

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
December 14, 2017**

**ATTENDANCE**

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

Superintendent: Will McCoy

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Trustee Green led the pledge of allegiance.

**ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS**

**Board President**

Trustee Green nominated trustee Barrow for the office of Board President

**M/s/c Green/Van Alst to elect Trustee Barrow as Board President**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer**

**Board Vice President**

Trustee Turner nominated trustee Green for the office of Board Vice President

**M/s/c Turner/Barrow to elect Trustee Green as Board Vice President**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer**

**Board Clerk**

Trustee Green nominated trustee Turner for the office of Board Clerk

**M/s/c Green/Van Alst to elect Trustee Turner as Board Clerk**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer**

**Appointment of Board Secretary – Will McCoy**

**M/s/c Van Alst/Green to Appoint Superintendent Will McCoy as Board Secretary**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer**

**Adjournment of Organizational Meeting**

**M/s/c Green/Van Alst to Adjourn the Organizational Meeting at 6:09 p.m.**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer**

## **OPEN SESSION – Regular Meeting**

The regular meeting convened at 6:10 p.m.

### **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: 4.01-3 Correspondence, 5.01-3, District Reports, 6.01, WCA Oversight Committee Report, 7.02, Presentation by the Friends of the Creek, 9.02, First Interim Budget Approval, 11.01-8, Policy Development. She asked that these items, except for 7.02, be moved to the end of the agenda.

### **M/s/c Van Alst/Turner to Re-order the Agenda as Outlined**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer**

### **BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

Trustee Turner said that she attended the Governance Workshop and found the discussion about the vision and mission of the district useful and instructive. She also came to Student Recognition Day and saw several fine performances.

Trustee Green shared that she lost her youngest brother on November 14 to valley fever.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Sonja Hanson gave an update on the Bridgeway tunnel lighting project. She said that a contractor will soon be selected and is slated to complete the work by mid March.

Referring to trustee recusals, Marilyn Mackel said that the underlying reason for the Attorney General's investigation is not that some trustees have children at Willow Creek Academy, but the failure to exercise fiduciary care for the school for which one is responsible.

### **REPORTS**

#### **Student Recognition**

Principal David Finnane recognized the following middle school students for placement on the merit roll:

Jasmine Salas Gonzalez

Charlee Dorhan

Jonathan Hernandez Estrada

Fermin Valladares

Terrell Rollins

Erislam Malikov

He also praised the performance of the following students who were placed on the Honor Roll for the trimester:

Natalie Nong

Narottam Hammari

Elena Caldwell

Miracle Hamilton

Principal Finnane said that the art open studios have been taking place regularly since September. He thanked the Center for Excellence for its financial contributions and work on behalf of the children. He announced that he is continuing his work with community mental health care experts to have more consistency in staffing in the counseling program.

He said that he has met with Tamalpais High School staff to put together a transition program for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Students will spend 3-4 days there to learn more about the school's various programs. This year, registration for Tam will take place in the Bayside MLK Jr. Academy multi-purpose room.

While some components of the Freedom School model are in place, he said that he wants to expand the incorporation of culturally relevant literature in the curriculum. Enrollment is at 124.

#### **WCA**

Head of School Tara Seekins said all staff members have set their professional goals keyed to the LCAP and Strategic Plan. At the December Parent Council meeting, the school's support strategies for students with disabilities, families in crisis or transition, homeless students, English Learners, and immigrant students and families were laid out.

The 2018-19 Academic Calendar has been approved. The winter MAP testing window started last week; the data will be analyzed as part of the ELA and Math Deep Dives. Four of seven current paraprofessionals are in the process of obtaining their teaching credentials. Enrollment is at 409.

#### **BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB**

Michelle Edwards of the Boys and Girls Club of Sonoma County gave a report on the activities of her organization. At BMLK, the plan is to add a senior program director and increase the site director's position to full time. The goal is to serve 100 students by next semester, about 20 more than the current count. Outcome-driven club experiences include 34 academic programs, as well as sports and fitness and life choice programs. She said that the hope is to offer intramural sports leagues to the middle school students, academic intervention, more program specialists and teen late nights in 2018.

At 7.09 trustee Van Alst left the meeting

#### **FRIENDS OF THE CREEK**

Steve Moore of Friends of the Creek said that this educational non-profit was formed seven years ago. The proposed day-lighting of the creek involves removing fire hazards, restarting a well and irrigation system, treating parking lot storm drainage runoff and ideally an educational enhancement component. He said that the organization hopes to enhance foundation donations with State funds and will need the district's permission to construct improvements on the property as well as a letter of support from the district to the

State Coastal Conservancy. He emphasized the benefits of the project: outdoor classrooms, aesthetic benefit, improved water quality, a wildlife corridor and a better connection to the community.

Jennifer Conway said that the WCA Parent Council fully supports this project. It is good for the environment, community and students, she told the Board.

