

ADOPTED MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING - The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on the date and place mentioned above.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by President McMahon at 5:05 PM.

PRESENT: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: By President McMahon at 5:05 PM to discuss Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release; Conference with Labor Negotiator Laurie McLachlan-Fry: AEA, CSEA, ACSA; Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9 (2 cases).

RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION: by President McMahon at 6:31 PM.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Encinal High School Student Board Member Kelly Reed and Principal Mike Cooper lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF: Board Members and staff present introduced themselves.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA/APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: Member Tam

SECONDED: Member Jensen

That the Board of Education adopt the agenda as submitted with the following change: move item F-9 and F-11 to the public agenda after item G-4.

AYES: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

President McMahon noted at the special meeting last night, the Board discussed the order in which we give our communications and Board of Education meetings. In order to provide the community with a better sense of what's going on moving forward, the Superintendent's Report has been moved up just before Oral Communications. In the spirit of this, Superintendent Vital will provide a brief overview to address a growing issue.

MOTION CARRIED

CONSENT CALENDAR – The Board of Education approved the following consent items (such items are identified by a plus (+) mark in the body of these minutes):

+Certificated Personnel Actions: The Board of Education approved 2 retirements (Dierking, von Blanckensee); 1 leave of absence (Vester).

+Classified Personnel Actions: The Board of Education approved 4 appointments (Freeman, Antiporda, Quartermaine, Huntoon); 2 resignations (Edwards, Diltz).

+Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers: The Board approved warrants numbered 799143-799145, 799146-799253, 799254-799257, 799258-799383.

+Resolution No. 09-0009 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases

+Proclamation: Art is Education Month – March 2009

+Proclamation: Art is Education Month – March 2009

+Proclamation: Nutrition Awareness Month – March 2009

+Proclamation: Read Across America Day – March 2, 2009

+Proclamation: Week of the Public School Administrator, March 2 – 8, 2009

+Authorization to Issue Request for Proposal (RFP) for the New Student Information System

+California High School Exit Exam Waiver for Students with Special Needs

+Approval of Donations

Superintendent Kirsten Vital noted she has been meeting with staff and community leaders and attended the AHS Music Event on Saturday. Superintendent Vital noted a letter went out today to the sites to distribute to individual families at over-enrolled schools. Staff understands the angst and concerns as things are unresolved at this moment, and staff is working quickly and diligently to resolve these enrollment concerns. There will be school meetings to engage with families around what the issues are and what tradeoffs may be. The meetings that have been set up so far are Otis on Monday 3/2, Franklin on Tuesday 3/3, BayFarm on Wednesday 3/4, and Edison on Thursday 3/5. All meetings will be from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM. The purpose of these meetings will be to gain community feedback for solutions and understand the tradeoffs. We are looking at moving music programs, relocating other programs, looking at class size, adding portables, etc. Although we want to work towards long-term solutions, we need to solve the immediate problems first, so these meetings will be discussing short-term solutions. Staff will bring back a recommendation to the Board on March 10.

Long-term, the District needs a master plan. We'd like to build upon the work that's been done, and come back to the Board on March 24 to propose a Master Plan Public Workshop over time to create a Strategic Plan that addresses facilities concerns and deals strategically with our schools. We have heard families talk about wanting choice. We want a very public meeting for us to have that conversation. Our goal is to have a Master Plan by next December.

Another issues it the LGBT work. Staff is in the process of setting up meeting dates at elementary school sites where PTA leadership and Principals agree it is critical for families to learn more. Otis, Paden, and Ruby Bridges declined a meeting. Franklin has been scheduled for 3/5, Bay Farm has been scheduled for 3/9. Edison, Earhart, Lum, Haight, and Washington are all in progress. The purpose of these meetings is to clarify – in smaller settings – misunderstandings and misinformation. We will be bringing this item back to the Board at the end of April.

A sunshine item will be discussed later on the agenda, but for now, we will state we appreciate AEA's gesture. The district cannot do anything that would put us in greater fiscal risk. It is not our desire to punish anyone or to make this about performance or anything else, but about the fiscal crisis in the State of California. We are currently living on one-time funds for ongoing expenses. We have to keep this in mind as we do this work. Our argument is not with our employees or AEA, but with the State of California for funding us so poorly. Employees should be compensated comparably and fairly, and teachers should have a time to plan and collaborate. By 2010/2011, we may not be able to pay our bills; this is why we're doing a transparent budget process for the community. There will be another community forum on April 2 at Wood Middle School from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM. Our presentation will show the results we either getting or not getting from those investments.

