

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

February 28, 2017
City Hall Council Chambers
2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

ADOPTED MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the AUSD Board of Education was held on the date and place stated above.

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Public Comment on Closed Session Topics:

Dan Patakas, parent of Nea student(s): Mr. Patakas asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus.

Gaylon Parsons, parent of current CLCS student: Ms. Parsons asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus.

Amy Garcia, parent of current CLCS student: Ms. Garcia asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus.

Daniel Parker, Nea Organizing Committee: Mr. Parker read statement from the Nea/ACLC Organizing Committee and asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus and urged Board to support public charter schools.

Christine Kovach, representative of ACLC Parent Action Committee: Ms. Kovach asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus.

Nicholas Ratzlaff, teacher at ACLC and member of the Nea/ACLC Teachers' Union: Mr. Ratzlaff asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus.

Desiree Doroliat, School Counselor at Nea: Ms. Doroliat asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus.

Kira Foster, Alameda resident, parent of 10th grader, and president of union representing employees of CLCS: Ms. Foster asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus and asked AUSD to not limit enrollment at CLCS schools.

Suzanne Crawford, parent of two current Nea students: Ms. Crawford asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus.

Laura Kingswater, parent of current Nea Kindergarten student: Ms. Kingswater asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus and asked AUSD to not limit enrollment at CLCS schools.

Bing Yu, parent of current Earhart and ACLC students: Mr. Yu asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus. Mr. Yu stated other AUSD schools currently have portables.

R. Finer, current Nea 11th grade student: Mr. Finer asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus. Mr. Finer stated his academic schedule and grades are impacted by the lack of space currently at Nea.

D. Hayes, current ACLC student: Mr. Hayes asked the Board to honor agreement to let CLCS place portables on the Woodstock campus. Mr. Hayes stated the school model is hindered because of the lack of space currently at ACLC.

2. Adjourn to Closed Session: 5:58 pm
3. Reconvene to Public Session: 6:40 pm
4. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from Ruby Bridges Elementary.
5. Introduction of Board of Education Members and Staff
Board of Education Members present: Ardella Dailey, Gray Harris, Gary Lym, and Jennifer Williams; AUSD Executive Cabinet members present: Superintendent Sean McPhetridge, General Counsel Chad Pimentel, Chief Business Officer Shariq Khan, Chief Human Resources Officer Tim Erwin, and Chief Academic Officer Steven Fong; Student Board Members present: Elizabeth McDonough, Rasarea Chan, and Amy Chu.

B. MODIFICATION(S) OF THE AGENDA: There were no modifications to the agenda.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes from the February 14, 2017 Board meeting were considered.

Motion to approve the adoption of the February 14, 2017 Board of Education meeting minutes.

MOTION: Member Dailey

SECONDED: Member Williams

AYES: Members Dailey, Harris, Lym, Williams

NOES: None

MOTION APPROVED

D. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Highlighting Alameda Schools – Ruby Bridges Elementary School
Cheryl Wilson, Ruby Bridges Principal, Eric Leung, Ruby Bridges Vice Principal, and Lara Webber, Ruby Bridges Teacher, gave the Board details about the programs at Ruby Bridges Elementary School.

The mission of Ruby Bridges Elementary is to not only provide rigorous, academically enriched instruction but also find avenues for all students to feel competent and smart regardless of their economic, ethnic, or linguistic background. Therefore, it is crucial that we help them discover, deploy, and celebrate their individual strengths. Ms. Wilson explained, at Ruby Bridges students learn to collaborate, think critically, effectively communicate, and apply creative expression as they focus on solving problems relevant to present-day life.

Board members thanked Ms. Wilson for her work at Ruby Bridges Elementary.

2. Employee of the Month – February 2017

Anthony Venuto, the Systems Analyst for the district, received the February Employee of the Month award. Tim Erwin, Chief Human Resources Officer, presented the award and read the nomination form, which was submitted by the Health Office Assistant team.

3. Superintendent's Report

Dr. McPhetridge gave the Board information about one proclamation on the agenda:

- Art is Education Month

Dr. McPhetridge shared information about Alameda Little League's Challenger Program and encouraged the audience to visit the Alameda Little League website for more information.

Dr. McPhetridge shared his February Superintendent's Letter to the Community. In his letter Dr. McPhetridge shared information on the challenges the district is facing. Dr. McPhetridge spoke of the recent passing of Board Member Solana Henneberry and noted Ms. Henneberry and also former Board Member Nielsen Tam's focus on and dedication to students receiving special education services.

