

SAN BERNARDINO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Board of Education
Community Room
Board of Education Building
777 North F Street
San Bernardino, California

**MINUTES
ADOPTED
8/9/11**

June 28, 2011

5:30 p.m.

Present: President Danny Tillman; Vice President Barbara Flores; Board Members, Teresa Parra Craig, Judi Penman, Lynda Savage, and Elsa Valdez; Chief Business and Financial Officer Mohammad Islam, Associate Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer Mel Albiso; Assistant Superintendents, Yolanda Ortega, John Peukert, and Harold Vollkommer; Jim Dilday, Interim Assistant Superintendent; and Superintendent's Assistant Phyllis Gronek. Minutes recorded by Administrative Assistant Jennifer Owens.

Absent: Board Member Louise Ayala and Superintendent Arturo Delgado.

SESSION ONE - Opening

1.0 - Opening

1.1 - Call to Order

President Tillman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

1.2 - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

President Tillman moved Session Three forward on the agenda.

SESSION THREE – Administrative Presentation

3.0 - Administrative Presentation

3.1 - Superintendent Search

Dr. Harold Vollkommer, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Student Services Division, presented a list of firms that may be able to provide services to conduct a search for an Interim Superintendent and a Superintendent. Those firms were Leadership Associates, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, The Cosca Group, and Ray and Associates.

Danny Tillman stated that he would like to look through the firms' proposals to conduct a search for an Interim Superintendent and wait to select a firm to conduct the search for a Permanent Superintendent. Mr. Tillman asked Dr. Vollkommer to bring back the names on July 5, 2011.

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Barbara Flores asked about the cost and stated that she did not want to make a decision tonight.

Judi Penman agreed and stated that she wants to decide which questions to ask. The District is fine as is for now. She would like to interview each firm separately and then eliminate firms one by one by voting.

Lynda Savage stated that she would like to see at least three of the firms next week.

Teresa Parra Craig stated that she would not support a firm that doesn't have a corporate office in California. Mrs. Parra Craig recommended having them there on July 5 and the Board can appoint a firm. That firm would then bring their recommendations at the July 19 meeting to select an Interim Superintendent in Closed Session. The Interim would facilitate the search for a Superintendent.

Barbara Flores asked when the Board would generate their questions. Teresa Parra Craig stated that the Board doesn't need to ask questions. The firms will give a presentation. Danny Tillman stated that the Board members would have to ask each firm the same questions. Elsa Valdez stated that July 5 is fine. Dr. Valdez wants Board members to have their own questions and appoint the same firm to conduct both searches. They will have the criteria and it will be a more streamlined process. Dr. Flores agreed with Dr. Valdez. It would be more expedient for the same firm to do both searches.

Teresa Parra Craig recommended moving forward with San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, the Cosca Group, and Leadership Associates to make presentations on July 5.

Ron Fletcher stated that he is a stakeholder in this. Substitute teachers requested that the new Superintendent understand the importance of working with all stakeholders. Mr. Fletcher stated that he doesn't agree with SBTA. This is a business and we need someone from the business side that knows how to be a leader—someone that will take all stakeholders into consideration.

Judi Penman stated that people have been approaching her about who will be appointed. Mrs. Penman asked the community to have faith in this Board. They won't do anything without taking everything into consideration. This is a new beginning. The District will run smoothly in the interim. The next Superintendent will be someone the entire community will select.

Dr. Vollkommer stated that he will invite the three firms to make a five to ten-minute presentation only July 5 for both processes. They will present one at a time and there will be an action item to select a firm.

President Tillman moved Session Four forward on the agenda.

SESSION FOUR - Action

4.0 - Action Item

4.1 - Interim Superintendent and Superintendent

Upon motion by Member Parra Craig, seconded by Member Flores, and approved by the affirmative vote of Members Parra Craig, Flores, Penman, Savage, Tillman, and Valdez (Noes: None), the following was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education appoints Leadership Associates, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, and The Cosca Group to make a presentation at the July 5, 2011 Board meeting for the Board to select a firm to conduct a search for an Interim Superintendent and a Permanent Superintendent.

