

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
LA MESA-SPRING VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING: February 15, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 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

It was moved by Halgren, seconded by Duff, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the special meeting of February 1, 2011 and the regular meeting of February 1, 2011, as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters from Del Mar Union and Ramona Unified School Districts supporting candidates for the CSBA Region 17 Delegate Assembly

Information packet regarding the 2011 CSBA Delegate Assembly election

Letters of concern from parents of Sweetwater Springs and Maryland Avenue elementary Schools regarding proposed budget cuts

Memo to Karen Walker, Assistant Superintendent, Learning Support, from Janice Gilmore-See, District Librarian, regarding School Library restructuring

AGENDA

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

HEARING SESSION

The President announced a hearing for anyone who wished to address the Board on any topic relating to public education. There being no one wishing to address the Board, the session was closed.

REPORT/DISCUSSION OF OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

The Superintendent announced that in December 2010/January 2011 the Budget Study Committee commissioned a subcommittee comprised of two Board members, presidents of our two labor associations, and the Superintendent. This subcommittee was to determine what a bare

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

MINUTES

2/1/11 – special/2/1/11 – regular
Approved

COMMUNICATIONS

Del Mar Union/
Ramona Unified SD
Supporting CSBA Delegate
Assembly candidates

2011 CSBA Delegate Assembly

Letters from SWS and MAA
parents re budget cuts

K. Walker, Asst. Supt.,
regarding school library
restructuring

AGENDA

Approved as presented

HEARING

REPORT

Board Discussion re Definition
of District Core Program

minimum program needs to look like in these difficult financial times. This program was then reviewed by the Budget Study Committee, a group including two parents, two members from both labor associations, two Board members and management representatives. On February 1, 2011 the proposed core program was reviewed with the Board at a special budget study session and on February 8, 2011 the proposal was reviewed with the District Advisory Committee, a parent group consisting of one or two parents from every school. The Superintendent separately provided the Board with the State Legislative Analyst's opinion, noting that additional cuts to the proposed core program would be necessary if a special election is not held.

HEARING SESSION (cont.)

HEARING (cont.)

The President announced a hearing for anyone who wished to address the Board on any topic relating to definition of the core program.

Brandie Keaveny, art teacher, Parkway Middle School, expressed the importance of art in the classroom.

B. Keaveny, teacher, PKMS
Art program

Paul Nowak, Warehouse Worker/Delivery Driver, stated he submitted a card not knowing if Dave Martinosky was present, stating Dave will speak on his behalf at a later time.

P. Nowak, Warehouse Worker/
Delivery Driver

Stephanie Payaov spoke in support of maintaining art classes. She further stated she was in support of the K-6 model.

S. Payaov
Art program/K-6 model

Chris Swanson, Labor Relations representative, California School Employees Association, spoke in support of classified employees and the work they do to support the schools.

C. Swanson, Labor rep, CSEA
Supporting classified
employees

Stephanie Choularton, teacher, Highlands Elementary School, provided the Board with research materials on the positive effects lower class sizes have on student achievement.

S. Choularton, teacher, HIG
Class-size reduction

Jay Steiger, parent/Vice President, Legislation, Mt. Helix Council PTA, informed the Board that PTA supports a special election and encouraged the Board to consider adopting the California School Boards Association resolution of support for a special election.

J. Steiger, parent, PTA rep
Special election

Sue Youngflesh, School Office Manager (SOM), Parkway Middle School, spoke in support of not reducing SOMs which would risk student safety and loss of Annual Daily Attendance (ADA) funds. Ms. Youngflesh referred to an earlier e-mail she sent to the Board and read the following into the record:

S. Youngflesh, SOM, PKMS
Budget cuts

Dear School Board Members,

Just a follow-up to the e-mail I sent this morning. I wanted to include some additional information regarding the workload of counselors and administrators at middle schools that effects safety, mandates, and education.