COMMUNICATIONS - ORAL: Several parents and community members addressed the Board regarding Kindergarten enrollment.

A parent of a waitlisted Kindergarten student at Edison, urged the Board to make a commitment to add a 4th grade K class and preserve the afterschool program as time is of the essence for both the district and parents. Previously, parents were told the lottery would be applied for “onesies and twosies”. If there were enough students for an extra class, parents were told it would be added. A year ago, the administration asked the previous Board to prepare for enrollment increases by adding a class to the site, however, no action was taken. The East End schools are at capacity or overenrolled. You would have no problem filling another K at Edison. This is an opportunity to do something positive.

Another parent noted his son did get a guaranteed spots, but he supports adding a 4th K class at Edison so all neighborhood children can go to the same school. Clearly, there are enough students to support a 4th K class. If you don’t, the district will potentially lose 20 families for the next many years, and they will take their energy and resources elsewhere.

A parent expressed disappointment to hear the lottery process would determine the pecking order as to who would get a guaranteed spot or not. The Board should make a commitment to add a 4th K class at Edison so parents don’t have to consider other options.

A parent noted not adding a 4th class has a lot of downsides, among them alienating a lot of parents. There is no upside in failing, but a lot in succeeding. We want you to succeed and get this done.

Another parent of a waitlisted Kindergarten student addressed the Board, adding that he appreciates the meetings being set up to take into account everyone’s opinions and comments. The Board must act quickly. If you lose students to other schools, parents will be shipping their resources elsewhere instead of infusing AUSD PTA’s.

Another parent of a student on the “safe” list noted that some kids don’t understand why they can’t walk to school together with their neighbors. All these kids know each other and play together. It’s about the kids and their lives, and what happens in their community.

The parent of the #79 out of #79 K student added they were excited about their student attending the public school in the neighborhood. There are a lot of unknown variables for parents, right now – will we get into after-care if we’re lucky enough to get in school? Should parents look elsewhere? We need an answer soon.

A parent noted they chose their home and neighborhood based on the school in the area. Parents care deeply about community cohesion and property values.

There is a wait list at Otis, too. This is a community-wide issue, not just specific to Edison Elementary. The District has an inadequate contingency plan. Why did the District fail to plan when they knew this was going to happen? How are these meetings being advertised?

Another community member and parent noted parents have emphasized time and again that uncertainty doesn’t help anybody. The Board can’t claim this is a surprise – the survey and demographic study you did years prior predicted it. It’s not helpful to parents for the Board to make a decision at the end of March when private school decisions need to be made prior. There are a lot of great schools in this district, but if you don’t know where you’re going to end up, it’s a crap shoot. We understand the budget timeline makes it really hard to plan – that’s a constant that you’ve got to plan for. You’re not making your best effort right now.

Another parent spoke regarding the district importing students from Oakland, one of the most violent cities in the State of California, and how the district is making money off of this. The parent proposed that all Oakland students be returned to their home districts so our facilities are freed up for our own students.

Patricia Sanders, AEA President, added that she will speak later in the agenda, but wanted to note that we have an unprecedented budget crisis and are expecting to see an unbelievable number of teachers laid off. CTA and local chapters are planning an action on March 15 and asking the community to participate and support “Pink Friday”. Ms. Sanders read the resolution in support of “Stand Up for Schools Day” from ACSA. Our public needs to understand – California is ranked 47th in the nation in funding, which is criminal. We’re in a race to be dead-bottom last. We hope the public comes out to support us and teachers across the State.

Member Mooney informed the audience that the Board is not allowed to discuss an item not on the agenda, but thanked everyone for their comments. However, Board Members have been listening and have taken notes. Member Mooney encouraged everyone to also get involved in the Master Plan process.

Superintendent Vital responded that changes can be made up to 20 days into the school year, which is still in September – this is contractual. The original recommendation was to bring forward enrollment recommendations as information on March 10 and action on March 24, but we could bring the item for both information/action on March 10 so that we can resolve these issues for families sooner.

President McMahon added if the item will be brought forward as information/action on March 10, the documentation should be added to the District website so that parents can see the full recommendation as opposed to just post the agenda to allow greater opportunity for the community to evaluate the potential impact.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the regular meeting of February 10, 2009 were considered.

