

**SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 26, 2018**

ATTENDANCE

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

Superintendent: Will McCoy

Deputy Superintendent Terena Mares of the Marin County Office of Education also attended the meeting

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board and Superintendent convened closed session at 5:36 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Open session reconvened at 6:08 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 a child 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: 15.01: 2018-2019 District Local Control Accountability Plan, 15.02: 2018-2019 District Budget, 15.05: Willow Creek Academy's Petition for a Renewal of its Charter, 15.10: Contract with Ryland School Business Consulting.

M/s/c Newmeyer/Van Alst to Approve the Agenda

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Trustee Green said that the graduation ceremony at BMLK was a fabulous event and a clear indication of the work and love that the community devotes to the school and our children. The step-

up ceremony also made us “Panther” proud. She continued: As a trustee on this Board and long time resident, I am proud to call this community of Sausalito and Marin City home and myself a servant of all the children who go to school here.

All trustees concurred that this year’s graduation ceremony was a memorable event.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Marilyn Mackel said that at the last board meeting, the debt that the District incurred for the construction of the modular buildings was blamed on the former superintendent. This indicates that the Board does not want to take responsibility for its actions.

APPRECIATION – FRAN NELSON

Ms. Nelson has been the Bayside MLK Jr. Academy librarian for 15 years. She is retiring at the end of June.

Principal Finnane said that often library specialists feel that the library is their exclusive domain. Not so with Fran Nelson. She is gracious and thoughtful and sees the library as part of the public space open to all to support the work of the community. In addition, she has worked hard with the public library system which is helping us update our library collection.

Trustee Barrow presented Ms. Nelson with a gift and a bouquet of flowers.

Ms. Nelson thanked the Board and said that she has mixed feelings about leaving. She would like to come back as a volunteer to help as needed and stay involved with the school and community that she has grown to love.

SUPERINTENDENT

Incoming interim superintendent Terena Mares said that the district has been making somewhat slow progress toward the community school goal, which has been part of the LCAP for the last three years. She said that district administrators will continue its work with the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence to further progress on the goal and that she will give monthly reports to the Board going forward.

Regarding Assembly Bill 2808, Ms. Mares said that she would categorize it as a reset of the funding targets associated with the LCFF & LCAP legislation of 2013. The bill reintroduces an ambitious funding goal– it is estimated the funding goal will require an additional \$45 billion currently estimated for the late 2030s. In the meantime, the State will resort to gap funding to compensate for shortfalls. Once the bill has become law, the County Office of Education is available to model various scenarios with property taxes and average attendance to gauge the impact of these funds on our district and its financial commitments to the charter school.

Ms. Mares said that for the Director of Maintenance and Operations position, the district will pursue a possible contract with neighboring districts, consulting company or a retired director. This may provide an opportunity to analyze our staffing and management of facilities needs and to be more proactive and efficient.

Jeff Knowles said that Willow Creek Academy followed the advice of the California School Boards Association and adopted a resolution to support full and fair funding of our schools. California is a laggard in education funding. Assembly Bill 2808 will boost education funding across California. This Board should also join our effort in adopting a resolution supporting the bill, he concluded.

David Suto said that AB 2808 indicates that legislators do not believe we are spending enough on education. We should look at long term bond funding and ways in which this bill would impact a possible bond.

SITE LEADERSHIP – David Finnane

Principal Finnane thanked everyone for coming to the graduation ceremony. He said that the testing data for Bayside MLK Jr. Academy indicates that we have a great deal of work to do and we should be held accountable.

There is a lot of interest in Freedom School from the community and we look forward to having a full contingent of students attend this summer.

We hope to update our current web site by the first day of school.

Mr. Finnane gave a PowerPoint presentation on the latest ESGI and MAP testing data which showed that kindergarteners are making excellent progress, on a par with their peers in the County. He showed MAP testing results for 1st through 8th grades, showing the class average percentile for each grade. Next year, we must look at the results and respond to them and hold teachers accountable to use the data to drive their instruction. Each child must get instruction based on where he/she is, he told the Board.

A parent asked what the school plans to do for kids who are behind in their studies. Mr. Finnane said that we are blessed with small class sizes so our teachers should be able to meet the individual needs of our students. We will look at general education intervention services for our students to remediate reading comprehension. We also have a large number of volunteers who come to us through 10000 Degrees. Going forward, we need a research-based intervention program so that children who need help will get the right coaching.

At 7:35 pm, trustee Van Alst left the meeting.

Willow Creek Academy's Petition for a Renewal of its Charter

Tara Seekins, head of school at Willow Creek Academy shared the mission and vision of the school. Enrollment for next year is expected to be equally divided between Sausalito and Marin City. There will also be about 60 children from out of district.

She said that the curriculum at WCA is project-based and inquiry driven and emphasizes global citizenship. The school strives for a responsive classroom model to address the social-emotional needs of its students and uses the restorative justice model to address behavior support.

Ms. Seekins said that WCA students outperform California students as well as similar charter schools in English and Math on State standardized tests.

WCA Board president Kurt Weinsheimer thanked Ms. Seekins and her team for their consistent efforts. He said that WCA continues to have problems to close the achievement gap, but is moving in the right direction. He outlined the school's priorities: Teaching /curriculum, high school readiness, hiring and training the best staff, culture and community and parental engagement.

Mr. Weinsheimer discussed the effect of district budget projections for 2019-20. He said that assuming maximum charges to WCA, there is 10% gap between the school's current budget and potential costs.

Lisa Mori of Fagen Friedman and Fulfrost explained the legal process for reviewing charter renewal petition. The District is primarily required to look at student academic performance in considering the renewal of the charter. There are 16 required elements that the petition must address. She said that it is the opinion of Fagen Friedman and Fulfrost that they covered all 16 elements.

