a two-year requirement. Unless they do a renewal, this will end in 2017/18.
- Trustee Davis inquired if there was any student input to bring about these changes. The response was 'no'. Davis stated that when we have policy changes we must look for opportunities to involve our students.
- Trustee Alamillo expressed concern over not requiring two years of Foreign Language. He added that it will be incumbent on the counselors to be sure students know they cannot go to a California State school without this requirement being met.
- Trustee Alamillo restated that we must get the band matter worked out as soon as possible because it impacts our incoming 9th graders. Trustee Davis echoed his concerns that the matter should be brought back in the spring. Dr. O'Brien noted that the PE department has already been looking at the matter with Bill Dabbs.

Trustee Davis moved that the Board of Trustees approve of the revision of Board Policy 6146.1: General Graduation Requirements for First Reading. Seconded by Trustee Edmonds and carried unanimously. Vote 5/0.

B. Consideration of Adoption of Revision of Oxnard Union High School District Board Bylaw 9000: *Role of the Board* (Second Reading)

Approved

Trustee Davis noted that board members have had this item since October 23rd. He stated that the first paragraph was new, but that the 2nd & 3rd paragraphs were the same, adding that most changes he made with those were with respect to formatting. It was noted that the board members had a cover letter, current board bylaw 9000, sample CSBA policy, and the recommended revisions. The revised bylaw would be called *Role of the Board* rather than *Role of Board members*.

Trustee Davis recommended that the Oxnard Union High School District Governing Board adopt the revisions to *Board Bylaw 9000: Role of the Board* for Second Reading. Seconded by Trustee Hall, and unanimously carried. Vote 5/0.

Trustee Alamillo commented again that he would like to see the CSBA go through our policies. President López Hanson thanked Dr. Davis for sharing his expertise, and noted she would prefer to save money and continue to have him bring these to the board in the current manner.

C. Consideration of Approval of Board Committees

Approved

Dr. Soumakian noted that previously he did not have all five board members present to vote on this matter. He stated that in 2012/13 and 2013-to present we have used similar committees, but under the auspices of the Superintendent's Ad Hoc committee. He stated that the board had suggested consideration of a Board Policy and Budget Committee. In order to establish a board representative(s) to these District committees, these are items that must go through *Sunshine* and follow the *Brown Act*, 72 hour notice, and minutes taking, whereas if we keep the current practice of Superintendent's Ad Hoc Committees, for Board members to advise the Superintendent. Soumakian stated it was his understanding that all other committees were *not to be Board Committees* other than Budget and Board Policy –all others would remain under Superintendent's Ad Hoc Advisory.

Much discussion ensued. Several board members supported the idea of having formal District Budget and Policy committees, and the idea of possibly having a Capital Improvement Committee and a Voting Rights committee was raised. There were differing perspectives regarding whether the board should be involved in actual management interviews, or simply act in a personnel advisory function. All agreed that transparency is key, particularly with respect to financial matters. One other board member indicated that two people should not influence the direction of the board, because a board committee 'is the board'. If we have board committees, they should have a clearly defined role and purpose.

There was also much discussion as to whether a motion was necessary, due to the fact that the board was essentially saying that it would have 'no committees'.

Motion: Trustee Alamillo moved that the board sets aside all board committees until another action is taken. This includes sub-committees of the board, and the budget and policy. Any item that comes up will be brought to the full board, and Ad Hoc committees will meet from time to time as designated. Trustee Hall seconded the motion which was carried unanimously. Vote 5/0.

11. BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Report: Trustee Hall

- No report.

Report: Trustee Davis

- Attended the Bond Oversight Committee with Dr. Soumakian and Steve Dickinson.
- Retiree organization came to us and presented in an organized, courteous manner. Members asked to sit with the OUHSD Health Benefits committee. They were told the contract with the Federation does not allow for that. He noted that he would like the matter investigated regarding a union member having a seat.
- Commented on problems with Study sessions, stating that often they get too mixed and mingled with regular meetings. He asked that we be sure we have enough time for study sessions, and schedule our agendas accordingly.
- Audience to Address the Board – commented on the report from the Superintendent, and asked how teachers would be given an opportunity to give feedback on the LCAP.
- Afternoon campus security lacking – requested a staff report.
- APs using too much time calling subs - requested a staff report.

Report: President López Hanson

- No report.
- Noted that she agreed with Dr. Davis that we must do a better job of dedicating quality time for study sessions. Our intent was one regular board meeting and one study session but we are not sticking to this effectively. She suggested possibly one study session per quarter and two regular meetings a month.

Report: Trustee Edmonds

- No report.

Report: Trustee Alamillo

- Would like to bring the solar item back.
- Tracks that are in poor condition; require maintenance. We need to take a serious look at this problem at several schools. ACHS project is not going as well as they would like, and OHS also requires resurfacing.

12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

- Not covered.

13. STUDY SESSION

To study session at: 9:38pm

- A. Update on 4.0
Study/Alternative Site
Selection for Oxnard # 8 –
Steve Dickinson

- B. Multi-Faceted Bond
Options – Dale Scott

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business on the agenda, Board President López Hanson adjourned the meeting at 10:55 p.m.

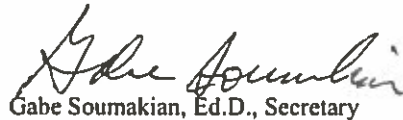
BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Steve Hall, Ed.D., Clerk

Approved as read

February 26, 2014



Gabe Soumakian, Ed.D., Secretary

Board meetings are video recorded and are available at:
<http://www.ouhsd.k12.ca.us/about/schoolboard/datesagendas.htm>