

RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MEASURE O CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 13, 2021  
4:30 P.M.

Call Meeting to Order:

The Measure O Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee meeting commenced at 4:37 p.m.

Members Present:

Tina Grande-Field, Keith Nelson, Terry Walling, Tom Evans, Lara Martin, Art Alcaraz, Martin De Campo, David Bristow, Bob Garcia, Diane Kwasman

Member Absent:

Sarah Simpson, Marilyn Robinson, Amanda DeLaO

Staff Present:

Sergio San Martin, Ana Gonzalez, Gaby Adame, Eric Walker, Nora Lopez, Alexandria Ojeda, Samir Arreola

Consultants Present:

Tarana Alam from KeyAnalytics; Ruben Duran, legal counsel for the Riverside District School Board

Community Members Present:

None

The Community had the opportunity to comment on items that are not on the agenda.

Community Input

None

**Action Items:**

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2021

Dr. Nelson asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 12, 2021. A motion was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Ms. Martin.

The Community had the opportunity to comment on this item.

Community Input

None

A vote was taken via roll call vote per the Brown Act. The vote was as follows:

Yes: Keith Nelson, Terry Walling, Tom Evans, Art Alcaraz, Tina Grande-Field, Lara Martin, Martin De Campo, David Bristow, Diane Kwasman

Abstain: Bob Garcia

Motion carried.

## 2. Tour of Poly High School Measure O Improvements

Mr. Hanson, school principal took the group on a tour of the school highlighting the improvements paid for by the Measure O Bond funds. He highlighted how the money was actually spent.

Upon returning to the meeting, Keith Nelson asked what the response was from staff, parents, and students. Mr. Hanson said 2 of the staff members cried because they couldn't believe the difference. He said it was fun to watch the students walk around and look at all the changes. Unintentionally, this renovation broke up the segregation that was going on.

David Bristow asked who the contractor was. The contractor is Tilden-Coil. Everyone thanked Mr. Hanson for the tour.

## **Discussion Items**

### 2. Measure O Project Updates

Mr. San Martin summarized the progress being made with the renovation projects as of September 2021.

**Completed Schools:** Highgrove Elementary, Harrison Elementary, Jefferson Elementary and Sierra Middle School, Madison Elementary.

**Projects Under Construction:** Jackson Elementary, Magnolia Elementary is complete, Sunshine Elementary is complete, Adams Elementary is complete and Poly High School Quad is complete.

Also under construction: Arlington High School, Alcott Elementary, Fremont Elementary and Monroe Elementary were started this summer.

**Shovel Ready Schools:** Longfellow Elementary and University Middle School are both ready to be bid on in Spring of 2022. Longfellow Elementary has a budget of 22.2 million and University Middle School has a budget of 7 million.

**Planning Stage:** Casa Blanca: revised budget of \$53 million, starting to work with the design team, anticipate shovel ready Summer 2023, ready for occupancy August 2025. Highgrove II or Spring Mountain Ranch: starting to form design committee. This school is located on 13 acres of land; the average elementary school is ten acres. Budget is 37.5 million. North High School: Budget raised to \$50 million including \$11 million for a HVAC upgrade. Estimated shovel ready in a year to a year and a half. Eastside Neighborhood School: budget is \$62 million, CEQA stage, expect approval the end of the year then the project moves to the design stage. STEM High School: Also, in CEQA stage, anticipate Board approval in 14 months.

The Community had the opportunity to comment on this item.

#### Community Input

None

#### Committee Discussion

Mr. Garcia asked how the Metrolink transportation hub is going to affect the Eastside Neighborhood School. Mr. San Martin said that that is a separate project from the school, and they are going through their CEQA process now as well. When their environmental impact report is released, the district's experts will review it for traffic analysis, noise and emissions and if they find that there is any impact to the school, they will be responding accordingly. He does not know the answer to that question at this time.

Mr. Garcia mentioned that the Casa Blanca School is meeting with the AQMD to have a study done, there is company that has been a concern, so they want a study done.

### 3. Discussion on Procedures for Reporting to the Board of Education

David Bristow brought this topic to the committee because according to the bylaws, the committee cannot have a subcommittee. He is seeking the committee's input on the type and frequency of updates to the Board. The bylaws mandate that the communication must be done by the chairman, so he is suggesting that the chairman send a letter after every one or two meetings highlighting any issues the committee feels the Board should be made aware of.

Mr. Nelson said that after the last annual presentation, the Board said they would like a more frequent communication from the oversight committee. Mr. San Martin suggested that the chairman could give a three-minute update at each Board meeting relating this committees' highlights.

