

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
LA MESA-SPRING VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING: February 1, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. at the Education Service Center by the President, Mr. Winet.

The President led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Board members present: Baber, Duff, Halgren, Turner, Winet

Board members absent: None

Staff members present on assignment: Bender, Marshall, Martinez, Yoshihara, Walker

AGENDA

It was moved by Halgren, seconded by Duff, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

Copy of the Budget Study Committee Recommendations PowerPoint

HEARING SESSION

Cheryl Craig, 6th-grade teacher, La Presa Middle School, expressed concern with 6th-grade moving to the elementary schools and spoke of the benefits of a middle school math program.

Jennifer Bradford, 6th-grade teacher, La Presa Middle School, expressed concern about moving 6th grade to the elementary schools and the fact that it cannot be easily restored.

Paul Schnaubelt, President, Teachers Association, shared that, due to the state budget crisis, the associations have provided \$2.2 million to the District from the Opt-Out fund (Fund 17) and will give another \$1.1 million this year. He urged the Board to adopt enough of the proposal to ensure the livelihood of the staff.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

The President introduced Budget Study Committee members. Background was given on the national and state outlook, highlights from the Governor's Budget and how it affects La Mesa-Spring Valley, and defining the core program. Previously, the Budget Study Committee approached the problem by trimming existing programs. A subcommittee was formed to create a model of a core/base program designed to set the base level going forward and increase efficiency throughout the system.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

AGENDA

Approved as presented

COMMUNICATIONS

Budget Comm. PowerPoint

HEARING

C. Craig, teacher, LPMS
Moving 6th grade

Jennifer Bradford,
teacher, LPMS
Moving 6th grade

P. Schnaubelt, President,
Teachers Association
Budget Study Committee
Recommendations

REPORTS

Budget Study Committee
Recommendations

The proposed core program included: elementary class size returning to pre-CSR levels; Principals and School Office Managers at non-Title I schools to be 80 percent; 5-hour Health Technician; reconfigure structure of libraries; a K-6 configuration; Grounds staff down to minimal rotation; Maintenance to focus on safety, instructional necessity and critical repairs; custodial reduced to cleaning only, teaming for evening staff and summer levels reduced; no non-mandated transportation; warehouse to be reorganized and funding mechanisms for warehouse and transportation to be maximized; maximize direct charges to Child Nutrition and Extended School Services; ESS to restructure service model; generate revenue via leasing at Ed Center; restructure Instructional Technology/Media Services and Information Systems into single department; restructure Purchasing and Print Shop; reduce non-mandated testing and support staff associated with assessment; elimination of Home School or reconfigure to Independent Study Charter; investigate health care options; investigate K-8 site at Kempton/La Presa Middle School; and continue 175-day instructional calendar, work days/furloughs, and brown-out/black-out periods.

Budget Study Committee
Recommendations (cont.)

The goal was to minimize impact to student learning. It was noted that many recommendations are still subject to bargaining. David Yoshihara, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, presented the Budget Study Committee Recommendations and responded to clarifying questions.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Miriam Rafferty, Reporter, East County Magazine, expressed a suggestion regarding rotating 6th graders.

Christina Hicks, parent and Mt. Helix Council PTA President, stated the District has a great group of teachers and, on behalf of parents, thanked them for everything they do for children.

Jay Steiger, member of the Budget Study Committee, expressed his appreciation to teachers, staff and administration. He encouraged stakeholders to contact their legislators in Sacramento.

Cynthia Bishop, is a 10-year teacher who will be receiving a pink slip. She noted that four people most removed from the classroom are making the most money and urged the Board to get to the bare bones minimum.

Carrie Wood, teacher and parent of students at Parkway Middle School, expressed disappointment there will be no 6th-grade camp and noted that if 6th grade is moved to elementary, there would be no electives, such as Spanish.

Lori Phillips, Paraprofessional, Rancho Elementary School, expressed disappointment that she was planning to go back to school and become a teacher, but will now need to reevaluate her decision.