***Safety Concerns:** All three counselors, as well as our Principal and Vice Principal supervise 60-90 minutes of lunchtime every day for the safety of our students. Counselors and Admin make home visits in the interest of child safety. Counselors refer students and their families to community resources including Health Start and Homeless and Foster Youth*

Liaison. Counselors are often the first to know if a family needs food, clothing, or shelter and find the resources to help, including accessing Children's Fund money or other community resources.

Mandatory Concerns: *Counselors, Principal, and Vice Principal prepare the information packet for the School Attendance Review Team and School Attendance Review Board meetings, as well as coordinate 504 meetings and attend Individualized Education Plan and Manifestation Determination meetings. Counselors can also be the Admin Designee at such meetings. Additionally, Counselors coordinate and attend articulation meetings from elementary to middle school and from middle school to high school.*

Educational Concerns: *Every Counselor has contact with every middle school student regarding promotion requirements, high school and college information, and are highly involved in increasing the rate of successful promotion from 8th grade. Counselors initiate the Student Study Team process which addresses both academic and behavioral concerns, as well as attendance issues. Counselors review each and every new student's cum folder and often discover Special Education and 504 compliance concerns.*

Situations:

- *Recently a Counselor and VP initiated a home visit to check on a student's safety, as well as to secure contact information. The home visit led to a referral to CPS and the child being removed from the home.*
- *Last week a 6th-grade Special Ed homeless student was returned by the bus because the parent gave us an invalid home address. The Counselor contacted CPS, as well as the LMPD liaison officer, and secured a safe placement for the child who had been abandoned.*
- *Any given day in the office can result in a multitude of issues occurring at the same time such as a student needing to be removed from a classroom for discipline reasons, a backpack needing to be searched immediately, an upset parent insisting to meet with an Administrator, a truant student from class, and the Health Tech needed on the field with a wheelchair for an injured student.*

We are all dedicated to serving children and families, promoting school and student safety, and completing our work even when it often means arriving early or staying late.

Solutions: *Instead of cutting people and programs, which are the hardest to restore and may not ever return, can we do part programs, part people, and a percentage-salary cut across the board with salaries being the easiest to restore later? The "bare bones" plan is cutting off too many limbs for survival.*

Thanks for reading,

Sue Youngflesh, Office Manager at Parkway

Barbara Pratt, Health Technician spoke in support of no reductions to Health Technicians, stating student safety will be compromised.

B. Pratt, Health Tech
Budget cuts

Linda Martinez, School Office Manager, Avondale Elementary School, spoke in support of no reductions to Principals, School Office Managers and Health Technicians at certain schools, stating that student safety, quality, efficiency and service to the community will be affected.

L. Martinez, SOM, AVO
Budget cuts

Tonya Lehman, parent of students at La Mesa Dale Elementary and La Mesa Middle Schools, expressed disappointment that a flyer being distributed to parents by LMMS PTA regarding this evening's meeting was recalled.

T. Lehman, parent, LMD/LMM
PTA flyer

Dave Martinosky, Lead Storekeeper, stated reduction in warehouse services will impact school sites and ability to efficiently receive, store and track deliveries.

D. Martinosky,
Lead Storekeeper
Budget cuts

Danny Bradley, Lead Groundskeeper, expressed that grounds workers, in addition to mowing and trimming, also maintain pest control, storm drains, irrigation, and are usually the first to respond to safety issues, i.e. property damage. He encouraged the Board to understand their positions prior to considering eliminations.

D. Bradley,
Lead Groundskeeper
Budget cuts

Lisa Watkins-Bridges, parent, La Mesa Middle School, requested the Board reconsider staffing cuts at middle schools.

L. Watkins-Bridges,
parent, LMMS
Budget cuts

Patricia Buckley, District parent and Library Media Tech at La Mesa Dale Elementary, spoke in support of 6th grade at elementary. She further stated that reading groups, interventions and instructional support by Library Media Techs should be components of the core academic program.

P. Buckley, parent/LMD
Budget cuts

Janice Gilmore-See, District Librarian, stated that the ratio at which libraries are staffed, and number, age and cost to provide books all impact student learning.

J. Gilmore-See,
District Librarian
Budget cuts

Cheryl Neubecker, Library Media Tech, Rolando Elementary, spoke in support of maintaining library services.