MOTION: Member Mooney

SECONDED: Member Tam

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 10, 2009.

AYES: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

Written Correspondence: Since the last Board meeting of February 10, 2009, the Board received 35 e-mails and letters in favor of the LGBT curriculum, 42 e-mails and letters opposed to the LGBT curriculum, 6 e-mails and letters regarding Kindergarten enrollment, and one e-mail regarding Alameda athletics.

CALENDAR REVIEW: President McMahon reviewed the Board Calendar of Events. Member Spencer added there will be an Art Docent Training at Crosstown on Thursday.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT: There was no action taken in Closed Session.

Student Board Member Reports

Student Board Member Quach from Alameda High reported: Talent Show tryouts; foreign language Talent Show on Thursday; Music fundraiser on Saturday; La Val’s pizza night; Open House on 2/26; Talent Show Friday; WASC on March 8; 6 students acknowledged for being in to p1% in PSAT scores.

Student Board Member Ramos from ASTI reported: Scholarship Dinner 2/26 from 6-9 PM in F Building; Tomatina fundraising night last week; Yearbook passed out surveys; leadership hosting community service carnival 3/20 – 3/23; Ruby Bridges orientation this Friday for tutors; next Friday, last night to petition for AA degree.

Student Board Member Reed from Encinal High reported: Girls basketball received first round bye in NCS - #3 seed – home playoff game Friday night; Pennies for Patients raised \$816; Leadership going to Ruby Bridges, Paden and Washington on 3/2 to read to kids in honor of Dr. Seuss’s Birthday; Measure C funds provided new tables and chairs; WASC visiting team on campus next week; Sophomore Class sponsoring Winter Ball this Saturday night; spring sports getting started; drama department putting on Rent starting 3/13; Seniors starting to hear back from colleges; more updates available via School Loop.

Alameda Unified School District Budget Information Update

As of the time that this budget information item was provided for the school board packet, the state legislature approved a 17-month State Budget package that was being sent to the Governor for his approval. The 17-month State Budget package would impact the school budget for the current year 2008/09 and the following year 2009/10.

Until the details of a Governor-approved Budget are provided, the Alameda USD will continue to use the Governor’s January Proposal to prepare its 2nd Interim Financial Report and its 2009/10 Budget. As provided at the last school board meeting and at the Public Budget Workshop, AUSD is facing an on-going loss of \$3M for 2008/09, which becomes an ongoing loss of \$7M for 2009/10.

AUSD conducted the first Public Budget Workshop on February 11, 2009. It will conduct the second Public Budget Workshop on April 2, 2009 at Wood Middle School from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM. At the second Public Budget Workshop, the public will be provided current information from the state and additional information about the district.

The Board will be presented with AUSD’s 2nd Interim Financial Report at the Board meeting on March 10, 2009, which will include a Cash Flow Worksheet. The Board will be presented a school budget for the next school year, 2009/10 at the Board meeting on June 23, 2009. Between now and June 23rd, the District will work with staff and community to prepare the 2009/10 budget. Below is the state budget information for categorical programs for 2008/09 and 2009/10.

State Budget Impact on Categorical Programs

Over 50 state categorical programs are cut in 2008-09 and 2009-10, with over 40 of these programs included in increased flexibility. Following is a listing of state categorical programs and the estimated level of reduction. In addition to the reductions noted, there is also no COLA provided in 2008-09 or 2009-10.

Tier I Programs

No reduction in funding for 2008-09 and 2009-10 (remains at 2007-08 level adjusted for growth/decline).

After School Education and Safety	Home to School Transportation
Child Development	K-3 Class Size Reduction

Child Nutrition	Quality Education Investment Act
Economic Impact Aid (EIA)	Special Education

Tier II Programs

Reduction of approximately 15.4% in 2008-09, plus additional reduction of 4.5% in 2009-10 (plus adjustment for growth/decline).

Adults in Correctional Facilities	Foster Youth Educational Services
Apprenticeship Programs	K-12 High Speed Network
Agricultural Vocational Education	Partnership Academies
Charter School Facility Grants	Pupil Testing
County Office Oversight (FCMAT)	Year-Round Education
English Language Acquisition Program	

Tier III Programs

Reduction of approximately 15.4% in 2008-09, plus additional reduction of 4.5% in 2009-10 (plus adjustment for growth/decline) with flexibility to transfer funds from any of these programs to any "educational purpose" (includes unrestricted General Fund or other categorical programs) for the period from 2008-09 to 2012-13.