Emily Fleming, teacher, La Presa Middle School, expressed concern that, after 7 years, she will receive a layoff notice and noted that temporary teachers are not mentioned as part of the layoff group.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

M. Rafferty, EC Magazine
6th grade move

C. Hicks, parent, Mt. Helix
Council PTA President
Commended teachers

J. Steiger, BSC Member
Contacting Sacramento

C. Bishop, teacher
Budget crisis

C. Wood, parent, PKMS
Budget crisis

L. Phillips, Paraprof., RAN
Budget crisis

E. Fleming, teacher, PKMS
Budget crisis

An unidentified classroom parent and PTA member stated that she volunteers full time, as there are not enough teachers. She noted that it is important to inform parents of the District's budget crisis.	Classroom parent/volunteer Budget crisis
Bill Rose, retired teacher, Spokane area, questioned the Superintendent regarding classified deadlines.	B. Rose, retired teacher Classified deadlines
Lori Wilcox, teacher, Highlands Elementary School, expressed concern if she were to receive another pay cut.	L. Wilcox, teacher, Highlands Budget crisis
Annette Anderson, a 10-year employee, noted that behind every smooth-running school is an office of hard-working classified employees.	A. Anderson, classif. employee Budget crisis
Janet Coover, Counselor, noted that counselors who were hired in 1987 will be receiving layoff notices and expressed appreciation that counselors were included in the core program.	J. Coover, Counselor Budget crisis
Pam Burns announced this is her second year at Home School. Although these students do not fit into a regular classroom, they are extraordinary children and she encouraged the Board to streamline this program in order to keep it.	P. Burns, teacher, Home School Home School program
Patricia Buckley, Library Media Technician and parent of students at Murdock Elementary School, expressed the importance of school libraries at elementary schools.	P. Buckley, Library Media Tech/parent, MUR Importance of libraries
Cindy Vitas, teacher, La Mesa Middle School, expressed the hope, if 6 th grade moves to the elementary level, that the core program and PLCs developed at the middle school will not be dismantled.	C. Vitas, teacher, LMMS Middle school core program
Jerry Lecko, community parent and current Chair of CBOC, encouraged the Board, Teachers Association and District Advisory Council to reach out to the community, possibly joining with other districts, to educate parents of the needs of the District.	J. Lecko, Chair, CBOC Community awareness
Lori Powell, teacher, La Mesa Middle School, expressed the belief that teachers are meeting the needs of children better in the middle school environment.	L. Powell, teacher, LMMS Meeting needs of children
Debbie Crouse, teacher at K-1 for 29 years, expressed the opinion that children haven't noticed there is anything wrong because of the dedication of the teachers.	D. Crouse, teacher, MUR Budget crisis
Sue Youngflesh, School Office Manager, Parkway Middle School, invited the Board to a middle school to see the 6 th -grade curriculum in action before they make any decision to cut programs such as extracurricular or physical education.	S. Youngflesh, SOM, PKMS 6 th grade curriculum
Janet Coover, Counselor, La Mesa Middle School, stated she has seen the programs at three of our middle schools and knows there are great transitional programs in place for 6 th graders. She suggested the Board read, <i>Caught in the Middle</i> , which provides data that supports having 6 th graders in middle school is the right thing to do for children.	J. Coover, Counselor, LMMS Middle school transition pgms.

Brenda Keagy, School Office Manager, La Mesa Middle School, expressed the hope that the Board will consider the needs of Principals and School Office Managers who may be reduced to 80 percent. Classified members do not receive any extra support, such as volunteers, to do their jobs.

B. Keagy, SOM, LMMS
Reduction of Principals and
School Office Managers

The President thanked those for their participation and asked the associations for their perspective on the presentation.

Anna Bongard, President, CSEA Chapter 419, stated the difficult goal was to come up with a plan that would allow a child to learn without a lot of money.

A. Bongard, Pres., CSEA
Goal of Budget Study
Committee

Paul Schnaubelt, President, Teachers Association, explained the question asked was how to follow the learning and that this was an opportunity to reinvent ourselves. He further stated there was no reason why those furthest from the classroom made the most money and proposed principals receive teacher pay plus 20 percent.

P. Schnaubelt, Pres., Teachers
Association
Process of Budget Study
Committee

The Superintendent stated that, although the process was difficult, he is proud our District has come up with program modifications in a way that allows everyone to express their concerns and is respectful of each other. He further stated this open forum allows the Board to gauge their constituents and staff.

B. Marshall, Superintendent
Respectful process

The Board expressed their appreciation to the Budget Study Committee for their work and to everyone who contributes to the education of children. They also thanked staff and parents for understanding the difficult decisions they need to make.

Board appreciation

The President added that 90 percent of the funds we have are compensation and benefits; therefore, the only way to obtain cuts is through either staff cuts or salary and benefit cuts. Our greatest resource is our people and our District and leaders have led by example, noting the Superintendent has taken the greatest salary decrease of any superintendent in the county. Decisions of the Board need to be made quickly, allowing people to make other plans if they need to.

President comments

At 6:20 p.m. the President adjourned the meeting until the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. this evening.

Brian Marshall, Secretary to the Board of Education

Approved and ordered into the proceedings of the District at the next regular meeting of the Board of Education to be held February 15, 2011.

Bob Duff, Clerk of the Board of Education