C. Neubecker, LMT
Budget cuts

Kary Morris Root, District parent and Library Media Tech at Avondale Elementary School, spoke in support of maintaining library services.

K. Morris Root, parent/LMT
Budget cuts

Kristi Moorhead, a classified employee in Media Services, spoke in support of maintaining library services and shared that a new textbook manager system is saving the District money; however, it needs someone to oversee the program.

K. Moorhead, Media Services
Budget cuts

Franki Corless, Library Media Tech, La Presa Elementary School, stated Library Media Techs receive, handle and process materials to ensure all students have access to core materials in compliance with the Williams settlement.

F. Corless, LMT, LPE
Budget cuts

Madelyn Nunez, parent/PTA President/Library Media Tech, Loma Elementary School, shared that the library assists classrooms in supporting the core program.

M. Nunez, parent/PTA Pres
Budget cuts

Julie Juare, an employee at a Title I school, spoke in support of school libraries, which also provide computer access to neighborhood parents.

J. Juare, District employee
Budget cuts

Mari Koudi, parent, Loma Elementary School, spoke in support of library services and not reducing Principals, School Office Managers and Health Techs due to safety concerns.

M. Koudi, parent, LOM
Budget cuts

Susan Quagliato, parent & PTA President, Loma Elementary School, spoke in support of not reducing Principals and School Office Managers because of safety issues.

S. Quagliato, parent/
PTA President, LOM
Budget cuts

Shirel Crawford, parent & PTA Vice President, Loma Elementary School, spoke in support of maintaining library and custodial services.

S. Crawford, parent/
PTA VP, LOM
Budget cuts

Rhona Moore, parent, Parkway Middle School, urged the Board to consider safety on campuses when making decisions. She additionally expressed the importance of counselors at middle schools.

R. Moore, parent, PKMS
Budget cuts

Paul Schnaubelt, President, LMSV Teachers Association, urged the Board to adopt the plan in front of them and that the current 4.5% salary cuts not be reduced any further.

P. Schnaubelt, President,
Teachers Association
Core program

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

The President provided each Board member an opportunity to speak.

Approval of District
Core Program

Member Duff stated he has read every letter that he received. An example of the many challenges before the Board is, because of the recommendations, how to deal with transportation if 6th grade moves to elementary.

Member Turner agreed the Board has many difficult choices to make. She stated the bottom line is children and acknowledged any decision she makes may negatively impact adults; however, she is making decisions for the benefit of children.

Member Halgren stated this is one of the most difficult decisions any school board has to make and realizes that many have already sacrificed to benefit children. She additionally stated her main concern is safety and providing the best educational resources available to our students.

President Winet stated a few years ago LMSV was the first district in the state where every employee took a cut of equal value. Unfortunately, 90% of the revenue we have goes to employee benefits and salaries, and the District doesn't have anywhere else to go in order to provide a solvent system. Moving to a core program is a difficult and painful process.

Member Baber stated he had been working on a motion with the goal of fiscal solvency and containing the principles of a zero-based budget, providing certainty, increasing efficiency, and using this as an opportunity for us to reinvent ourselves.

It was moved by Baber to define the core program as follows:

Elementary School:

- 1) Class size in grades K-3 as the legal maximum* - yes
- 2) Grade configuration for elementary school to be kindergarten-6th grade (preschool-6th grade at elementary schools currently hosting preschool) – yes
- 3) School Principal – Yes, 100% at all schools
- 4) 80% principal at non-Title I schools with projected enrollment less than 600 students (SWS, NOR, LOMA, MAA) – No
- 5) 8-hour School Office Manager – Yes, 100% at all schools

- 6) 80% School Office Manager at non-Title I schools with projected enrollment less than 600 students (SWS, NOR, LOMA, MAA)* - No
- 7) 5-hour Health Technician (office health support)* - Change to 6 hours at all schools
- 8) Reconfigure school library structure for savings* - No change from current year staffing

Middle School:

