

Menlo Park District Council Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 8:53am by Kate Kennedy, District Council President.

MPCSD Revenue Options/Potential Reductions Update — Erik Burmeister & Ahmad Sheikholeslami, with Stacey Jones

Erik Burmeister, MPCSD Asst. Superintendent, spoke about the significance of the MPCSD structural deficit and potential program reductions. Erik is hoping to get the word out through various media venues, i.e., NextDoor, Almanac, etc. The School Board will be engaged over the next week in conversation as a community to discuss the structural deficit. He is hoping to get feedback today prior to October's Community Input Sessions, during which Superintendent Maurice Ghysels will be presenting preliminary budget cuts and asking for public input.

Ahmad Sheikholeslami, MPCSD's Chief Business Officer, invited the group to reach out with any questions. Data is available on OpenGov on the District's website, and includes an interactive financial portal.

Stacey Jones encouraged everyone to attend the Community Input meetings regarding the District's structural deficit being held on October 24 and 25. Hoping to get a variety and depth of opinion from the community at large.

Erik presented an abbreviated version of the slides that will be shown at the October Community Input Sessions, produced by the Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Communications. An outline of his presentation is as follows:

TITLE: RESPONDING TO MPCSD'S STRUCTURAL DEFICIT: Input Session facilitated by Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Communication

Slide 1: The Process

Slide 2: Understanding MPCSD's Structural Deficit Review

Slide 3: What does "Community Funded" mean?

Slide 4: Where does MPCSD get its revenue?

Slide 5: How do we compare to our neighbors?

Slide 6: Where does MPCSD spend its resources?

Slide 7: The Structural Deficit

Slide 8: Three Realities Causing Structural Deficit

End of slides.

During the November 9 regular School Board meeting, staff will submit the findings of the Advisory Committee, including all data and survey results. At the regular School Board meeting on November 30, the Board will announce its decision regarding whether to place a parcel tax measure

on the March ballot, or wait until the newly elected School Board Trustees take their seats on the Board to proceed with any action.

Following the presentation, Stacey and Erik took questions/comments/feedback from the Council.

The final message from Erik and Stacey is to please share dates and times of the October 24th and 25th Community Input Meetings with friends and neighbors. Hoping for a large turnout of voices and opinions.

Joint Campaign Update – Jody Buckley and Calla Griffith

Jody Buckley began by inviting feedback about the recent Joint Campaign. All but one of the schools have made their campaign goals. However, the schools that did make their goals had an approximate 20% drop in campaign donations from last year. Encinal is now in the position of needing to cut approximately \$15K of their programming because they did not make their goal in the PTO Drive.

Jody and Calla again asked for ideas and feedback for how to improve campaign communication.

Approval of September 2016 Minutes

Jody Buckley motioned to approve the minutes from the September 2016 District Council meeting. Kristen Gracia seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Gina Skinner

Gina reported that there was no significant activity this past month. She added a reminder that for any reimbursements, please submit all forms including receipts.

Closing Remarks

Next District Council meeting will be on Friday, Nov. 4, 8:45am; TERC A&B.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31am by Kate Kennedy, District Council President.