

**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 5:40 PM.

**PRESENT:** Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

**ABSENT:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None at this time.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:** By President McMahon at 5:40 PM to discuss

**RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION:** by President McMahon at 6:36 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Alameda Adult School students, teacher and Principal.

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

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA/APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

**MOTION: Member Mooney**

**SECONDED: Member Jensen**

That the Board of Education adopt the agenda with the following changes: pull item E-8.

**AYES:** Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

**NOES:** None

**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 3 appointments (Campbell, De Garcia, Valler); 1 leave of absence (Chaney); 11 changes of status (Chu, Gutleben, McAllister, Passmore, Potter, Ramirez, Ramirez, Schoeffler, Spencer, Tse-Harris, Wocicki, Yan).

**+Classified Personnel Actions:** The Board of Education approved 1 appointment (Travers); 1 retirement (Airo); 2 leaves of absence (Kern-McGovern, Mohan); and 8 changes of status (Aubert, Carreon, Chang, Chavez, Forbes, Lo, Nieves, Yun-Yick).

**+Proclamation – American Character Education Month**

**+Proclamation – Disability Employment Awareness Month**

**+Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers:** The Board of Education approved bill warrants and payroll registers numbered 878887-878897, 878898-878930, 878931-978934, 878935-878944, 878329.

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

**+Resolution No. 09-0056 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases**

**+Approval of Facilities Master Plan Contract**

## +Approval of Donations

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the regular meeting of September 8, 2009 and the special meeting of September 15, 2009 were considered.

**MOTION: Member Mooney**

**SECONDED: Member Tam**

That the Board of Education approve the minutes, with amendment to Page 7 text as requested by Member Spencer.

**AYES:** Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

**NOES:** None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Written Correspondence:** An e-mail received from Heather Figueroa regarding student placement at Ruby Bridges and several e-mails from teachers at Ruby Bridges on behalf of Heather Figueroa.

**Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Kirsten Vital noted questions regarding mat data would be answered as part of the math initiative update scheduled for the November Board meeting. A question was asked if there was proof that smaller schools are better able to academically serve students than larger ones. There are 2 small school studies done by Stanford University's Linda Daily Hammond that found it is one variable for school climate, personalization, and knowing each child well but size is not the only factor.

With regards to Master Plan "roadshows", Principals are scheduling 2 meetings each and a Board Member will attend. Sign-ups are ongoing. A question was asked about what each of our elementary, middle, and high schools offer and how similar is/isn't the education received with regards to equity. This information is included in the October 20<sup>th</sup> community workshop. Principals are filling out a survey for the next 2 weeks to address these questions.

Superintendent Vital noted since the last Board meeting, she visited Chipman, Alameda High, Haight, Edison, Ruby Bridges, BayFarm, Island, Lum, and Washington. She also spoke at the Alameda Special Ed Parents Support Group with Susan Mitchell, Special Ed Director and Karen Miller, District Behaviorist; participated in the Boys & Girls Club golf tournament last week; and was installed as a Rotary Member today.

In other news, Ruby Bridges visited her namesake school on Friday and addressed the students during a morning assembly. Superintendent Vital attended with Board President Mike McMahon, County Superintendent Sheila Jordan and County Board Member Marlon McWilson who were there to visit Alameda's Teacher of the Year, Roberta Rockwell. Member Tam was also in attendance.

Superintendent Vital reminded the community that the "Island Bowl" football game between Alameda and Encinal will be held this Friday at Encinal.

**Oral Communications:** None at this time.

**Board Oral Communications:** Member Spencer noted the Board passed 2 proclamations, American Character Education Month and Disability Employment Awareness Month.

**Calendar Review:** President McMahon reviewed the calendar of events for Board Members.

**Closed Session Action Report:** No action was taken.

President McMahon acknowledged the donations from the community.

### **Student Board Member Installation**

The Board of Education believes it is important to seek out and consider students' ideas, viewpoints and reactions. In order to provide student input and involvement, the Board includes one Student Board Member from Alameda, ASTI, Encinal, and Island High Schools.

The following students have been chosen as Student Board Members by their respective high schools:

Koki Inlow – Alameda High School

Acen Datuin – Alameda Science & Technology Institute (ASTI)

William Mooney – Encinal High School

Miguel Gamalinda – Island High School

Student Board Members were sworn in by retired Judge Richard Bartalini and seated.