- 9) Principal – Yes
- 10) Grade configuration of 7-8 – Yes
- 11) 8-hour School Office Manager – Yes
- 12) 6-hour Health Technician* - Yes
- 13) 4-hour Library Media Technician* - No change from current staffing
- 14) 1 counselor – Yes
- 15) 1 Counseling Office Support – Yes
- 15.1) Add 100% Deans or Vice Principals at all middle schools

Item 15.1 added to motion

Maintenance, Operations & Facilities:

- 16) Grounds maintenance down to a minimal rotation for a 36% savings* - Yes
- 17) Maintenance focus on safety, instructional necessity and critical repairs for a 23% savings* - Yes
- 18) Custodial services reduced for a 35% savings* - Yes

Transportation & Warehousing:

- 19) Eliminate all non-mandated elementary transportation* - No, leave at status quo
- 20) Reorganize warehouse for a 50% savings* - Yes

Child Nutrition Services & Extended School Services:

- 21) Maximize direct charge to Child Nutrition and Extended School Services Departments for savings to general fund – Yes
- 22) Reorganize Extended School Services service model for a 10% savings* -- Yes
- 23) Move accounting functions of Extended School Services to Fiscal Services for greater efficiency and cost savings of 35%* - Yes

Education Service Center

- 24) Lease space at Education Service Center building – No
- 25) Restructure/Combine Information Systems and Instructional Technology Media Services Departments into one department for greater efficiency and cost savings of 10%* - Yes
- 26) Restructure Purchasing and Print Shop for greater efficiency and a cost savings of 30%* - Yes
- 27) Restructure Assistant Superintendents – No
- 28) Reduce non-mandated testing and support staff – As much as possible

Other Programs & Considerations

- 29) Investigate Home School program for greater efficiency and cost savings including the potential of an Independent Study Charter School* - Yes
- 30) Investigate health insurance options (to be done by the District Insurance Committee)* - Yes
- 31) Investigate formation of a kindergarten-8th-grade school at the current sites of Kempton Elementary and La Presa Middle Schools (18-month timeline) Yes

Added 32) If K-6 model passes, Member Baber would like to see a report within six months on how it would change the 6th-grade curriculum.

Item 32 added to motion

Member Halgren seconded the motion suggesting a modification to the motion for items 7) 5-hour elementary Health Technician and 12) 6-hour middle school Health Technician, recommending no change to these classifications from the current staffing.

Motion modified

Member Baber concurred with Member Halgren's modification to his motion.

The Superintendent explained that, while other districts have closed libraries and eliminated transportation, LMSV has used reserves to continue to provide a quality education for our children.

Member Baber added Item 33 to clarify there would be a status quo on management salary, as management has taken salary cuts in the past.

Item 33 added to motion

There was discussion regarding cash flow, the fact that our revenue is being deferred 33% from year to year, and the importance of remaining above the legal requirement of 3% reserves.

Member Baber added Item 34 to the motion requesting a goal to increase reserves during a 2-3 year period in order to cover one month of payroll, believing this should be part of the core program. Member Halgren concurred.

Item 34 added to motion

Regarding item 15.1, the Superintendent suggested the motion clarify that, in moving to a K-6 model, 100% Deans be employed at the middle schools, and also serve as ASB Advisors.

There was discussion regarding allowing flexibility at the middle schools to determine how to structure staff such as Deans, Vice Principals and Counselors. The Superintendent stated it may become an issue of what we want to have vs. what the core program is and encouraged the Board to determine what we need as part of the core program, additionally noting that Vice Principals are more costly to the program than Deans.

Member Baber amended the motion to add 100% Deans at all middle schools who will also serve as ASB Advisors.

Motion amended

President Winet noted the items on the list with an asterisk meant those items that are bargainable.

The President called for the vote, which was approved unanimously, as amended.

**Approval of District
Core Program**
Approved as amended

At 9:20 p.m. the President called for a recess.

At 9:30 the meeting was reconvened. It was noted Member Baber was not in attendance.

It was moved by Halgren, seconded by Turner, and carried unanimously to approve a Reimbursement Agreement between the San Diego County Superintendent of Schools and La Mesa-Spring Valley School District to Fund Excess Costs for Mental Health Services.