AB 825 Targeted Instructional Improvement Block Grant	Class-Size Reduction-9th Grade
AB 825 Teacher Credentialing Block Grant	Deferred Maintenance
AB 825 Professional Development Block Grant	Educational Technology
AB 825 Pupil Retention Block Grant	Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)
AB 825 School Safety Consolidated	High Priority Schools and II/USP*
AB 825 School and Library Improvement Administrator Training Program (AB 430)	Indian Education Centers

Adult Education	Instructional Materials Fund
Alternative Credentialing	International Baccalaureate
Arts and Music Block Grant	National Board Certification
Bilingual Teacher Training	Peer Assistance and Review
California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) Intervention	Physical Education Teacher
California School Age Families Educational Program (CalSAFE)	Recruitment Grants
Student Leadership	Readers for the Blind
Center for Civic Education	Regional Occupational Centers/Programs
Certificated Staff Mentoring Program SB 472	Professional Development
Charter Schools Categorical Block Grant	School Safety Competitive Grant
Child Oral Health Assessments	Specialized Secondary Programs
Community Based English Tutoring (CBET)	Supplemental Hourly Programs
Community Day Schools	Teacher Dismissal Apportionments
Counselors, Grades 7-12	Williams Audits

* Eliminated in 2009-10

**AUSD Categorical Program List
2008/09 (in 000's)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Ongoing Revenue</u>	<u>Carryover</u>	<u>Balance 2/17/2009</u>
GENERAL FUND			
Professional Development	\$ 635	\$ 951	\$ 1,047
Economic Impact Aid	\$ 1,303	\$ 662	\$ 201
Targeted Improvement	\$ 833	\$ 423	\$ 648
School/Library Improvement (SLIG)	\$ 763	\$ 378	\$ 571
Facilities Routine Restrict. Maint. (RRM)	\$ 2,564	\$ 345	\$ 675
Supplemental Counseling	\$ 341	\$ 321	\$ 173
Art & Music Grant	\$ 174	\$ 275	\$ 393
Instructional Materials	\$ 685	\$ 217	\$ 384
HS Exit Exam (CAHSEE)	\$ 77	\$ 89	\$ 53
Teacher Programs (PAR/BTSA)	\$ 123	\$ 84	\$ 133

English Learner (ELAP/CBET)	\$ 178	\$ 80	\$ 151
Gifted and Talented Education	\$ 90	\$ 62	\$ 109
School Safety	\$ 166	\$ 36	\$ 57
Pupil Retention (Cont. Ed/Counsel.)	\$ 54	\$ 19	\$ 58
Class Size Reduction (CSR) 9th Gr.	\$ 343	\$ -	\$ -
CSR K-3	\$ 2,881	\$ -	\$ -
GENERAL FUND	\$ 11,210	\$ 3,942	\$ 4,653

OTHER FUNDS			
Adult Education	\$ 1,531	\$ 1,240	\$ 1,656
Child Nutrition	\$ 1,917	\$ 428	\$ 474
Regional Occupational Prog. (ROP)	\$ 1,401	\$ 246	\$ 229
OTHER FUNDS	\$ 4,849	\$ 1,914	\$ 2,359

TOTAL FUNDS	\$ 16,059	\$ 5,856	\$ 7,012
--------------------	------------------	-----------------	-----------------

CSR K-3

PROPOSED for 2009/10

Graduated Penalties

Class Size		State Funding Penalty
from	to	
Up to	20.44	None
20.45	21.44	5%
21.45	22.44	10%
22.45	22.94	15%
22.95	24.94	20%
Over	24.94	30%

AUSD

CSR K-3

EXAMPLE

	A	B	C	D	E
# Students	3000	3000	3000	3000	3000
Class Size	20	22	24	25	30
# Teachers	150	136	125	120	100
Cost	\$10M	\$9M	\$8.4M	\$8M	\$6.7M
CSR K-3 Funds	\$3M	\$2.7M	\$2.4M	\$2.1M	\$2.1M
Net Savings	\$0	\$0.7M	\$1.0M	\$1.1M	\$2.4M

Superintendent Vital added these charts show the fiscal analysis only. Part of the March 10 presentation will be looking at programmatic tradeoffs as well in this conversation.