The Student Board Member provided their first reports at this time.

Student Board Member Gamalinda reported there are 208 students at Island, a new record. Of those 208, 84 are new and receiving orientation.

Student Board Member Inlow reported the Leadership class is preparing a senior banquet fundraiser; juniors are preparing for junior prom; sophomores are working on Winter Ball; Finance Committee is selling ASB stickers; final list of clubs available; Island Bowl this Friday; Leadership retreat this weekend; Diversity Committee having Iron Chef competition at lunch; new program at AHS to help freshmen get more comfortable in transitioning to high school; Homecoming starting with dance on Halloween but no assembly; canned food drive; SSC schedule mapped for the year; Back-to-School Night on 9/24.

Student Board Member Datuin reported 2 new staff members at ASTI; started financial sustainability program for all aspects of school – asking for contributions, fundraising ideas, and grant writing; Leadership class car wash to finance Southern California college trip for 10 students; ASTI will continue the partnership with Ruby Bridges to help tutor in reading/writing/math; Journalism class – publications are all online and will be creating a website for the class.

Student Board Member Mooney reported the senior class had a successful pasta fundraiser; Island Bowl this Friday at Encinal; Water Polo team is having a car wash; EHS hosting blood drive.

### **Highlighting Alameda Unified School District Schools: Alameda Adult School**

Alameda Adult School presented “Welcome to the New Dawn” to let the Board and community know about programs, budget work, and goals.

Principal Thomas Orput introduced the item.

#### *Adult School Goals (Phase One)*

- Listen to the Alameda Adult School community
- Visit classrooms
- Establish a leadership structure
- Ensure we are fiscally healthy
- Interventions for at-risk Alameda high school students – Strategic Plan

- Assess and promote programs
- Safe, clean, and healthy school
- Alternative education partnerships

#### *State of the State*

- One out of five adults out of school over the age of 18 does not have a high school diploma
- More than 12% of California residents of labor force age are unemployed
- 42.3% of California residents speak a language other than English
- A high school diploma or a GED nearly doubles the probability of working and staying employed

Member Mooney thanked Mr. Orput for his ideas and positive discussion. Member Tam commended Mr. Orput for putting together an advisory committee to get commitment from the community.

Member Jensen asked about requirements for students. Mr. Orput said residency is only required for concurrent students. Fees are something they are looking at now.

Superintendent Vital added we appreciate Mr. Orput's work and data analysis. He is collaborating with the community and better serving our high school students which is very new.

Member Jensen asked if any outreach has been done to ESL families at the elementary schools. Mr. Orput noted he is working with Cyndy Wasko. Member Jensen suggested there should be an Adult School representative on DELAC.

Member Spencer asked about the process for approving changes in programs. Mr. Orput replied that he seeks approval through the Superintendent, who directs him. There will be no drastic changes. Member Spencer asked that information be shared with the community when we start doing something different.

#### **Alameda Youth Commission**

In 2007, the Mayor and City Council adopted an ordinance to create the Youth Advisory Commission.

The purpose of the Youth Commission is to:

- Represent youth voice in Alameda city government
- Act in an advisory capacity, review, and make recommendations about municipal matters referred to the Youth Commission by the Mayor, City Council, and other City of Alameda commissions
- Make policy recommendations to the Mayor and City Council about issues of concern to Alameda youth

Andy Wong, ARPD Teen Program Coordinator, introduced Bhaani Singh, member of the Youth Commission and former Chairperson and current VP.

Mr. Wong noted that Commission documents are posted online and accessible to anyone if the Board wishes to see what the Commission is currently reviewing and working on.

Ms. Singh noted when the Commission begins working on the Youth Master Plan, they will be seeking input from AUSD. Mr. Wong noted there are still 3 seats available if any teens are interested in applying. It is a 2 year-term, and applications are available on the website.

#### **Proclamation: Walk & Roll to School Day – October 7, 2009**

Pam Chang, former PTA Council President, introduced the item. Walk & Roll to School Day is a longstanding tradition in Alameda, marking its 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The event's primary purpose is to promote safe routes to school, as well as health and physical fitness among today's youth. The event is

part of a larger-scale international “Walk to School Day” event, held in 42 countries around the world.

Pedestrian Friendly Alameda encourages the Board of Education to join in promoting the benefits of walking or bicycling rather than driving to school, and their role in creating cleaner, safer, and environmentally healthier Alameda neighborhoods and schools for children as well as support the opportunity for quality family time when parents, guardians, grandparents, and children walk or bike to school together.

