

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2018**

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: Joshua Barrow, Ida Green, Thomas Newmeyer, Debra Turner,
Caroline Van Alst

Superintendent: Will McCoy

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board and Superintendent convened closed session at 5:01 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Open session reconvened at 6:00 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Van Alst led the pledge of allegiance.

REORGANIZATION OF AGENDA

Trustee Van Alst said that concerns have been raised by the County Superintendent that she has a common law conflict of interest in decisions that affect the relationship between the district and the charter school, arising from the fact that she has children attending the charter school. She continued: Although I do not believe that a conflict exists, given the nature of the allegations and the ongoing investigation of the district by the Attorney General, I am recusing myself from several items on the agenda: 8.03, 9.01, 9.02, 10.01, 11.01, 14.01, 14.02 and 14.03. She requested that those items be moved to the end of the agenda.

Trustee Newmeyer made the same comment.

Trustee Green said that she is recusing from item 14.07 because her husband is the fitness coordinator at Marin City Community Services District.

M/s/c Van Alst/Newmeyer to rearrange the agenda to allow guest speakers to present first and move the recusal items to the end

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Absent: None

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Trustee Green said that she attended a conference on domestic violence arranged by One Love, a Virginia based organization. She encouraged the district to take part in their workshops for middle school students. Trustee Turner said she enjoyed attending events celebrating Black History month at BMLK, as well as hearing fantastic readings at the middle school.

David Finnane said that Jeremiah Moultrie has received a full scholarship to Marin Catholic High School. The Board congratulated Jeremiah on his outstanding achievement.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Marilyn Mackel said that at the last board meeting, the principal gave a report on the performance of children at BMLK. Three trustees said that they had not heard such data before. This is disturbing, because several times over the years, the Board has heard the same information regarding our students' performance.

Trustees have a fiduciary duty to act exclusively to promote the interests of BMLK, as well as a duty of care and loyalty. The time for the trustees to continue to recuse themselves has long passed, she concluded.

Bettie Hodges said for the last year and a half, there has been a lot of concern about the establishment of a coherent discipline policy at BMLK. A recent incident regarding a student and a teacher that ended in the courts calls attention to the lack of a consistent policy based on restorative practices. She said: I am worried about the possibility of criminalizing students at this school. We must have a discipline policy that does not lead to more unnecessary involvement of students in the court system.

Community Advisory Committee Report – California Collaborative for Educational Excellence

Sujie Shin gave an overview of the work of CCEE. She said that the emphasis is on capacity building at the local level, so that district can get to decisions that are more evidence based. This work entails understanding the local context, prioritizing goals and continuous improvement.

The Community Advisory Committee and the School Site Council have combined to form the Transformation Team, which has engaged with a wide group of stakeholders to focus on student achievement.

Marin County Office of Education Technical Assistance Team

Raquel Rose and Brooks Allen of MCOE said that while No Child Left Behind policies emphasized testing in English and Math, today there is a more holistic approach to student achievement. To support districts and students, the County Office of Education is identifying districts that may need additional support to implement this new approach. Conversations are continuing to determine the nature of the assistance and connecting it directly to the district Local Control and Accountability Plan, they told the Board.

At 7:16 pm, trustees Van Alst and Newmeyer left the meeting.

Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Progress Report - Parent Leadership Action Network

Pecolia Manigo of PLAN said that moving forward, LCAP will focus on analyzing our actions so far. It is clear that we should prioritize and focus on the most important issues in an LCAP that originally ran to 131 pages. This will happen in collaboration with the Transformation Team as well as the rest of the stakeholders. She explained the details of the planned steps from now until June when the LCAP is approved by the Board.

At 7:54 pm, trustees Van Alst and Newmeyer returned to the meeting.

Community School Coordinator Report

Jennifer Puckett showed slides that illustrated the numerous Black History Month activities around the school, including a large community gathering hosted by the Cornerstone Baptist Church.

She said: the Hannah Project invited the middle school to lunch at the Senior Center. Many of the students were able to go to Novato to watch the new Black Panther movie. Our garden continues to produce lots of kale and collard greens. We had a successful book fair. Thanks to a generous donation from the Rotary Club, all our students received a \$4 coupon to buy books. All our 8th graders have now registered for Tam high school. I am very grateful to be part of such a warm and caring community, she concluded.

Principal's Report

Principal Finnane said that the Transformation Team has reached out to the entire community to discuss the future of BMLK. He said that he is in talks with community leaders to implement restorative justice. He continued: Our current enrollment stands at 126. We have had nine suspensions to date; last year we had a total of 37. He thanked Campus supervisor Lawana Cook for working with students on individual study programs.

WCA Report

Jeff Knowles of WCA board said that the school's Parent Council's emphasis this year was on family education. Staff survey results show that teachers at WCA feel supported and engaged. He thanked Coach Wayne Price for leading the district's 7th and 8th grade boys basketball team in a winning season.

