



2105 Wardrobe Avenue
Merced, CA 95341
Phone (209) 385-6332



Facilities Services Department
Serving to Support Educational Excellence

Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Meeting

ZOOM Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/9505840527?pwd=VTF0RGJRdGVpc09waEp5L2NhRIRMUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 584 0527

September 15, 2020 4:00 PM

Minutes

I. **Call to order:** By Debbie Furtado at 4:05 PM

II. **Roll call:**

Debbie Furtado	<u>X</u>	Robert Garcia	<u>X</u>
Robin Kuhls	<u>X</u>	Tsia Xiong	<u>X</u>
Kelly Phillips	<u>X</u>	Michelle Symes-Thiara	<u>X</u>

III. **Flag Salute:** Led by Ken Testa

IV. **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion: Robert Garcia **Second:** Kelly Phillips **Vote:** Approved

V. **Approval of Minutes from meeting on March 5, 2020 & Informational Minutes of June 16, 2020:**

Motion: Kelly Phillips **Second:** Robert Garcia **Vote:** Approved

Note: Approval per corrections made to June meeting date listed on both the minutes and agenda.

VI. **Welcome and Introductions: Ken Testa**

Dr. Testa welcomed all, offered introductions, and thanked all members of the committee for their time and attendance.

VII. **Bond Report and Current Projects Updates: Ken Testa**

Dr. Testa updated the members and District personnel of the facilities summer projects and efforts underway to update the District's Facilities Master Plan. Our Board Facilities Subcommittee work is focusing projects on 21st Century classroom technology and modernization of classrooms which are being informed by an equity study of all schools. State funding is coming to our District from past projects per grant funding reimbursements the District has eligibility to obtain. The District is expected to receive approximately \$6.5 Million more from the State by February which will provide funding to accomplish more Measure M projects. Vice Chairperson Robert Garcia asked if there were changes in projects due to distance learning. Dr. Testa explained that there have been site walk-throughs with Principals, architects, and other District personnel. These visits have provided additional opportunity to see online instruction and identify instructional technology (IT) needs in classrooms. Ken thanked IT Director Greg Blount and his department staff for their contributions.

VIII. Quarterly Financial Report: Julio Rodriguez-Rivera

Julio updated the Committee on the Measure M Expenditure Report. Last meeting the Expenditure Report reflected a balance of approximately \$43M. Changes since the last report reflect a nominal reduction in the balance of \$4,087 due to California Department of Education fees for survey/architectural plan review. As of this meeting, the total Measure M expenditures reflect \$43,626,309.87 in projects completed. Julio went over a summary of 2019-20 income and interests received. The total expense amounted to \$4,516,470.96. There is a budgeted expense of \$264,622 but is susceptible to change depending on the project budget estimates at the end of the year. Estimated revenue is projected at \$120,000. The projected fiscal year ending balance is \$4,371,848.96 for future projects. Debbie Furtado asked if expenses for this year were already encumbered or has it already been spent. Julio clarified that it is budgeted, and no money has been spent yet. There were no other comments or questions from Committee members.

IX. Membership

Dr. Testa went over the importance of the Committee's membership. Membership is required by the California Department of Education and Proposition 39. Members of the Committee serve as representatives of all different roles of the community and school district. The Committee validates how bond money is spent. As of this meeting, the Committee consists of only six members. Tuccoa Polk has moved to Southern California and final terms for other members are coming to an end. Tsia Xiong's term ends at the conclusion of the meeting. This meeting will be the last meeting for Michelle Symes-Thiara and Tsia as Committee members. Debbie Furtado, Robert Garcia, Kelly Phillips, and Robin Kuhls represent continuing members of the Committee. Debbie Furtado shared a question on recruitment and whose responsibility it was to recruit new members. Dr. Testa explained that recruitment is a collaborative effort between members of the Committee and the District. Doug Collins asked if social media could be used to push recruitment. Joey Horta is willing to utilize social media, the District website, and Parent Square to help with recruitment. Debbie Furtado mentioned that applicants must fulfill qualifications to fit group needs. Doug Collins suggested reviewing recruitment flyers that Joey Horta can create before distribution. Robert Garcia agreed with the idea. Dr. Testa would like to be as transparent with the Board as possible during this process. Dr. Testa thanked Joey for his attendance and willingness to help with recruitment. Tsia Xiong agreed with the ideas, but also added that he recommends that the Committee look for applicants who are open minded, supportive with goals and committed. Current members could always suggest personal referrals which might draw interest. Doug Collins commented that it is important for the public to know what the Committee does and why it is important. Dr. Testa mentioned that the Committee is required to have no less than seven members. There were no further questions or comments from Committee members.

X. Public Relations

Joey Horta will use social media, the District website, and Parent Square to assist the Committee with member recruitment.

XI. Open Discussion/Questions

Dr. Testa mentioned that the proposed meeting dates for the 2020-2021 school year could not be accepted due to lack of attendance at the June 16, 2020 meeting. The Committee should start thinking about meeting dates for the 2021-2022 meeting dates. Debbie Furtado mentioned that the February 16, 2020 meeting is scheduled during a vacation for the District. Debbie Furtado proposed that the meeting be held on February 9th or 23rd. Doug Collins mentioned that Board meeting fall on both the 9th and the 23rd. Debbie asked if the day could be changed. Dr. Testa added that if all the

group agrees then it can be changed. The Committee decided that the February meeting will be held Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 4:00 PM.

XII. Proposed 2020-2021 Meeting Dates:

09/15/2020 11/17/2020 02/25/2021 05/18/2021

The proposed meeting dates were not listed as an action item on the agenda; therefore, the Committee could not accept the meeting dates. These dates will be added to November's agenda as an action item for the Committee's approval.

XIII. Adjournment:

Tsia Xiong thanked Debbie for Commitment to the committee and serving with him for the past six years. Tsia Xiong thanked everyone for the opportunity to be a part of the Committee. Doug Collins thanked both Tsia Xiong and Michelle Symes-Thiara on behalf of Dr. Rogers for their service. Dr. Testa also thanked all members and wished Tsia Xiong good luck in his new adventure as a Board member.

Motion: Michelle Symes-Thiara **Second:** Kelly Phillips **Time:** 4:51 PM