**MOTION: Member Mooney**

**SECONDED: Member Jensen**

That the Board of Education approve the proclamation as submitted.

**AYES:** Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

**NOES:** None

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **Approval of Board Policy 0420.4(a) Charter Schools**

AUSD is committed to establish and revise its policies and procedures in order to promote the greatest opportunities for students to achieve academic and personal success.

Updating Board Policy 0420.4(a) will clarify procedural expectations related to charter petitions, make explicit that a charter is a contract requiring mutual accountability focused on student achievement, affirm that AUSD staff will evaluate carefully the merits of charter petitions based on all applicable legal requirements and assure that AUSD monitors charter schools sufficiently.

Superintendent Vital framed this item, noting that the Board passed a policy handbook in August with many model policies in order to bring us up to legal compliance. We are looking at items policy-by-policy when there are unique situations to Alameda.

Rob Siltanen, Director of Ed Options, reviewed the item.

*Paul Bentz* asked the Board not to approve this policy. One of the core values is transparency and trust, and as the operator of 2 of the 3 charter schools in town, Mr. Bentz indicated he just saw this for the first time this morning, and has issue with a few items: timeline restriction for submitting early renewals, restricting when petitions can be submitted and delaying openings, six months stale signatures, inability to open after 2 years.

Superintendent Vital respectfully disagreed and stated the policy recommended thinks about the possible worse case scenario. This tries to protect families, students, and the Board as we enter into charter agreements. Our goal is that this policy is adopted along with an AR that can spell out what this looks like. We worry about not having these timelines in place and having people drop off charters at any time. Particularly for a small district, we do not have the staff to review several charters that come in spurts.

Member Spencer expressed concern that this item was not brought before the Board in a 2-read process, but as action tonight. When making significant changes, the Board needs more time, and it’s important to outreach to our charter schools and get their feedback. Member Spencer expressed concern that this policy is more restrictive than current law and we’re limiting opportunities. It’s important that the district embrace the letter and spirit of the law with regards to supporting charter schools to provide alternative opportunities for students to learn.

Member Spencer expressed concern around the November deadlines, specifically in regards to facilities, and the restriction of renewing not prior to 270 days from the expiration, which is a small window of

time.

*Sylvia Kahn* addressed the Board regarding the writing of the potential charter petition for the current Chipman Middle School. Ms. Kahn stated she strongly endorses approving this policy so staff knows the timelines and processes to follow.

Member Mooney asked for the rationale behind the 270 day timeline. Superintendent Vital replied that if a Board were not to renew, there would be time for a charter to go through the County and the state. The issue with renewing early is that the district needs enough years of data to evaluate how a charter is doing. If you have a charter for 3 years and turn around and want a renewal after one, the district would only have one year's worth of data, and it would be difficult to really see if the school is viable and meeting outcomes. Having timelines allows staff to properly monitor and provide systems guidelines and put the decision-making authority in the hands of the Board.

Mr. Siltanen noted the proposed deadlines are reasonable and comparable to other districts.

Member Jensen asked if there was urgency to this item that required one read only. Superintendent Vital responded that the concern came from a number of charter inquiries and not having clear timelines in our policy. Superintendent Vital clarified that some of our current charters have MOU's around renewal and other timely submission dates. For our current charters, we would be following that MOU language. This policy affects new charters, not necessarily current ones.

Member Mooney asked about the timing of end dates for charter agreements. Superintendent Vital noted this is another messy issue, as charters are considered approved on the date the Board approves them, and expire on that date so many years later. This means charters could be expiring in the middle of the year. Superintendent Vital noted in her former district, this was cleaned up to make June 30<sup>th</sup> the end so there was no messy disruption in the middle of the year.

The Board agreed to table the item for action until the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Chipman Program Improvement Status Report**

Program Improvement (PI) Year 4 requires that Chipman Middle School offer corrective action options, timely parent notification of PI status, public school choice transfer to other non-Program Improvement schools, supplemental educational services, and work closely with the District to improve curriculum, instruction, and student performance. Under District supervision the school staff will prepare a restructuring plan for alternative governance to include:

- Reopen the school as a public charter school
- Replace all or most of the school staff (which may include the principal) who are relevant to the failure to make AYP
- Enter into a contract with an entity with a demonstrated record of effectiveness to manage the school
- Identify other major restructuring of the school's governance arrangement that institutes fundamental reform

Superintendent Vital added tonight's presentation is an opportunity to provide the Board information on our responsibility as a District for Chipman under PI 4.