Contract with the Marin City Community Services District to Provide Physical Education Services at Bayside MLK Jr. Academy for the Remainder of the 2017-2018 School Year

As no motion was made, the matter was tabled.

At 8:46 pm, trustees Van Alst and Newmeyer left the room.

District Letter of Support for the Willow Creek Academy Creek Restoration Project

M/s/c Green/Turner to Approve the District Letter of Support for the Willow Creek Academy Creek Restoration Project

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst

At 8:50 pm, trustees Newmeyer and Van Alst returned to the meeting.

Roll Call Newmeyer/ Van Alst to Approve the Following Consent Agenda items:

Payment of Warrants – Batches 30-35

Minutes of the February 1, 5, 6 and 28, 2018 Board Meetings

Glass Door Donation of \$5000 for the Bayside MLK Jr. Academy Music Program

Sausalito Rotary Club Donation of \$500 for the Bayside MLK Jr. Academy Book Fair

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Absent: None

Contract with Center for Excellence for Theater Project

Coordinator Services (Entire Cost Not to Exceed \$5250 and Reimbursed to the District)

M/s/c Turner/Van Alst to Approve the Contract with Center for Excellence for Theater Project Coordinator Services with a modification

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Absent: None

Contract with Momentum in Teaching for Professional Development in 2017-2018 and 2018-2019

M/s/c Newmeyer/Van Alst to Approve the Contract with Momentum in Teaching for Professional Development in 2017-2018 and 2018-2019

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Absent: None

Consider Approval of the Contract with Epoch Education Inc. for Educational Training Services in 2017-2018, in the Amount of \$30,000

Marilyn Mackel the areas to be covered under this contract are academic competencies and come within the purview of the principal.

David Finnane said Dr. Dome of Epoch has worked with our teacher in the past. We have middle schoolers with complex challenges as well as strengths. He continued: She was a tremendous asset to me in my work here and I know that she can provide valuable support. We have had challenging experiences for our teachers in the 7th and 8th grades. Dr. Dome can give me feedback in an honest way as someone from outside this community. She would like to help us recruit teachers of color.

Trustee Turner said that this is the second contract that is coming to the Board when it is already underway. Mr. Newmeyer made a motion to approve the contract. As there was no second, the motion failed.

At 9:45 pm, trustees Van Alst and Newmeyer left the meeting.

2017-2018 Second Interim Budget Report

Superintendent McCoy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the budget, outlining the main revenues and expenses. He said that there is concern about the well being of the two schools in our district. We don't know what future agreements between the district and the charter school will look like. He said: This is about two schools and both must thrive. We have to re-bench the conversation and the Board must decide how to allocate resources. The district must provide accurate information to allow the Board to make decisions. It is recommended that the second interim report be approved with a positive certification, but the concerns raised by MCOE are still valid. We need to allocate resources according to need.

Several WCA parents commented on the budget report. Marcella Alexis Addae said that talk of slashing and cutting the Willow Creek budget the school will be bankrupt. She asked what the Board plans to do to make sure that all the children are served equally.

Alexandra Cantin said the district's proposals would be devastating for WCA. Many people in Sausalito rely on the services that the school provides to their children, she concluded.

Jeff Knowles said that since WCA opened, there have been two schools of thought about the allocation of funds – one maintains that need is paramount while the other emphasizes the type of school under consideration. He continued: the present proposal would take between \$.5 and \$1 million from WCA, the school that educates more than half of the high-need students in the district and an equal percentage of children from Marin City and it does so without an analysis of the educational impact on students.

Marilyn Mackel said that some years ago, the Board approved a bond measure to build a middle school in Marin City for all the district students. The same Board then decided to move the K-5 Bayside school in Sausalito to Marin City, allowing WCA to take over the entire campus at 630 Nevada Street. This meant that the district had to build additional portable classrooms to house the lower grades at BMLK. To do this, it had to take out a loan. That loan is the Certificate of Participation that WCA would like the district to pay down with insurance funds meant to rebuild the district office. The current campus in Marin City has no space for its various needs. The rebuilding of the district office on the old Annex building site will alleviate some of that overcrowding.

M/s/c Turner/Green to Approve the 2017-2018 Second Interim Budget Report

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst

Consider Approval the 2016-2017 Basic Aid Excess Agreement with Willow Creek Academy

M/s/c Green/Turner to Approve the 2016-2017 Basic Aid Excess Agreement with Willow Creek Academy

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst

Correspondence

The Board noted receipt of letters from the California Department of Education and Willow Creek Academy.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent McCoy gave an update on corrective actions and the Annex project.

ADJOURNMENT

M/s/c Green/Turner to Adjourn at 11:45 p.m.

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst

 4/17/18

Signature/Date



Title