

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 24, 2016**

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: Caroline Van Alst, William Ziegler, Thomas Newmeyer, Joshua Barrow,
Ida Times

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Jason McCormick, a community member, said that he had sent an email to Superintendent Ferguson stating that in recent months, the Sausalito Marin City School District was asked to cease discriminating against protected classes of voters and children. The email continues: The California Board of Education and the Department of Education, as well as the San Diego District Attorney's office have received information regarding a pattern of illegal policies, including unconstitutional practices and a lack of official accountability. It is the responsibility of this board to help our entire community climb out of poverty, end institutional racism and classism and otherwise act in the best interest of all pupils. Please explain the district's supplemental grant to the charter school. Please hold yourselves accountable. This has been going on for more than half a century and it is time for it to end.

Mr. Ferguson asked Mr. McCormick to meet with him on February 1st.

Marilyn Mackel, a community member, said that she would like to address an appearance of impropriety if it is the case that the board intends to endorse the hiring of Melinda Wallace as associate superintendent. She explained: The entire board did not participate in the hiring process, nor was the community involved. One person asked to participate and was sent a text message without a date or time for the interviews. This does not reflect respect for this person or the community. The other person who asked to participate was a school staff member. Thus there is no rational way that Ms. Wallace can be hired without an appearance of impropriety. Regarding her position as principal, there was no community participation or input in the process, little board participation and not even the input of current school administrators.

Turning to the matter of the superintendent, legal counsel can tell you that if Mr. Van Zant did not share the reason for his request for leave, his failure to inform you shows a lack of integrity.

Our school has come a long way in the last two years in dealing with behaviors that negatively impacted the children's ability to learn. Unfortunately, without the supportive resources that would have boosted academic standards, the school has not improved as much as we would have expected. Your principal hire must be someone who is capable of dealing with diverse communities and I am afraid Ms. Wallace is not that person.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board convened closed session at 2:15 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

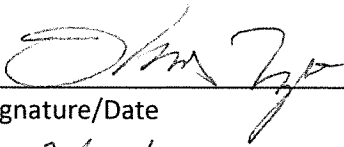
Open session reconvened at 3:35 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Trustee Barrow said that no action was taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Newmeyer/Ziegler/All to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

 2/2/16

Signature/Date

Clerk

Title