Patricia Sanders, AEA President, questioned CSR, stating it is her understanding that once CSR is eliminated, we cannot get it back. You made a commitment to the community to keep CSR when you passed Measure H to keep it in place.

Superintendent Vital noted this is an important consideration and staff will be monitoring and making sure we have all the caveats and footnotes.

Member Mooney added these are just “what if” scenarios, not recommendations. We remember and value small class sizes, but we also need to know what our options are.

President McMahon asked if the CSR penalty was applied at the site level, or the district average. Tim Rahill, Chief Financial Officer, noted it is a class-by-class average – the penalties imposed would be on that particular class. Superintendent Vital added it is a mathematical game to make sure we’re meeting the requirement without huge penalties. These are new, more lenient penalties.

Member Spencer asked if there are similar penalties for 9th grade CSR. Mr. Rahill noted 9th grade CSR has a different set of rules than K-3. 9th grade CSR is in Tier 3 and will get a funding cut. We would be able to tap into those funds for general purposes.

Alameda Unified School District Sunshine Proposal for Alameda Education Association

The District and the Alameda Education Association (AEA) have a contract that expires on June 30, 2009. The openers for a new three-year contract have been submitted by the District.

Superintendent Vital noted ongoing costs are increasing while revenues are going down. Step and column costs as much as \$700K each year and in this financial crisis, we are living on one-time monies that will go away. We will continue to live on one-time monies for the next couple years and are currently in litigation for our parcel tax. Superintendent Vital reiterated all employees should be compensated competitively and fairly. This is not about performance but a fiscal crisis.

Laurie McLachlan-Fry, Chief Human Resources Officer, noted work has been done to bring this forward under the idea of providing flexibility and looking at items that are associated with cost, flexibility, or both. These are the items to bring publicly to begin the sunshining process with AEA.

Member Spencer noted since we're proposing these because there is an associated fiscal cost, what are the costs and which items are being proposed for cost vs flexibility? Ms. McLachlan-Fry provided a range per article. Member Spencer asked why some teachers use School Loop more than others. Ms. McLachlan-Fry noted that there are some discussions going on around technology that need to be negotiated. School Loop is new, just implemented, or a work in progress. For some, this is a matter of professional development.

Member Spencer asked why this item is being brought forth today. Ms. McLachlan-Fry noted the contract ends on June 30, and there are contractual timelines as to when you begin discussions. We are meeting those contractual deadlines by bringing this forward tonight so we can set up the process of negotiations. Member Spencer noted there is another Board meeting prior to the March 15 deadline. Member Spencer asked what the cost involved is in negotiating vs waiting a year. Ms. McLachlan-Fry noted each negotiating process depends on the amount of legal representation and how long it lasts – it can be a quite lengthy process. Member Spencer asked if attorney fees were involved and what the estimate is. Ms. McLachlan-Fry noted it is an unknown total, as it depends on the length and involvement in the negotiations process.

Joy Sigmon, AEA Chief Negotiator, noted her disappointment in trying to change the contract for the 2009/2010 school year. The members of AEA agreed to yet another year without a raise, conceding only under the condition that the rest of the contract stays intact. The AEA sunshine proposal was a compromise. Now it looks like the District wants to take away even more. Teachers in Alameda are among the lowest paid in both Alameda and Contra Costa counties, and are offended you want to take more than we already offered. You should have been appreciative of our offer.

Roxanne Clement, Media Center Teacher, added we've all known for some time that we face considerable financial issues, but we all remain on a mission to provide the highest education possible. If we continue to cut programs, eliminate choice, and limit enrollment, we only have ourselves to blame when it results in the private takeover of public education. If we eliminate 20:1, we will lose even more students to private or charter schools. If we cannot problem solve or become creative, if we don't work together, we will lose students. One size does not fit all. We need to provide space where we have potential for growth – enrollment policies that encourage everyone to come. We need to let communities and school sites create and establish what their priorities and programs are; empower the school site community to prioritize what's important and essential to them.

Patricia Sanders, AEA President, added her extreme disappointment. While we acknowledge this is an ongoing problem in AUSD, at every juncture your lowest-paid employees have been asked to shoulder the burden. Last time around, the bargaining team met 21 times, including 2 mediation sessions. We continue to have 5 of our teachers on the bargaining team. At the current rate of \$100 per day per sub, that's \$500 per day. What is the cost for the attorney who sat in all day? We are looking at substantial costs.