Marcella Alexis-Adde thanked Mr. Moore for his work on the project. She said that currently, children play in a swamp when it rains.

At 7: 45, trustee Van Alst returned to the meeting.

**Roll Call Turner/Green to Approve the Following Consent Agenda items:**

Payment of Warrants – Batches 18-21

Minutes of the November 9, 2017 Board Meeting

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer**

**Revised 2017-2018 Board Meeting Calendar**

**M/s/c Van Alst/Turner to Approve the Revised 2017-2018 Board Meeting Calendar**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer**

At 8:00 pm, trustee Van Alst left the meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Superintendent McCoy informed the Board that the district has received a letter from the Marin County Office of Education regarding its 2016-2017 Unaudited Actuals. He also discussed the Willow Creek Academy letter regarding facilities and the district response to Willow Creek Academy's Proposition 39 request.

**Approval of the Agreement with Marin County Office of Education for CBO Services through June 30, 2018**

**M/s/c Turner /Green to Approve the Agreement with Marin County Office of Education for CBO Services through June 30, 2018**

**Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner**

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst**

**ANNEX BUILDING UPDATE**

Superintendent McCoy thanked Walt Buster and Terena Mares of MCOE, as well as Joshua Barrow and Marilyn Mackel, for their help in developing options for the annex building. He said that so far, the paramount concern in the decision making process has been the October 2018 deadline for the \$374K seismic improvement grant from the State. He said that he will bring several options to the Board in January, which include retrofitting or demolishing the building, as well as a combination of options. It has been determined that the district can ask the State for a change order, allowing the grant money to be applied solely to classroom replacement, and removing the original language regarding demolition. If this change order is approved - since the district has

already spent far in excess of the necessary 50% of the grant toward the construction of the modular classrooms – the entire sum can go into the district’s general fund and possibly be used to reduce the original MLK Jr. Academy construction loan.

The other financial consideration is the \$3 million in insurance payments to the district for the loss of the building at 33 Buchanan in the September 2015 fire. The insurance payment must be used to rebuild the district office, but this does not preclude us from assigning additional space within the building for counseling offices and storage.

Trustee Barrow said that it should be noted that approximately \$1.6 million of this money has already been paid to the district and some of it has been spent. He also asked about contingency plans in case the change order is not approved. Superintendent McCoy said that such plans will be brought to the Board for consideration in January. In addition, the relevant item in the January agenda will ask the Board to discuss the merits of a retrofit vs. new construction.

#### **Local Control & Accountability Plan Progress Report**

Superintendent McCoy acknowledged Pecolia Manigo of Parent Leadership Action Network for her work on the LCAP update. He then discussed the most current State Dashboard which shows a snapshot of the district’s numbers as they affect our students. Metrics for absenteeism and suspensions show that we still have a lot of work to do to make this a school that our children and the community deserve. Terena Mares added that although State metrics do not show any schools in the county of Marin as eligible for targeted assistance, the County Office of Education is taking the lead in designating some schools in Novato, San Rafael and Sausalito-Marín City as eligible. She said that MCOE will be able to explain what this designation means for this district in more concrete terms in the next two months.

#### **Facilities Winter Work Update**

The HVAC upgrade at Bayside MLK Jr. Academy has been completed and heat is back on in the main building as well as the multi-purpose room.

#### **STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Willow Creek Academy Oversight (Barrow, Turner)

Superintendent McCoy said that he made an oversight visit to WCA and district staff must now conduct a review of the relevant documents.

#### **2017-2018 First Interim Budget Report**

Interim CBO Amy Prescott said this is a first look at the budget since its adoption in June. She said that it is recommended that the Board approve the report with a qualified certification, as the district can meet its financial obligations for this fiscal year and the next, but has a shortfall of the minimum 5% economic reserve requirement for fiscal 2019-2020. The district had an overall increase in revenues of \$303,889 due to a rise in property taxes, donations, grants, and the recognition of the STRS “On Behalf Pension Contributions.” The STRS On Behalf was added to the budget in the amount \$136,403 (revenue always equals expenses). This amount reflects the District's unfunded liability for STRS and PERS.

In expenses, there was a decrease in certificated and classified salaries of \$114,084, partially offset by an increase in contracted services.

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

**Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner**

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst**

**POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

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

Board Policy 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities

Board Policy 0430 - Comprehensive Local Plan for Special Education

Administrative Regulations 1312.3 and 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures

Board Policy 1330 – Use of School Facilities

Administrative Regulation 3230 – Federal Grant Funds

Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 3311 – Bids

Board Policy 3312 – Contracts

Board Policy 3470 – Debt Issuance and Management


**ADJOURNMENT**

**M/s/c Turner/Green to Adjourn at 10:17 p.m.**

**Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner**

**Noes: None**

**Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst**

 1/9/18

Signature/Date

Clerk

Title