Dr. McPhetridge spoke of AUSD's recent triumphs, such as the passage of AUSD's "Safe Haven" resolution and the work of the various district roundtables. Dr. McPhetridge also stated that since his return to AUSD in 2000, he has never known a time where AUSD did not face challenges as a school district and community. Dr. McPhetridge reminded the audience that challenges present us opportunities to speak to our values and work toward ongoing improvement of conditions we face and services we provide. Dr. McPhetridge stated he is mindful and grateful for the many examples of commitment and resilience we share to guide us forward as a district in these times of local and global challenge, challenges that can lead us toward continuing inquiry and ongoing dialogue to help us bring about new opportunities for increased student success and improved relations with our fellow human beings.

4. Board Members' Report

Board Member Gary Lym: Member Lym shared that he recently attended the ALCOSTA California Teachers Association breakfast and thanked AEA President Audrey Hyman for the invitation to the event. Member Lym stated he also attended the EHS Crab Feed, along with Council Member Oddie, which was the same night as the Alameda High School Athletic Booster Crab Feed. Member Lym stated he went to the Alameda High School mock congress and was very impressed with a particular discussion topic – abolishment of standardized testing, because it unfairly discriminates against children of different socioeconomic backgrounds. Member Lym stated he attended the Island High School HEX awards and thanked Island High School staff for the safety net they provide children.

Board Member Ardella Dailey: Member Dailey echoed Dr. McPhetridge's remarks and stated she and Member Williams continue to visit all school sites. Member Dailey shared last week she and Member Williams enjoyed visiting Ruby Bridges and Lincoln Middle School.

Board Member Jennifer Williams: Member Williams shared she enjoyed her visits with Member Dailey to the school sites and remarked that the Ruby Bridges staff deals with many additional issues beyond just educating children. Member Williams stated she also appreciates the support the parent community at Ruby Bridges provides to the school. Member Williams stated she and Member Dailey also recently visited Lum Elementary School and Ms. Lisa Goodwin's classroom where they are using special chairs to help children who need to move around during class. Member Williams stated she recently visited the Moderate to Severe Autism class and is especially looking forward to the report on Special Education that Kirsten Zazo is providing later tonight.

5. Student Board Members' Report

Elizabeth McDonough, Alameda High School Student Board Member: Ms. McDonough stated the Alameda High School Spring musical has been postponed. Ms. McDonough stated the Alameda High School Spirit Week is coming up soon. Ms. McDonough stated the AHS PTSA is building a memorial garden for Ms. Sydow, an Alameda High School teacher who passed away last year.

Amy Chu, Encinal Student Board Member: Ms. Chu shared progress reports are going out. Ms. Chu stated today was Mardi Gras Day and Dr. Seuss dress up day at Encinal. Ms. Chu stated that because of recent political events, the Gender and Sexuality Alliance Club has moved up gender day to this week. Ms. Chu stated Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School loves and accepts all students of all genders, and staff and students will provide the safest community possible.

Rasarea Chan, ASTI Student Board Member: Ms. Chan shared that last Friday was motivation day at ASTI. Ms. Chan stated Spirit month starts this week. Ms. Chan stated that today at ASTI a surprise celebration was held for Todd Higashi for receiving the Life Changer Award. Ms. Chan stated Mr. Higashi has a great passion for his garden, students, and biology, and he has zero tolerance for hate. Ms. Chan stated Mr. Higashi pushes students to achieve, gives students a safe place.

Dr. McPhetridge invited Mr. Todd Higashi to stand up so the audience could acknowledge him for the special Life Changer Award he recently received.

6. Report from Employee Organizations

Audrey Hyman, President, Alameda Education Association (AEA): Ms. Hyman thanked Member Lym for attending the recent ALCOSTA/CTA breakfast. Ms. Hyman stated the joint committees codified by the most recent AEA contract negotiations are starting to meet. Ms. Hyman spoke about recent anti-Semitic attacks across the nation and stated she would like for the teachers to have time to be able to train on and share anti-bullying curriculum across the district. Ms. Hyman stated she knows Special Education is a big topic tonight and is pleased to announce the work being done by the AEA/AUSD Special Education Task Force. Ms. Hyman mentioned the agenda item on the Reduction of Particular Types of Services and stated years ago AUSD had reduced the equivalent to 40 teachers at this time of year. Ms. Hyman stated she appreciated the collaboration with Tim Erwin and HR staff who have reached out to see if there are teachers retiring so that many teachers did not have to receive layoff notices and so AUSD did not have a high level of layoffs happening this year.