Robert Shemwell, Director of Compliance & Curriculum, introduced the item and reviewed general program improvement requirements, year three correction action, context for restructuring planning, and implementation of district alternative governance arrangements.

Superintendent Vital added that one stance taken is looking at a charter application for almost a year, now. The district is working collaboratively with staff to provide greater support. We are committed to meeting with the school and helping them think through the educational component.

If Chipman were to be a start-up charter, then the Board would take responsibility for closing the school as is, then reopening as a start-up charter, vs. conversion charter. We will be looking at this analysis next week in the community workshop and looking closely at the educational component.

Member Tam noted Chipman has many pockets with regards to API. We need to look at their subgroup data. The surrounding population has gone through several transitions. What has been the increase in the ELS population and how significant are the changes happening now? Can we see data by grade level?

Ruben Zepeda, Interim Assistant Superintendent, noted that NCLB has a providing called “safe harbor” whereby moving 10% of students into the proficient area is one way schools who fall into PI can meet targets.

Member Tam asked about the number of students who begin in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and are there through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. How does this transition rate affect the subgroups? Mr. Shemwell noted we can start to drill down data student-by-student and look at cluster scores. This will help us define gaps and to target where we need to delve deeper and how to make instructional change to address issues.

Member Mooney stated framing and post comments don’t connect to this presentation. We have had this same information for 4 years now, this is nothing new. When will we learn about what we’re doing? With regards to Year 3 corrective actions, the Board never heard back – did we do anything?

Superintendent Vital noted she hears the frustration around wanting more detail, and staff will commit to answering specific questions in a presentation at the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting as to where we are with the restructuring plan. Hopefully, the new thing you heard was the option of Chipman closing and reopening as a start-up. This is new work. Mr. Shemwell and Mr. Zepeda have been working directly with the school and have a commitment to making sure a clear plan is developed.

When we present another presentation at the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will specifically look at disaggregated data, EL population and transiency, what happened with Year 3 corrective action – what worked vs. what didn’t work, strategies in the school site plans, how student data monitoring is/isn’t happening, outreach efforts to community and parents, and what we are doing this year.

Member Spencer added a concern is isolating Chipman and treating it separately from the master plan process. This could limit district options with how to best serve Chipman students if they’re not part of the discussion.

Member Tam added the Board has to be careful in how they micromanage. Member Tam added he trusts the Superintendent and staff in providing the best solution for difficult situations. They have the best intentions and will provide the Board with viable options.

Member McMahon suggested cover the School Site Plans issue in a separate workshop and spending more time thoroughly reviewing and understanding site theories of action and plans for their schools. This Board is interested in that level of detail.

### **State of the District**

Ruben Zepeda, Interim Assistant Superintendent, introduced the item. STAR is the system used in California to assess and report on the academic progress of students, schools and school districts across

the state. The California Standards Test (CST) is the primary source of data used by the California Department of Education to determine the Academic Performance index (API) and to determine Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under federal NCLB requirement at grades 2-9. At grades 10-11, the California High School Exit Exam and the CST results are both used.

In spring 2009, AUSD students took the following CST tests:

English Language Arts: Grades 2-11

Writing: Grades 4 and 7

Grade level math: Grades 2-7

End-of-course math: Grades 7-11 (Beginning with Algebra)

Grade level social studies: Grade 8 and grade 11 (US History)

Grade level science: Grade 5, 8, and 10 (Life Science)

End-of-course science and social studies Grades 9-11

Additionally, some students took the following tests that are part of the CST:

Optional Early Assessment Program (EAP) for CA State University

CAPA for some special education students, depending on their level

California Modified Assessment (CMA) for some Special Ed students in grades 3-8

Standards Test in Spanish (STS) for newly arrived Spanish speakers

API, AYP, and PI results were released on Tuesday, September 15, 2009. Most of Alameda's schools made gains and continued to show improvement. However, the annual increases in student performance required by NCLB will continue to challenge all AUSD schools and staff. District API, AYP and PI data will be shared to illustrate growth and continued challenges.

