

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
December 9, 2014**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Board and Superintendent convened closed session at 5:31 p.m.

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Open session reconvened 6:10 p.m.

**REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Trustee Van Alst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OATH OF OFFICE CEREMONY (Multi-purpose Room)**

Judge William H. Stephens (RET) of Marin County Superior Court administered the oath of office to the board's new member, Ida Times.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION – Dr. Shirley Thornton (Multi-purpose Room)**

Superintendent Van Zant recognized Dr. Shirley Thornton's 16-year service to the children of Sausalito and Marin City. He said that she is a board member of exceptional background and experience and that it has been an honor to work with her. He announced that she has agreed to come back to the district as a volunteer and thanked her for her selfless service on behalf of all students. He then presented Dr. Thornton with a crystal bowl engraved with her name and years of service.

Dr. Thornton told the audience that two years ago, she began talking Ida Times about serving on the board. She added that it was Ida's mother Betty who got her involved in the Rotary Club and encouraged her active involvement in the community and that she would expect nothing less than that same level of commitment from her daughter. I am looking forward to seeing Ida serve a 16-year term on the board, she concluded.

At 6:22 p.m., the regular meeting was adjourned.

At 6:37 p.m., the Organizational meeting was called to order.

**ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS**

**Newmeyer/Barrow/ All to approve the Election of the following board officers:**

Caroline Van Alst - Board President

Joshua Barrow - Board Vice President

Ida Times - Board Clerk

Superintendent Steve Van Zant was appointed Board Secretary.

**Designation of Governing Board Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2015**  
**Newmeyer/Van Alst/ All to approve Governing Board Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2015**

At 6:45 p.m., the Organizational Meeting was adjourned.

At 6:46 p.m., the regular board meeting reconvened.

**AGENDA ORDER**

The agenda order was approved.

Board president Van Alst began the proceedings by thanking William Ziegler for serving two years as president of the Board.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

Trustee Times said that she met with Willow Creek Head of School Royce Conner and toured Bayside MLK with Principal Jonnette Newton. She was very impressed with Ms. Newton's knowledge and understanding of the children, she said.

**MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Alan Rothkop, the director of maintenance and operations, said that the new alarm system is set and ready to go at all school sites. All the storm drains and gutters have been cleaned in readiness for the coming storm.

The district is still negotiating with possible tenants for the unused rooms at the district office.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Van Zant said that the district is still weighing its options regarding the closure of schools in anticipation of the severe storm coming to Marin.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Principal Jonnette Newton said that Bayside MLK is reviving the Honor Roll tradition. Five students in grades 6-8 have made the roll for this semester. Teachers are evaluating the appropriate benchmarks, so that all grades can participate in the future.

The school is working on guidelines and procedures for detention, locker use, rain days, athletics, the honor roll, spelling bees and Saturday school. We would like to make the Saturday school a positive experience and begin that process by changing its name to Saturday University, she told the Board.

Ms. Newton said that she is meeting with teachers regarding curriculum and instruction. We have some gifted and talented students and we would like to address their needs as well as those who need extra help, she said.

Ellen Franz gave a report on improvements in students' reading levels since the first assessment took place in August/September.

**ORAL CUMMUNICATION**

Felicia Gaston of Performing Stars of Marin presented Board members with a special calendar printed by her organization.

Denise Suto gave a presentation on the Reach STEM(Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) program, a sailing instruction program in Sausalito. She told the Board that some Tamalpais High School students will be mentoring our pupils involved in the Robotics Club. This is proving to be a very popular subject at Bayside MLK.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Roll Call /Ziegler/Newmeyer/All to approve the following consent agenda item:**

Minutes of the November 18 2014 Board Meeting

Payment of Warrants – Batches 21-23

PAR

Field Trips

**2014-2015 First Interim Budget Report**

Business Manager Paula Rigney said that the first Interim Report gives a snapshot of district revenues and expenses to October 31. We are 39% into Basic Aid, which means that our property taxes exceed our federal and state revenues to that extent. This report was sent to the Marin County Office of Education with a positive certification.

**Roll Call /Ziegler/Newmeyer/All to approve the 2014-2015 First Interim Budget Report**

**POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

**Barrow/Newmeyer/All to approve the following Board Policy:**

Board Policy 5131 – Students - Student Conduct

**The following policies were brought to the Board for a first read:**

Board Policy 7000 – Facilities – Concepts and Roles

Board Policy 7110 – Facilities – Facilities Master Plan

**BOARD REQUESTS**

Superintendent Van Zant said that he expects to receive a template form regarding technology use from Trustee Barrow.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Ziegler /Newmeyer/All to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.**



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Signature/Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Title