



OCEAN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT  
17200 Pinehurst Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

**Special Board of Trustees' Meeting  
September 7, 2023; 05:30 PM**

 APPROVED

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Open Session: 5:30 p.m.**

---

**Voting Members**

Patricia Singer, President  
Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Vice President  
Jack Souders, Clerk  
Morgan Westmoreland, Trustee  
Norm Westwell, Trustee

**Administration**

Michael Conroy, Ed.D., Superintendent  
Julianne Hoefler, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
Keith Farrow, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services

**Other**

Joseph Farley, Ed.D., Facilitator, Superintendent's Schools Task Force

---

**A. Call to Order**

The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Patricia Singer.

**B. Roll Call**

Members present: Gina Clayton-Tarvin, Patricia Singer, Morgan Westmoreland, Norm Westwell

Jack Souders arrived at 5:50 p.m.

**C. Agenda Adoption- Special Board of Trustees' Meeting of September 7, 2023**

Approve as submitted.

Motion made by: Gina Clayton-Tarvin

Motion seconded by: Morgan Westmoreland

Voting:

Patricia Singer - Yes

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Absent

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes

Prior to the foregoing vote, a motion was made by Gina Clayton-Tarvin, seconded by Morgan Westmoreland, and carried by the following roll call vote to suspend the rules of debate from the ten-minute limitation per Board member:

Patricia Singer - Yes  
Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes  
Jack Souders - Absent  
Morgan Westmoreland - Yes  
Norm Westwell - Yes

**D. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Singer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**E. Public Comment**

Crystal Mayer, parent, commented on the lack of transparency with regard to documents in the information packet provided to the Board, some of which the Task Force has not seen; expressed concerns with the lack of solutions discussed at the Task Force meetings, parent voices not being heard, and the composition of the Task Force, which is not being led by the community.

Alissa Neito, parent, spoke about the lack of equal opportunities at all school sites for childcare, noting that Westmont does not offer a tuition-based childcare program, and the outside services suggested by the District do not serve transitional kindergarten students.

Robert Espinoza, parent, highlighted facts about student achievement at Circle View School, including high test scores and students exceeding the state standards; talked about the current high enrollment of Circle View, which has over 600 students, as he discussed equality.

Deb Miller-Calvert urged the Board to keep District staff and the Task Force accountable; expressed concern with the Task Force being provided selective data to navigate a desired response.

Ben Blum, parent and Task Force member, spoke regarding the vast amount of time the Task Force spends on receiving data and materials from the District, and how they feel 'spoken to' and not asked for opinions; noted his dismay at the composition of the Task Force; stated the Board should take responsibility if schools need to be closed, and not make the Task Force the scapegoat.

President Singer stated that prior to this meeting, Dr. Conroy had informed her about the new and revised information in the Board packet, which will be shared and discussed at the next Task Force meeting.

**F. New Business**

**1. Information on Declining Enrollment and Low Schools Enrollment (Information)**

Dr. Conroy indicated that the Board receives all information prior to the public, and this meeting is the first opportunity to provide the following materials to the Board that are included in the packet: Enrollment Projections (new); Facilities Narrative (new); Financial Impact of Low School Enrollment (revised); Financial Impact of Low School Enrollment (cont.) (new). These new and revised documents will be shared with the Task Force members at their next meeting; the remaining documents in the packet have already been provided to the Task Force.

Dr. Farley explained that the Task Force has been presented with information documents, as well as additional material requested by Task Force members. In upcoming meetings, the Task Force will begin the process of considering all options to include in their final report to the Board of Trustees.

Assistant Superintendent Keith Farrow shared detailed information provided in the Declining Enrollment and Low Schools Enrollment packet. Areas discussed included: Historic Enrollment Trends and Data; OVSD Enrollment History and Enrollment Projections; Current OVSD Enrollment By Grade; Orange County Register article on declining enrollment in California; the Demographic Overview Presentation done by Davis Demographics and presented to the Task Force on June 21, 2023; Certificates of Participation (COPS); the Measure R Historical Timeline; and the Financial Impact of Low School Enrollment.

The Board discussed various causes and effects of low enrollment; potential options to address this issue in the District; the need to remain transparent and open to hearing the Task Force's upcoming recommendations; the lack of optimism in America and government overreach; the suggestion of providing a syllabus to the Task Force, describing what will take place at each meeting; the need for everyone to hear what will happen if the Board decides to do nothing to address the matter at this time; and concerns with the composition of the Task Force, specifically the lack of parents and the abundance of staff members.

Dr. Conroy clarified the role of staff members at the Task Force meetings. President Singer mentioned that, after watching the meetings online, it appears the Task Force is lacking parent participants because the parents who agreed to be on the Task Force are not attending the meeting. Dr. Conroy stated he would provide the list of all Task Force members in this week's Friday Update to the Board, including their representative capacity.

Dr. Farley stated that he is developing a confidential survey whereby members of the Task Force can share their ideas as a beginning step towards finalizing options. This survey will be provided to the Task Force members at their next meeting. Once the survey is taken, results will be tabulated and shared. This data will be used for talking points as the Task Force discusses what to include in the final report/presentation to the Board. He mentioned that there may be a majority, minority, or alternative options offered, but it is important that the Board hear all recommendations provided by the Task Force.

At this time, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Julianne Hoefler reviewed the packet information regarding School Size Impact on the Educational Experience. She discussed the detrimental effects of having smaller schools at both the elementary and middle school levels, including increased combination classes, fewer elective options, and student inclusion challenges.

President Singer thanked staff for providing the informative packet. She expressed her appreciation to the audience for attending, and to those who shared their views with the Board. Confident that the Board will make decisions that are in the best interests of all students, she is looking forward to studying all possible options to address the issue of declining enrollment and low schools enrollment in the District.

**G. Adjournment**

Time: 7: 15 p.m.

Motion made by: Gina Clayton-Tarvin

Motion seconded by: Jack Souders

Voting:

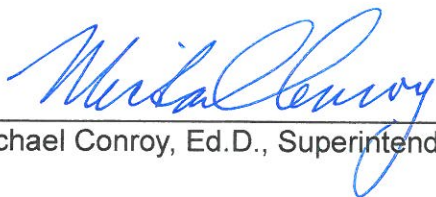
Patricia Singer - Yes

Gina Clayton-Tarvin - Yes

Jack Souders - Yes

Morgan Westmoreland - Yes

Norm Westwell - Yes



\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Conroy, Ed.D., Superintendent



\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Souders, Board Clerk

September 26, 2023  
Date