#### *API:*

- 15 schools experienced an increase in their API score
- 13 schools are over 800
- 3 schools are over 900
- 2 regular schools experienced a decrease in their API score
- 1 district charter experienced a decrease in their API score
- Island High School increased by 123 points
- Encinal High School increased by 36 points
- Earhart Elementary increased by 23 points

#### *AYP:*

AUSD met 2009 AYP target of 45% Proficient in ELA with 67.6% Proficient

Missed 2009 AYP target of 45% Proficient in ELA in 2 subgroups:

African Americans or Black 42.3%

Students with Disabilities 37.7%

Met AYP target of 45.5% Proficient in Math with 66.3% Proficient

Missed 2009 AYP target of 45.5% Proficient in ELA in 3 subgroups:

African American or Black 39.1%

Hispanic or Latino 43.7%

Students with Disabilities 35.3%

13 schools met both ELA and Math AYP targets

5 schools missed the AYP target for ELA

3 schools missed the AYP target for Math

Chipman Middle School made AYP in Math for 5 subgroups by making “safe harbor”  
Wood Middle School made AYP in Math for 5 subgroups by making “safe harbor”  
Ruby Bridges Elementary made AYP in ELA by making targets

*PI:*

Although the district did not meet AYP targets in several subgroups in ELA and Math, the district is not in PI and will not be in PI for at least 2 years

Chipman Middle School moves to PI-4 status  
Washington, Paden, and Wood are on PI “watch”

*How can we measure success if not by test scores?*

High school graduation rates  
High school dropout rates  
Number of students leaving high school meeting UC A-G requirements  
Number of students enrolled in AP courses  
Number of students passing AP tests

Member Mooney noted it would be interesting to see a 5-year trend for Encinal High School, and a cohort view of how things are happening through middle and high school.

**MOTION: Member Mooney**

**SECONDED: Member Spencer**

That the Board of Education extend the meeting past 10:30 PM.

**AYES:** Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

**NOES:** None

**MOTION CARRIED**

Member Spencer noted it is incumbent upon us to show information and make transparent. Member Spencer requested an analysis on interdistrict students and their impact on Alameda students. The majority of elementary interdistrict students are at Washington Elementary. Superintendent Vital added this is one of the topics in an upcoming Master Plan presentation.

**Approval of Resolution No. 09-0058 Intent to Dismiss Classified Employees, California School Employees Association (CSEA – Chapter No. 27, Paraprofessional Unit)**

California Education Code Sections 45117 sets forth dates and procedures by which the Board of Education must express its intent to reduce or discontinue particular kinds of services and give notice to classified California School Employees Association (CSEA) paraprofessional employees that their services may not be required for the 2009-2010 school year.

The item will eliminate a Bilingual Paraprofessional due to no need for FARSI resource support.

**MOTION: Member Mooney**

**SECONDED: Member Tam**

That the Board of Education approve Resolution No. 09-0058 as submitted.

**AYES:** Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

**NOES:** None

**Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report**

The Board of Education’s approval is needed by the Alameda County Office of Education on the quarterly reporting of complaints received under the Valenzuela/CAHSEE Lawsuit Settlement – Williams

Uniform Complaints. This report covers the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter dated May 2009 – July 2009.

Member Spencer noted she is concerned that notices are not posted on all classroom doors and would like that looked into. ACLC has notices posted on the doors so parents and students are aware that they can file a complaint if they have a concern.

**MOTION: Member Mooney**

**SECONDED: Member Jensen**

That the Board of Education approve the Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report as submitted.

**AYES:** Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

**NOES:** None

**Board Member Reports**

Member Mooney mentioned the film display premiere at Mastick Senior Center and Encinal High School Back-to-School Night.

Member Tam noted Back-to-School nights at Encinal, Ruby Bridges, and Washington, and a visit to WCDC. This Saturday there will be events held at the library during the day and an evening concert at 7:00 PM.

Member Spencer mentioned she attended the BayFarm National Anthem ceremony and visited during lunch to observe the recycling operation. She also attended Encinal Back-to-School night, the Mastic Alameda Currents event, and the Multicultural Center Chicano film showing as well as an Alameda High cross-country event.

**Student Discipline**

**MOTION: Member Mooney**

**SECONDED: Member Jensen**

That student number 69243 be expelled from Alameda Unified School District through June 14, 2010 as recommended.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

**AYES:** Jensen, McMahon, Mooney, Spencer, Tam

**NOES:** None

**Adjournment**

President McMahon adjourned the meeting at 10:47 PM.