

SAN YSIDRO SCHOOL DISTRICT
4350 Otay Mesa Road San Ysidro, CA 92173
Phone Number: (619) 428-4476 Fax Number: (619) 428-1505

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956 and Education Code Section 35144, the Special Meeting of the Governing Board was held on Monday, November 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., and conducted its business meeting at the **Education Center, 4350 Otay Mesa Road, San Ysidro, CA 92173.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER Who: President Pallasigue Time: 6:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL by Rosaleah Pallasigue, Board President

Mrs. Rosaleah Pallasigue, President

Mrs. Irene Lopez, Vice-President

Mr. Marcos A. Diaz, Clerk

Mr. Rodolfo Linares, Member

Mr. Antonio Martinez, Member

3. FLAG SALUTE by Rosaleah Pallasigue, Board President

4. PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS ON OPEN SESSION ITEMS

PLEASE SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENT FORMS PRIOR TO START OF MEETING

Per Board Policy #9323, three (3) minutes may be allotted to each speaker and five (5) minutes for organizations to address **all of their items.** If translation services are required, please state that, and an additional one (1) minute will be allotted. **Approach the lectern and give your name and address.**

The public has the opportunity to address the Board on any item appearing on the agenda or not on the agenda. Persons wishing to address the Board are asked to fill out a **Public Comment Form** located at the sign-in area, and submit the completed form to the administrative assistant prior to start of meeting.

Those who have a group concern are encouraged to select a spokesperson to address the Board. A copy of the full agenda is available for view at the Superintendent's Office located at 4350 Otay Mesa Road, San Ysidro, California. Also, at the district website: www.sysdschools.org

Carmen Ordoñez, Parent, 1) Commented that she represents the community and parents. 2) Asked for the Board to bring back Edward Velasquez because he has a lot of experience and served as the County Superintendent. Mentioned that parents and community lost faith in the District Administration and want Mr. Velasquez back to clean up. 3) Commented that she hopes the Board listens to the parents and community and focuses on what's best for the children.

Ana Rios, Parent, 1) Commented that she's lost faith in the District. She's heard many lies from the Smythe Principal. 2) Mentioned that the new Superintendent should be from the outside, care for the children's education and not for power. 3) Commented that her son has been out of school for a month. He will have an expulsion hearing and deserves an opportunity.

Marianna Saponara, Former Administrator, 1) Shared concerns about the District's direction. 2) Mentioned that the community would like a Superintendent from the outside. Commented that Edward Velasquez was brought up by the community to come, fix things and return to his retirement. 3) Mentioned that parents have lost trust in the Board of Education.

Armando Farias, Community Member, 1) Commented that he comes from generational poverty. He was a paletero when he was seven years old because his family needed the money. 2) Mentioned that he was in the eighth grade at SYMS when he came to the United States. He met two teachers that believed in him and saw potential. Because of that, he started believing in himself and became a teacher. 3) Mentioned that every student at the schools he's worked at, reminds him of who he was and the genius they possess. 4) Commented that he is seeking the opportunity to be the District's next leader. He's been in education for seventeen years and worked at some of the lowest performing schools. 5) Mentioned that he worked at Marshall Elementary where they speak over seventeen languages and many of the students came from refugee camps. The school moved forward because of the team of dedicated teachers and classified staff that have put the conditions for every student to succeed just as the other schools that he's been at. 6) Mentioned that San Ysidro is his community. He's not the usual candidate with the longest resume, but he is the one with the biggest commitment, passion and interest to support teachers, the Board and all students. He is seeking the opportunity to interview for the position not as a stepping stone, but to retire from San Ysidro.

Zenaida Rosario, Teacher, 1) Commented that when you lose faith and decide not to move forward, it's hopeless for our children. 2) Mentioned that she's been here for thirty-five years and has seen so much. You can't lose faith over things that happen. 3) Commented that this community doesn't support the return of Mr. Velasquez. His first item on the list was to slash and take away the language of the children. That is the gift that this community is blessed with, many languages. 4) Mentioned that Mr. Velasquez brought his people and out of many qualified candidates for the superintendency, he selected Dr. Fonseca. They knew each other. Mr. Velasquez brought in Think Together, his wife's company, and took thousands of dollars. Commented that Mr. Linares met Mr. Velasquez and brought him. 5) Mentioned that we cannot continue to have a District taken advantage of, made fun of, and manipulated the way it has in the last three years. 6) Commented that many good things have come about. Mr. Macias brought us to financial stability like we've never seen before. He did not deserve what happened to him. 7) Commented that our children deserve better. We cannot continue to offer this kind of education to our children because we keep on having drama. A few people keep calling the media just to talk about the things they feel are negative. 8) Mentioned that the District deserves a qualified Superintendent who cares, has passion to work here and understands what it is to be a teacher and principal. 9) Commented that she just heard a gentleman speak, "el paletero." How many kids would want to say "I want to be like him?" That's what we need; people who understand San Ysidro. 10) Mentioned that the Board needs to stop looking at Mr. Velasquez. He only put us down and took our money. We don't need him or anybody like him in our District. 11) Mentioned that we need a Superintendent and want transparency. We all want to know every step of the way and want to select someone that is here to stay. 12) Mentioned that you value a community, you don't put them down like Mr. Velasquez and Dr. Fonseca, who turned towards the end but it was too late. What we did to Mr. Macias was uncalled for because he truly cared for this community. 13) Commented that she is tired of people calling the media just to talk about the bad things. 14) Mentioned that she represents the community and they don't want Mr. Velasquez back and the teachers don't want Mr. Velasquez back.

