

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 16, 2013**

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: William Ziegler, Caroline Van Alst, Shirley Thornton, Ed. D.,
Thomas Newmeyer, Joshua Barrow
Superintendent: Valerie Pitts, Ed. D.

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

The agenda order was approved.

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public Comment

- Denise Suto, teacher, gave a brief science class update.
- Royce McLemore, Marin City resident, spoke of using one's energy to build one's institution; Women Helping All People (WHAP) has built longevity and expects a waiting list in the fall.

GOVERNANCE

Superintendent Search

Public Comment

- Sharon Turner read a petition from Marin City parents and community members asking the board to keep Valerie Pitts on as Superintendent.
- Ellen Franz, 2nd grade teacher, speaking on behalf of certificated staff, reiterated her previous request to the board to slow down; a search at this time of major transition is significant.
- Fran Nelson thought that the timing of a superintendent search was poor. She asked the board to please keep Valerie Pitts on for at least a year to get the new school up and running. She stated that she was awed by the efforts of Daniel Norbutas and Tenisha Tate to create a new school over the past six months; now they face less money, fewer staff and a superintendent change.
- Sue Krenek suggested the new superintendent be prepared to provide strong guidance to bring everyone together; the board should enact a policy of support for all students regardless of placement in traditional or charter school.
- Orlando Lobo suggested the board consider adopting policy in support of all the children of the district regardless of which school they attend.
- Everett Brandon hoped decisions would be made before Valerie Pitts leaves; the move to Marin City seems to be a quick move; there seems to be no support for it from anyone he has talked to.
- Pamela Dake stated that the board is an elected body that has chosen to place its students in Marin City; Willow Creek Academy has its own board. Ms. Dake supports continuation of forums to ensure everyone works together on the process.
- Susan Cassidy suggested the superintendent will need honesty, ethical behavior and integrity. She thanked Valerie Pitts for what she has brought to the process and her common sense and integrity.
- Denise Suto expressed her disappointment with Sausalito residents' participation in their community schools. She felt that Valerie Pitts had brought trust to the community.

- Reverend Paul Mawry thought that the board should put more time and consideration into their search for a quality superintendent. The position calls for a highly skilled person with responsible stewardship. Reverend Mawry stated he would have more confidence in the process if the timeline were longer.

President Ziegler introduced Mr. Bill Levinson and Ms. Barbara Young of Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA) who led a review of the search process and planning session with board members:

Calendar for Search

A draft calendar was presented and agreed upon for the search.

Planning Meeting	May 16
Ed Cal Advertisement (HYA)	May 20, 27 and June 10
Ed Join ad (SMC)	May 17
Leadership Profile Interviews	May 28 (Bill), 31(Barbara)
Profile Report to Board	June 6 (Bill, special meeting)
Screening Interviews	June 18 (Barbara and Bill off site)
Workshop/Slate Presentation	June 27 (special meeting)
Board Interviews	July 8, and if second interview needed, July 10
Debriefing	(after last interview)
Site Visit	July 15 (Week of)
Superintendent Appointed	TBD
Superintendent Work Year	August 1

Board members will provide Bill Zeigler with recommendations for individuals and groups to be interviewed.

Consultants will ask interviewees to identify the strengths of the district, challenges facing the new superintendent, desired characteristics for the new superintendent, and to suggest possible candidates.

Bill Zeigler will serve as the liaison between the board and HYA during the search. Bill Levinson and Barbara Young are consultants on the search; Bill Levinson will serve as liaison to the board.

HYA will advertise the position in EdCal; the district will advertise the position in Ed Join. The board reviewed and authorized the submission of a revised advertisement indicating a “.6 part-time superintendent” vacancy. The HYA website will link to both district and charter school websites.

Due to the recent changes in the education code pertaining to superintendent contracts, HYA recommended the board schedule a workshop with district counsel to review all aspects of contracting with superintendents.

Discussion

- Board members can email group suggestions to Superintendent Pitts to pass on to the search team.
- Mr. Levinson clarified that the same four questions would be used for every interview, whether of an individual or a group.
- Trustee Van Alst suggested including interviews with WCA too.

Public Comment

- The HYA contract was approved at the last meeting with stipulations; what happened regarding those stipulations?
- When will you provide answers to our questions?

- Of what value is the input of the community; how much will you take it into consideration?
- Is it a given that Superintendent Pitts will not return? President Ziegler answered that she will stay through school start up this fall and transition to new leadership - the superintendent made that announcement at the last meeting.
- When was the HYA contract agreed to?
- How can you select a superintendent? That person may not be interested in a K-8 model.
- Will you recruit from outside California?

Open session was recessed at 6:20 pm. Superintendent Pitts departed the meeting.

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD PRIOR TO CLOSED SESSION

There was no further public comment.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board and representatives Bill Levinson and Barbara Young of Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA), convened closed session at 6:25 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Open session reconvened at 7:12 pm.

Report Out from Closed Session

President Ziegler announced that no reportable action was taken in closed session.

FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

May 21, June 13, June 27

UPCOMING DATES

- May 21 Bayside Spring Concert Assembly, 1:30-2:45 pm
- May 22 MLK Open House, 6:00-7:30 pm
- May 23 Golden Bell Education Evening (Awards), 4:30 pm
- May 27 School Closed, Memorial Day
- June 7 Bayside Achievement Awards Assembly, 8:30 am
- June 12 Kindergarten Step Up Ceremony, 10:00 am
- June 12 Graduation 8th Grade, 6:30 pm
- June 13 4th Grade Step Up Ceremony, 10:00 am
- June 13 Last School Day, Minimum Day, Dismissal at 12:30 pm

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Barbara Van der ... 6/13/13
Signature/Date

Clerk
Title