SESSION TWO – Other Matters Brought by Citizens

2.0 - Other Matters Brought by Citizens

Dr. Sheree Jederberg stated that she was hired by the District as a Director. She has been working on her goals and objectives for three years and the Board demoted her to a Coordinator. Dr. Jederberg asked the Board to reinstate the three directors that were demoted. The positions can be funded with restricted funds. She has created partnerships to increase graduation and college-going rates.

Dr. Jay Fiene, new Dean of Education at California State University San Bernardino, stated that it would be important to move forward on their initiatives. We will lose time if we have to keep turning over partners. Dr. Fiene asked the Board to keep bridges going.

Lynda Savage reported that she serves on the Cal State Education Advisory Board. Dr. Fiene has been the Interim for a year and a half, and he has done a good job. She would hate to see them not be able to continue.

Donald Mitchell, Senior Educational Manager from the College Board, stated that they are supporting District students. He has seen slight increases over the past five years.

Dr. Cynthia Barnett from the University of California Davis reported on the 4H Mentoring Program. She received an \$80,000 grant to provide training to learn life skills. She is collaborating with the District to increase graduation rates and reduce truancy. Judi Penman asked Dr. Barnett what she needs. Dr. Barnett stated that she has had a hard time finding mentors. They need 24 mentors, six at each school working with five students apiece. They will ask for Department of Justice background checks. The only requirement is that they love children. Dr. Barnett stated that if the Director positions aren't reinstated, the program might not

continue and the money would have to be returned. Teresa Parra Craig recommended that Dr. Barnett meet with Jim Dilday and Dr. Eliseo Davalos, new Assistant Superintendent, CIA, to discuss this.

John Wingo, SBTA Vice President, asked the Board to agendaize joining Linked Learning Alliance. Barbara Flores asked how it will benefit the District. Mr. Wingo stated that he is the SBTA liaison to Linked Learning and, if the Board will agendaize it, they will make a presentation. Elsa Valdez stated that the District is listed on the brochure as a member. Dr. Flores recommended we agendaize this and ask for a presentation. Teresa Parra Craig stated that it is appropriate to wait until the new assistant superintendents are here and let them know the Board wants this.

Gil Navarro, San Bernardino County School Board Member, stated that he supports Ron Fletcher. District substitutes are treated like second class teachers. The Rialto school district respects their substitutes. Mr. Navarro reported that he met with Mohammad Islam to discuss the SELPA program. Mr. Navarro stated that he supports Mr. Islam's concern to have a program audit of special education. If a district is running an effective SELPA, you don't need to encroach on the General Fund. Some people aren't doing their jobs effectively. Teresa Parra Craig stated that she has previously asked for this audit. Danny Tillman stated that special education money is being spent on employees. What Mr. Navarro is proposing won't save money.

Hugh Forbes, Pacific High School special education teacher, reported that cuts have been made to the elementary and secondary education departments. They are important departments and Mr. Forbes asked the Board to restore those positions. They are making progress. The credit recovery program is helping with the graduation rates. Mr. Forbes stated that combining elementary and secondary education is not a good idea and asked the Board to trim money from somewhere else.

Elsa Valdez stated that the Governor's budget cuts won't be as bad as we originally thought. Mohammad Islam reported that the state budget should be passed this evening. There will be no further cuts to K-14 education. There could be mid-year cuts. Barbara Flores asked if the District still needed to cut \$25 million. Mr. Islam stated that we do because the special tax was not extended. Dr. Flores asked to see more information after the state budget is passed. Mr. Islam reported that 143 districts in the state are in trouble, but we aren't.

SESSION FIVE – Reports and Comments

5.0 - Report by Board Members

Teresa Parra Craig requested that Superintendent's Assistant Phyllis Gronek be allowed to retire, but remain until the new Superintendent is hired. Mel Albiso stated that this has been taken care of.

SESSION SIX - Closing

6.0 - Adjournment

By the affirmative vote of the members, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education of the San Bernardino City Unified School District will be held on Tuesday, July 5, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Board of Education Building, 777 North F Street, San Bernardino.