Ms. Sanders reiterated, what's good for the teachers is inextricably linked with students. What has an adverse effect on teachers will have an adverse effect on them as well. There is a bigger impact than just what's on paper.

The surrounding areas saw an increase in pay of up to 6%. Our teachers took nothing. This is particularly depressing when the Board just recently approved Executive Cabinet member increases. It's morally

wrong to take away if you have nothing to offer. Once again, you're balancing the books on the backs of your teachers and students.

Member Jensen asked if the current contract precludes salary increases and if we're not reopening, does that mean there can be no future salary increases? Ms. McLachlan-Fry replied no, the current contract does not preclude salary increases and there can be future salary increases.

Member Spencer questioned the goal on the cover page of "recruit and retain highly qualified and diverse staff", and asked how this item meets this goal.

President McMahon noted the issue here is one of funding, plain and simple. We need to trust the new Board and new Superintendent in the ability to meet you halfway. We have to go into the process with the ability to do these kinds of things we're talking about. We are attempting to put on the table the opportunity for us to create flexibility we need in terms of work conditions, while also restructuring the district. If we roll this contract over for a year, we lose any chance for saving any money. A year from now, we will spend an additional \$2M - \$3M that we can't support. There will be no money to raise salaries in the future. Let's come together now and start to create a solution that works for both the short and the long-term.

Member Spencer asked what the salaries of Executive Cabinet members are. Superintendent Vital noted her salary is \$192,500 with a cost of \$1,200 per month for health benefits. Mr. Rahill noted Executive Cabinet salaries range from \$145K - \$156K.

Member Spencer noted Executive Cabinet contracts include annual increases in pay upon satisfactory performance of 2% or 3% for each member. Member Spencer added that the new Superintendent was hired at a significantly higher salary than the previous Superintendent - \$30K higher.

Superintendent Vital noted the difference is \$11K with the raises the previous Superintendent received over time. Staff will follow up with the Board on specific details. Superintendent Vital added Member Spencer raises an important concern around goals. Because we've sunshined these particular items, it doesn't mean we're cutting anything. It means we're having a particular conversation around these items. Our hope, of course, is to work together. The reality is that we need a long-term Master Plan that addresses every item previous speakers noted. We're setting up a structure in order to start that planning process. This is the only way to do it and maintain flexibility and fiscal solvency. This negotiation is a Board decision.

Member Mooney added we have a new Superintendent who wants to have a discussion with the union. Member Mooney noted he believes the Board needs to give the Superintendent the ability to start doing that as we start talking about issues that go on.

MOTION: Member Mooney

SECONDED: Member Jensen

That the Board of Education approve the Alameda Unified School District Sunshine Proposal for Alameda Education Association.

Member Tam asked how we can work together collaboratively. How can there be flexibility as well as dealing with fiscal challenges?

Ann Casper, Teacher, urged the Board to reconsider the possibility of putting the contract off for one year. Some savings you've brought up seem piddly vs the huge amount of expenditures on attorneys. But more than that, it would be far better off working together to figure out a plan for flexibility.

Patricia Sanders, AEA President, added the difference between the previous Superintendent's contract and the current one is \$20K. While the issue of built in raises for Executive Cabinet has been brought up tonight, we do appreciate that every single person in Alameda is underpaid. However, it is hugely distressing that Board would look to give compensation and increase to those most able to weather a storm like this and not consider those on the bottom level. Where is the money coming from to cover the increases for Executive Cabinet? There was a provision about using Measure H funds for salaries.

Superintendent Vital added she has heard teachers talk about the notion of choice and programs and wanting to really do something different at some of these schools. We want a plan in place by next December so we don't go through this budget cycle with this same angst. Part of that is to do the kinds of programmatic things we need to do – there is language in the contract that won't allow for that level of flexibility.

President McMahon noted there is a motion and a second on the floor. His personal opinion is that we go ahead as a Board and approve the sunshining of these items with the understanding that this is just the first step in the process. It doesn't dictate that negotiations have to take place in the same form as last time, but merely opens the door for negotiations.

Member Jensen stated noted the Board will approve any revisions to the articles. We need the flexibility to make changes to the contract. Member Jensen added she would not support reductions in elementary prep time, but supportive of providing flexibility we need.