Brenda Ramos, Parent, 1) Commented that the Interim Superintendent that left was an excellent person. 2) Mentioned that she's expressed concerns for years about the parking problem at Sunset School to various superintendents and for the first time, Mr. Macias offered a solution right away. Mr. Macias said that he was going to send an architect. Commented that in twelve years, she never met a superintendent that responded to parent concerns and resolved them so quickly like Mr. Macias. 3) Mentioned that Mr. Macias met with Sunset parents and they expressed their concerns about not keeping the front gate closed, not having an intercom or cameras. Mr. Macias had a camera installed within a couple of weeks. 4) Commented that no superintendent has ever taken the time to listen and work closely with parents like Mr. Macias did. 5) Mentioned that Mr. Macias was going to try to expand Dual Language. This opens opportunities for the children everywhere. 6) Commented that Mr. Macias is an intelligent and capable person. She hopes he is innocent, but doesn't know if he has the opportunity to return. If she saw him, she would tell him to forget about everything and do it for the children because she knows he is capable.

Guadalupe Gonzalez, Board Member of SDCOE, 1) Commented that she's here to personally and professionally support the SYSD during this challenging time. 2) Mentioned that the SDCOE is being expertly administered by Dr. Paul Gothold. Mentioned that the County is committed to provide all of their resources and expertise to assist the District. She urged the Board to consider resources that are available before selecting an Interim Superintendent. She will also support any decision the Board makes. 3) Commented that she is here to provide any support needed and she is speaking on behalf of the SDCOE Board and Dr. Paul Gothold.

Araceli Enriquez, Parent, 1) Commented that she represents her daughter. She's heard rumors that Mrs. Colom was going to be in charge but she disagrees. 2) Mentioned that Mrs. Colom put her daughter at risk who has asthma along with Mr. Tapia, Dr. Fonseca and the District nurse. 3) Commented that she disagrees with any internal candidate who knows the ins and outs. 4) Mentioned that some Smythe School teachers have been there over thirty years and haven't moved up, some teachers have hit the students and yet, they give their opinions about the previous superintendents that are the same as them. She told principals and nothing was done. 5) Commented that if you are going to place somebody, place somebody that is

going to clean up all the mess. She is a parent volunteer and has seen a lot. She brought letters to the District and nothing has been done.

5. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

5.1 CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT SANCHEZ-MACIAS' LETTER OF RESIGNATION

The Board considered and approved Interim Superintendent Sanchez-Macias' letter of resignation.

Motion: Martinez Second: Diaz Vote: Unanimous

5.2 INTERVIEW OF CANDIDATES FOR INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT POSITION

The Board discussed and interviewed candidates (Art Revueltas, Dr. Mary L. Willis and Armando Farias) for the Interim Superintendent position. Each candidate was allotted up to thirty (30) minutes before the Board. After all candidates were interviewed, the Board adjourned to closed session for deliberations. After deliberating in closed session, the Board reconvened to open session to discuss and vote regarding the appointment of an Interim Superintendent.

President Pallasigue reviewed procedures for the Interim Superintendent candidate interviews.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

None at this time.

Member Martinez made a motion to recess to Closed Session, seconded by Clerk Diaz. The vote was unanimous.

7. GOVERNING BOARD – RECESSED to CLOSED SESSION at 8:04 p.m. in accordance with section 54954.5 regarding:

7.1 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT

Title: Interim Superintendent

RECONVENED into OPEN SESSION at 9:26 p.m. to take action on items discussed in closed session, or to make disclosures of action taken in closed session, if any, as required by Government Code section 54957.7 and section 54957.1.

ROLL CALL by Rosaleah Pallasigue, Board President

- Mrs. Rosaleah Pallasigue, President
- Mrs. Irene Lopez, Vice-President
- Mr. Marcos A. Diaz, Clerk
- Mr. Rodolfo Linares, Member
- Mr. Antonio Martinez, Member

8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Clerk Diaz made the motion to appoint Dr. Mary L. Willis as Interim Superintendent, seconded by Member Linares.

Motion: Diaz Second: Linares Vote: 4 Ayes – 1 No (Pallasigue)

Clerk Diaz made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by President Pallasigue. The vote was unanimous.

9. ADJOURNMENT Time: 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary L. Willis, Ed.D., Secretary
Governing Board