Reimbursement Agrmt. with SDCOE for mental health services
Approved

It was moved by Turner, seconded by Duff, and carried unanimously (with Baber absent) to elect Board member Penny Halgren as a representative to the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly, Region 17.

CSBA Delegate Assembly
Elected Penny Halgren

It was moved by Halgren, seconded by Turner, and carried unanimously (with Baber absent) to approve the following:

Consent Calendar
Approved

Purchase Orders E22089 through E22209 totaling \$181,883.52

Purchase Orders

Warrants January 20, 2011 through January 31, 2011 totaling \$593,599.38

Warrants

Expenditures in the amount of \$2577.20

Revolving Cash Fund
Reimbursements from the
General Fund

Award of Bid to Restore Roof at La Mesa-Spring Valley School District's Operations Center

Bid to restore roof at
Operations Center

Award of Bid for Special Education Play Area at Fletcher Hills Elementary School

Bid for Special Education play
area at FLH

Award of Contract for Purchase, Installation, and Maintenance of a Website and Community/Content Management System

Contract for Website/Comm./
Content Mgmt. System

Termination of Resident Security Agreement

Resident Security Agrmt.

Acceptance of SB 564 Financial Disclosure

SB 564 Financial Disclosure

It was moved by Duff, seconded by Halgren, and carried unanimously (with Baber absent) to authorize staff to conduct student excursion – Spring Valley Middle School Choir (Disneyland)

**Student excursion –
SVMS Choir**
Authorized

It was moved by Duff, seconded by Turner, and carried unanimously (with Baber absent) to authorize staff to conduct student excursion – Spring Valley Middle School Band (San Diego State University).

**Student excursion –
SVMS Band**
Authorized

HUMAN RESOURCES RECOMMENDATIONS

It was moved by Halgren, seconded by Duff, and carried unanimously (with Baber absent) to approve standard Human Resources recommendations as amended to include six additional Lecturer/Presenter and/or Short-Term Employment forms.

**Human Resources
Recommendations**
Approved as amended

It was moved by Halgren, seconded by Turner, and carried unanimously (with Baber absent) to adopt Resolution 10-11-12, Elimination and/or Reduction of Classified Positions.

**Res. 12, Elimination
and/or Reduction of
Classified Positions**
Adopted

ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD

The Superintendent announced he attended a “Build Day” at the Spring Valley Elementary School site at 8:00 a.m. this morning. The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, in coordination with KaBoom, a national non-profit dedicated to saving play for America's children, constructed a playground, tot lot, and obstacle course, which was completed in one day. He stated this is an example of what a community can do when it comes together.

The Superintendent noted that Supervisor Dianne Jacob also attended this event and offered \$150,000 to grass the upper field at the Spring Valley Elementary site.

Member Baber stated that Barbara Warner, Coordinator, Spring Valley Youth and Family Coalition, participated in the ribbon cutting for the Spring Valley Elementary play area. Ms. Warner played an important role in gaining the playground and fitness park at the SVE site and noted the site was the “heartbeat of Spring Valley.”

The Superintendent additionally noted a Farmers Market would be located at the SVE site next week, and a community garden has been established along Bancroft Drive. He stated that this has been a revitalization of a campus and thanked the Board for embracing a vision of possibility.

At 9:40 p.m. the President announced a recess.

CLOSED SESSION

At 9:50 p.m. the President called for a closed session to discuss negotiations update – LMSV Teachers Association; negotiations update – California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 419; negotiations update – Administrators Association and other unrepresented bargaining groups; and public employee discipline/dismissal/release. The Superintendent; Board; and Assistant Superintendents Business, Human Resources and Learning Support adjourned to the session, which was held in the Boardroom.

At 10:14 p.m. the President reconvened the meeting and announced the Board took the following action in closed session:

It was moved by Duff, seconded by Halgren and carried unanimously to dismiss a classified employee (File 02-15-11-01).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

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 March 1, 2011.

Bob Duff, Clerk of the Board of Education