Member Mooney added unfortunately, we remain in an adversarial bargaining relationship. Our hope is at some point, we can start interest-based bargaining. March 10 is going to be a large meeting – this is just starting the discussion; we have to let the process to start being created.

Member Tam asked how we can even create a different venue for how negotiations take place. We need to have a strategic plan and somehow, that needs to fall into whether it's negotiated or not. Member Tam noted he still has questions.

Member Spencer the information is not as transparent or complete as she would like. If this is about fiscal issues, then we need dollar amounts. Questions raised about Executive Cabinet salaries need to be addressed. Member Spencer noted she prefers to continue this item to the next Board meeting. President McMahon noted that, in his opinion, the hiring of the new Superintendent has been the smartest, most fiscally sound thing the Board has done given the current level of involvement and community engagement – and at a bargain cost. Negotiations are a measure of trust within this organization.

Member Spencer noted if we really want to work together to create a Master Plan and come up with the best way to spend our money, then we need to be able to work together. Until we see how we can do this amicably, our ability to work together is seriously impeded.

AYES: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney

NOES: Spencer, Tam

MOTION CARRIED

New Course of Study – Regional Occupational Program: Health Courses

In 2008, AUSD ROP began four new courses of study in response to labor market studies that showed

industry and job growth in the areas of Animation, Game Design, Green Construction Technology, and Biotechnology.

This year, AUSD ROP seeks approval for two new courses of study that will not only addresses student interests but will also address the crucial state and national need for health care professionals. Introduction to Health Care Services will serve as a concentrator course that will allow students to explore health careers while gaining knowledge in basic human anatomy and the language of medicine. The capstone class, Exploring Careers in Health Care, is a core health occupations class which will provide students with an opportunity for community site training in a variety of health care facilities, including hospitals, health clinics, and private physician offices.

These new course proposals are submitted for approval as AUSD ROP continues to develop new courses of study that meet the needs of our students, our community, and our state through rigorous and relevant career technical education courses of study.

Member Spencer noted this is a wonderful opportunity that many of our students will be interested in.

MOTION: Member Mooney

SECONDED: Member Jensen

That the Board of Education approve the New Course of Study, ROP Health Courses as presented.

AYES: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

One-Time Discretionary Funding Proposals

The State Department of Education provided AUSD schools with **one-time** funding to address a range of operational and school improvement needs, such as instructional materials, classroom and laboratory supplies and materials, school and classroom library materials, educational technology, professional development, one-time uses designed to close the achievement gap. School sites received \$58.74 per 2006 CBEDS enrollment for a District total of \$648,354. Educational Services provided principals with guidelines and a budget plan for spending. These spending plans must be approved by School Site Council and the Board of Education. This one-time funding can be carried over year-to-year.

SCHOOL	ALLOCATION	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
Edison Elementary	\$22,028.00	\$20,675.13	\$1,352.87

MOTION: Member Mooney

SECONDED: Member Tam

That the Board of Education approve the One-Time Site Discretionary Funding Proposal for Edison Elementary School as presented.

Ed Sanders, parent, again addressed the Board about 550 inter-district transfer students, noting that Oakland students cause problems for Alameda residents.

AYES: Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED

Board Member Reports

Member Tam noted he attended the AYC Retreat and enjoyed interacting with the different agencies and continues to be impressed by the community. Thanks to Member Jensen for being a co-chair.

Member Spencer noted she sits on the Discipline Committee and visited Rock Lafleche, which is a site where some of our students are referred to. The staff was very receptive to showing their facility.

Member Spencer also attended the Edison lottery, PTA Council, and PTA Advocacy Day.

Member Mooney participated in the CSBA webcast at the County Office of Education. The special meeting last night began building on the relationships and trust issues for the Board and will continue.

Member Jensen noted participating in the special meeting was very effective. Member Jensen noted the correct term is random drawing, not lottery, and that the district needs to develop ways to better handle issues of overenrollment. Member Jensen added she is looking forward to working with Superintendent Vital on establishing new goals for the District.

President McMahon added he attended the AHS music fundraiser and is participating as Secretary and Treasurer on the re-vamped ACSBA committee to reestablish that organization.

Adjournment

President McMahon adjourned the meeting at 9:53 PM.

Attest:

Michael McMahon, President
Board of Education