Mr. Evans thought that interesting or unusual items would be good to share with them as opposed to items that are part of the formal process.

This item would have to be a standing agenda item at every meeting, or it cannot be done. It will be decided if the communication will be done in writing or in person.

Mr. Bristow made a motion to make this the regular final agenda item at every COC meeting. Mr. Evans seconded.

A vote was taken via roll call vote per the Brown Act. The vote was as follows:

Yes: Keith Nelson, Terry Walling, Tom Evans, Art Alcaraz, Tina Grande-Field, Lara Martin, Martin De Campo, David Bristow, Diane Kwasman, Bob Garcia

Motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. CBOC Annual Report

The Community had the opportunity to comment on this item.

Community Input

None

Committee Discussion

Mr. Nelson said that he and Mr. Bristow went through the report with staff and feel that all their changes had been made. Ms. Gonzales went through the report section by section. Mr. Nelson requested a motion be made to finalize the report and submit it. Mr. De Campo made the motion; Mr. Walling seconded the motion.

A vote was taken via roll call vote per the Brown Act. The vote was as follows:

Yes: Keith Nelson, Terry Walling, Tom Evans, Art Alcaraz, Tina Grande-Field, Martin De Campo, David Bristow, Diane Kwasman, Bob Garcia

Abstain: Lara Martin

Motion passed.

#### 5. CBOC Upcoming Workshop

Mr. Nelson said that the upcoming workshop is \$39 which will be reimbursed by the district. The meeting is scheduled to be an hour and a half. It addresses lots of the questions this committee has and encouraged everyone to attend.

Mr. San Martin added that the workshop is not just for their committee. It is open to Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, for School Board members, CBOC members and staff. He feels it would be a good opportunity to learn what other committees are doing and the issues they are dealing with.

The Community had the opportunity to comment on this item.

Community Input

None

Committee Discussion

None

6. Neighborhood Schools

Sergio recapped the discussion from the last meeting as to the definition of a neighborhood school. He then referenced a study session held at the November 27, 2017 Board meeting addressing this topic. The benefits of the neighborhood school were thought to be: friendships, sense of community, parental involvement and the quality of the school. It acts as a local community center for the neighborhood.

A poll taken by the American Federation of Teachers showed that 70% of the parents polled wanted a good quality neighborhood school and 80% said they felt the way to give the students a better education was to send them to a neighborhood school.

The Community had the opportunity to comment on this item.

Community Input

None

Committee Discussion

Mr. Nelson asked Mr. San Martin if, as the schools are built where needed, will kids be moved back to the school closest to their home?

Mr. San Martin said yes, they will, though there may be some boundary adjustments to balance enrollment throughout the district.

Mr. Nelson then asked about the students attending the new STEM High School, where will their home school be?

Ms. Kwasman said that at the current STEM Academy, the students that wanted to participate in sports had PE as their last period and went back to their home school to practice and play. They also go to the dances and football games held at those home schools as well.

#### 7. CBOC Expiring Applications

Mr. San Martin again reviewed the procedure to reapply to continue serving on the board. There are 5 members whose terms are up this year: Mr. Garcia, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Walling, Mrs. Grande-Field and Mr. Evans. He told them they should have received a letter by now asking if they would like to continue to serve another term. They need to resubmit an application if they do want to continue, and the Board will decide at their next meeting.

The Community had the opportunity to comment on this item.

#### Community Input

None

#### Committee Discussion

None

#### Next Meeting

Wednesday January 12

The topic was brought up about holding the next meeting at a different school to see the progress there. Ms. Grande-Field suggested Sierra Middle School as they have already toured an elementary and a high school.

Mr. Alcaraz suggested meeting at North High School. Mr. San Martin said that there is no work being done there yet and it may be a year before any construction is begun. They will only be able to see the existing school. It was

decided tentatively to meet at Sierra Middle School next time and North High School at the April meeting.

Mr. San Martin also reminded the committee that at the January meeting new officers will need to be appointed.

#### Committee Members Comments

Mr. Evans commented that Mr. Nelson and the staff had done a good job this term. He has been there four years and most likely will not be returning. He felt that the elimination of clicks at this school due to the construction was interesting and something the School Board would want to hear about. He said that it was a collateral benefit, and it was good that the school management here was trying to keep it from happening again.

Mr. Nelson agreed it was a positive change. It was a lot of money to spend, but there was a little win. Ms. Marin said from her experience, the students have come back more subdued, more introverted. Mr. Nelson thought it would be an interesting topic to survey the educators on whether overall there is change in integration, inclusion and school spirit from pre to post COVID,

Meeting adjourned 6:39 PM.