Cindy Zecher, President, California Education Association, Chapter 27 (CSEA 27): Ms. Zecher stated the CSEA 27 Executive Board recently met and Ms. Zecher appreciated Member Dailey coming to the meeting. Ms. Zecher shared that CSEA will be present at tomorrow's LCAP meeting and they are still looking for CSEA members to serve on this committee. On March 11th, some CSEA members will be attending a training in Milpitas and Ms. Zecher has talked to the Superintendent about bringing a training of this type to Alameda for new employees.

7. Public Comment

Sean Tisdale, parent: Mr. Tisdale stated his child has been receiving SPED services since 1st grade. Mr. Tisdale stated he has hired an attorney to make sure his student has access to his free and appropriate public education. Mr. Tisdale shared information on his child's Individualized Education Plan. Mr. Tisdale stated the district has a legal and moral obligation to provide services to all students.

Jim Oddie, City Council member, speaking as private citizen: Mr. Oddie stated a person's economic status should not determine the education their child receives. Mr. Oddie stated he often hears of parents needing to hire an attorney to be able to litigate to be able to receive services. Mr. Oddie stated a child's language skills should not matter. Mr. Oddie asked the Board to put "Everyone Belongs Here" into

action. Mr. Oddie stated AUSD should be able to give children the education they are constitutionally entitled to.

Jose Cerda Zein, parent and Alameda native: Mr. Cerda Zein stated he does not believe AUSD should deny students special education services. Mr. Cerda Zein stated families without means should not suffer, and he believes AUSD should bend over backwards to help these families.

Farhad Matin, AUSD parent: Mr. Matin stated he believes AUSD should hire a person that has experience with special education. Mr. Matin stated he believes AUSD's primary concern is to minimize services. Mr. Matin stated he has asked to see how much AUSD has spent on outside counsel and he was told it was privileged information. Mr. Matin stated AUSD has a moral and legal obligation to provide services to all students. Mr. Matin stated students receiving special education services do not want these services, they need the services.

Suzy Clement, AUSD parent: Ms. Clement stated she has a child that has been with the district since he was 3 years old. Ms. Clement stated her child has changed classrooms 8 times since he was three years old. Ms. Clement stated many of the students in her child's classroom have needs that were not accommodated by a recent classroom move. Ms. Clement stated parents have had to threaten litigation in order to have multiple classroom moves stopped.

Dede Lewis, AUSD parent: Ms. Lewis stated she has a student with an IEP, and the disparity between her child's skill level and grade level is growing. Ms. Lewis stated parents are paying out of pocket for extra help. Ms. Lewis stated her child has become anxious and doesn't want to attend school. Ms. Lewis stated she would like information about the LEAPS summer program and is still waiting for answer from district about this program.

Sarah Taylor, parent of current Edison student: Ms. Taylor stated she recently spent two days at a conference for advocacy for families of students needing special education services. Ms. Taylor stated she would like for AUSD to have a sense of partnership with families. Ms. Taylor stated she sees things that are happening in AUSD that are not unique to Alameda but stated she thinks Alameda can do better. Ms. Taylor stated she hopes to be part of the upcoming Special Education Strategic Planning group.

8. Closed Session Action Report

During Closed Session the Board voted 4-0 to authorize the Chief Human Resource Officer to notify certain temporary certificated employees of their release from employment, effective June 9, 2017.

E. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Certificated Personnel Actions
2. Approval and Acceptance of Donations
3. Approval of Amendment to the Adopted District Wide Safety and Security Standards
4. Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers
5. Approval of Board Policy 3461 Debt Management
6. Approval of Measure I Contracts (Standing Item)
7. Proclamation: Art IS Education Month - 2017
8. Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300
9. Resolution No. 2016-2017.57 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases
10. Resolution No. 2016-2017.58 Criteria to Determine the Order of Layoff Among

11. Certificated Employees with the Same First Date of Paid Service
12. Resolution No. 2016-2017.61 Intent to Layoff and/or Reduce Classified Employee(s)
13. Resolution No. 2016-2017.60 Authorization to Dispose of Surplus Property

Motion to approve the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

MOTION: Member Dailey

SECONDED: Member Williams

AYES: Members Dailey, Harris, Lym, Williams

NOES: None

MOTION APPROVED

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Season for Non-Violence Daily Reading

Superintendent McPhetridge read the Season for Non-Violence Daily Reading. The word for the day is *Understanding*, and the quote of the day comes to us from Marie Curie: “*Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.*”

2. Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Material Revision to Charter for Academy of Alameda Charter Schools

Academy of Alameda (AOA) is a charter school organization with two schools - Academy of Alameda Middle School and Academy of Alameda Elementary School authorized by the Board. AOA's operations are governed in large measure by its charter, a foundational document approved by the Board as part of the school's most recent renewal process. At the Board's February 14, 2017 meeting, AOA submitted the attached request for a material revision to its charter. The revision seeks to revise the lottery preferences for both schools so that they have a consistent sibling and resident policy.

California charter law requires that the public be given an opportunity to comment on any proposed material charter revisions before the Board takes action. This item meets that requirement. The issue will return for staff recommendation and Board action on March 14, 2017.

Public Hearing opened: 7:54pm

No public comments

Public Hearing closed: 7:54pm

3. Resolution Number 2016-2017.59 Recommendations to Reduce Particular Kinds of Services for the 2017-2018 School Year

Tim Erwin, Chief Human Resources Officer, presented Resolution Number 2016-2017.59 to the Board for action. California Education Code Sections 44949 and 44955 set forth dates and procedures by which the Governing Board must express its intent to reduce and/or discontinue particular kinds of services now being offered by the District. Staff will recommend that services be reduced according to the least senior employee so long as the employee being retained is credentialed and competent to perform the assignment. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give notice to affected certificated employees that their services may not be required for the ensuing school year.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2016-2017.59 Recommendations to Reduce Particular Kinds of Services for the 2017-2018 School Year.

MOTION: Member Dailey

SECONDED: Member Williams

AYES: Members Dailey, Harris, Williams

NOES: None

MOTION APPROVED

4. Special Education Strategic Planning and Timeline

Kirsten Zazo, Chief Student Support Officer, presented the Special Education Strategic Planning and Timeline. Ms. Zazo explained to the Board and audience that the district is putting this plan together because there is new district leadership - Ms. Zazo is new to her role as Chief Student Support Officer as of July 2016, there is an increased focus on the topic of Special Education in the State, and the district received a report from the Financial Crisis Management Assistant Team (FCMAT) in 2015. Due to staffing changes, the district has not had the opportunity to implement the suggestions from the FCMAT report. Some of the key findings and recommendations from the FCMAT Report include the comparison AUSD contributes to Special Education from the General Fund (60% in 2015-16) versus the average amount across the State of California (42% for the same year).

Ms. Zazo outlined steps taken by the district to respond to the State's Key Initiatives and internal reports (including the FCMAT). These steps include but are not limited to: an analysis of transportation costs, an analysis of services currently delivered to each student, an analysis of caseload and staffing ratios aligned to industry standards, implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), development of a plan to coordinate services teams at each school site, development of a draft proposal for designing and implementing Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), and development of a restructuring plan to further blend the work of internal departments (Student Services and Special Education) for the benefit of students.

A Board member asked about the relationship between AUSD and the SELPA. Ms. Zazo stated the SELPA provides professional development and trainings but not budget support. Shariq Khan, Chief Business Officer, stated the last time SELPA went out to bid as a whole on a transportation contract was in 2009-2010. Mr. Khan stated he hopes to do this again.

A Board member asked about the student support guide Ms. Zazo mentioned in her presentation and asked if this guide is online to help parents know where to go to help them receive services. Ms. Zazo stated yes, there is a guide posted online and that there is an internal support system and a support system for parents.

A Board member stated she appreciates Ms. Zazo's work to overhaul the entire Special Education department. The Board member also asked what the timeline is for implementing MTSS district-wide. The Board member stated she was very impressed by the incredible program going on at Lincoln Middle School through Seneca Services and asked if this program was going to be implemented throughout the different grade levels. The Board member asked about the multiple moves many parents have mentioned. Ms. Zazo stated this is one of the things she has been working on. Ms. Zazo stated AUSD families need to build relationships at their schools, and we are not allowing families to do this when we move families every three years.

A Board member asked about providing mental health services and asked Ms. Zazo what her goals were for mental health services. Ms. Zazo stated that currently we contract mental health services through the County. AUSD does an assessment, the County does an assessment, and then the County decides if they are going to provide the services. Ms. Zazo stated mental health supports are so important for all students, not just students with IEPs. Ms. Zazo stated she would like to do better for all students. The Board member stated this plan seems like it will minimize the amount of time students will wait to receive support. Ms. Zazo stated it will minimize the waiting time.

A Board member stated she understands the need to remain mindful of professional development for our teachers.

Ms. Zazo stated she is excited to bring more info in June and January and thanked the community for coming out and having their voice heard.

Public Comment:

Jennifer Howell, AUSD teacher: Ms. Howell echoed the statements of Board members who stated teachers need time to have professional development and trainings.

Jeanette Weisman, AUSD parent: Ms. Weisman shared the need for a Special Education Strategic Plan.

Sean Tisdale, AUSD parent: Mr. Tisdale stated there is currently a procedural booklet that can help parents of children receiving Special Education services. Mr. Tisdale shared it would be in the best interest of AUSD to look into what is already out there for parents instead of reinventing the wheel.

The Board took a recess at 8:41pm so City Staff could address some technical issues.

Board President Gary Lym reconvened the meeting at 8:50pm.

5. College Readiness Block Grant (CRBG) Plan

The College Readiness Block Grant (CRBG) was established by Senate Bill 828 in June 2016 and codified in *Education Code* Section 41580. The CRBG allocates \$200 million for local educational agencies, including county offices of education, school districts, and charter schools (both direct and locally funded) that reported unduplicated pupils in grades nine through twelve during the 2015–16 fiscal year. This item provides an overview of the plan for AUSD’s allocation of \$152,754. These funds must be spent by the end of the 2018-19 fiscal year and primarily support unduplicated student college readiness.

A Board member asked for clarification on what the grade cut off is for the program. Mr. Fong responded a D or better. A Board member asked if AUSD still runs the AVID program. Mr. Fong responded that we do not currently have that program, but schools do run parts of the program internally. Dr. McPhetridge stated the AVID program was extraordinarily expensive to run, and it was counterintuitive to getting students into college because the students only got UC A-G credit for one year of the program. Mr. Fong stated Alameda High’s SMART Period helps to address some of these concerns for students.

Public Hearing opened: 9:00pm

No public comments.

Public Hearing closed: 9:00pm

6. Options for Filling a Vacancy on the Board of Education

With the recent passing of Board Member Henneberry, there is currently a vacant seat on the Board. The Education Code gives the Board two options for filling the vacant seat: calling a special election, or appointing an applicant. The Board must act to fill the seat within 60 days.

Chad Pimentel, General Counsel, gave the Board information on the two options available to them to fill Ms. Henneberry’s vacant seat.

Public Comment:

Bob Kreitz, Community Member: Mr. Kreitz asked the Board to consider appointing a member of the group of people who recently ran for election for the Board in November. Mr. Kreitz suggested the Board look at appointing the 4th place finisher (from the recent Board of Education election).

Brenda Curtis, parent of students at Maya Lin: Ms. Curtis spoke on the topic of Special Education and also spoke about former Board Member Solana Henneberry. Ms. Curtis asked the Board to consider what is best for children in the district when considering the Board vacancy. Ms. Curtis stated she doesn't believe voting population is the same as it was in November and asked the Board to give constituents a voice when filling the vacancy.

Motion to move forward in the process to appoint a member to the Board of Education

MOTION: Member Harris

SECONDED: Member Dailey

AYES: Members Dailey, Harris, Lym, Williams

NOES: None

MOTION APPROVED

7. California School Boards Association (CSBA) 2017 Delegate Assembly Election Vote

The California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly is a vital link to the Association's governance structure. The Delegate Assembly is made up of approximately 270+ delegates who are elected by local board members in 21 geographic regions throughout the state, thus ensuring that the Association reflects the interest of school districts and county offices of education throughout the state.

Sub region 7-B (Alameda County) currently has 4 vacancies. Delegates selected will serve two-year terms from April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2019. The candidates running for delegate assembly are (* denotes incumbent):

- Beatriz Levya-Cutler (Berkeley USD)*
- William McGee (Hayward USD)*
- Diana Prola (San Leandro USD)*
- Nancy Thomas (Newark USD)

Biographical sketches of each Delegate Assembly candidate were provided to the Board.

Motion to approve vote for all four candidates for California Delegate Assembly.

MOTION: Member Harris

SECONDED: Member Dailey

AYES: Members Dailey, Harris, Lym, Williams

NOES: None

MOTION APPROVED

The Board reconvened to closed session at 9:14pm

G. ADJOURNMENT – 10:05pm

The Board of Education meeting was adjourned in honor of former AUSD employee Betty Sanderson, who passed away earlier this month.