Terri Ryland of Ryland School Business Consulting gave an overview of WCA's financial projections. She said that the budget appeared solid and that it is likely that the school will be able to successfully implement the program set forth in its petition.

Marilyn Mackel said her concern is about the lack of comprehensive performance data of WCA students.

David Suto said this is a good occasion for the Board to give feedback to the charter school. He continued: Ms. Seekins talked about the need for art, physical education and other non academic subjects at Willow Creek Academy. I wish that better racial/ demographic data had been used in the presentation; these would have shown an over-concentration of white students at WCA. We need to have more children from Sausalito at Bayside MLK Jr. Academy. Going forward, it is important for the two schools to work together.

Peter Van Meter said that he has been a tutor at Bayside MLK Jr. Academy for the past 23 years. He said that the charter school is the best thing to have happened to this district and urged the trustees to approve the petition and fund WCA adequately to allow it to continue its program.

Jeff Knowles said that the petition provides demographic data based on the most recent census information from 2010. The law requires the charter school to show that it tries to achieve demographic balance and WCA is proud of its achievements in this regard.

At 9:17 p.m., Trustee Barrow said that the Board would take a short break. The Board reconvened the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

M/s/c Turner/Green to Approve Willow Creek Academy's Petition for a Renewal of its Charter

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Van Alst

Trustee Van Alst returned to the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Payment of Warrants – Batches 47-48

Minutes of the June 12 and June 14, 2018 Board Meetings

Purchase of the Read Naturally Software for the Resource Classroom (\$825)

Fagen Friedman Fulfroost Legal Services Agreement for 2018-2019 (Renewal)

California School Boards Association Membership (\$4973.00) and Gamut Manual Maintenance Fees (\$3080.00) for 2018-2019 (Renewal)

Follett School Library Management System Software Invoice for 2018-2019 (\$1254.01) (Renewal)

2018-2019 Agreement with the Marin County Office of Education for the edStop1 School Web Portal Membership (\$266.70) (Renewal)

2018-19 Consolidated Application to Be Submitted to the California Department of Education by June 30, 2018

2018-2019 Garden Education Coordinator Contract in the Amount of \$20,010

Contract with Earl Farnsworth Express for Relocation Services at Bayside Martin Luther King Jr. Academy not to Exceed \$13,493 (New Expense)

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Van Alst

Noes: None

Abstain: Turner

At 9:29 pm, trustee Van Alst left the meeting.

District's 2018-2019 Local Control Accountability Plan and 2018-2019 Budget

Ms. Mares said that the district is grateful for the work by Amy Prescott on the budget and LCAP. She explained that this version of the budget has been updated to include an additional Summer Bridge class to accommodate all 34 children who wish to attend. There is provision for a full-time PE and full-time foreign language teacher for the 19-20 and 20-21 budgets.

For next year, the budget deficit has increased to \$707,531 but the 5% reserve has been maintained. She then summarized the impact of the expiration of the MOU with WCA in 2019, projecting a net estimated positive budgetary impact of \$835,712.

Over \$500K in academic program services that the District has planned for 18-19 will be covered by grants. The District contribution to the Center for Excellence arts program has not been added to the out-year budgets, and pending Board approval will be incorporated into future multi-year projections.

Roughly \$3 million of our 18-19 budget is going towards goal 1 in the LCAP, namely academic achievement. The bulk of the district's investment for the next three years will be in sustained school achievement in all core subjects, community school development, improved family engagement and a strengthened school climate.

Trustee Newmeyer suggested that the budget be approved with the provision of paying down the district debt using insurance funds earmarked for district office reconstruction. The motion was not seconded and failed.

M/s/c Turner/Green to Approve the District's 2018-2019 Local Control Accountability Plan

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Van Alst

2018-2019 Budget

Trustee Green suggested that the budget be approved with the addition of the \$374K Department of General Services grant to the unrestricted funds. The motion failed.

Trustee Turner suggested a vote on the budget as presented.

M/s/c Turner/ Green to Approve the District's 2018-2019 Budget

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: Newmeyer

Absent: Van Alst

At 10:45 p.m. trustee Van Alst returned to the meeting.

Center for Excellence Five Year Arts Plan

Barbara Killey asked that the Board adopt the plan that was presented at the May 29 board meeting.

M/s/c Green/Turner to Approve the Center for Excellence Five Year Arts Plan

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: Van Alst

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

M/s/c Turner/Newmeyer to Approve the Contract with Momentum in Teaching for Professional Development in 2018-2019

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

2018-2019 Board Meeting Calendar – Second Tuesdays or Second Thursdays of the Month

M/s/c Turner/Green to Approve 2018-2019 Board Meeting Calendar – Second Thursday of the Month

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

2018-2019 Agreement with Marin County Office of Education for Business Services

M/s/c Van Alst/Green to Approve the 2018-2019 Agreement with Marin County Office of Education for Business Services

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Waiver of Administrative Credential for Interim Superintendent Terena Mares

M/s/c Green/Turner to Approve the Waiver of Administrative Credential for Interim Superintendent Terena Mares

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

District's Initial Proposal to the Sausalito District Teachers Association (SDTA)

M/s/c Newmeyer/Turner to Approve the District's Initial Proposal to the Sausalito District Teachers Association (SDTA)

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner, Van Alst
Noes: None
Absent: None

Contract with Ryland School Business Consulting
M/s/c Green/Newmeyer to Approve the Contract with Ryland School Business Consulting
Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner
Noes: None
Absent: Van Alst

Trustee Green and the rest of the Board thanked Mr. McCoy for his services to the district and wished him well in his future endeavors.

ADJOURNMENT
M/s/c Van Alst/Newmeyer to Adjourn at 11:10 p.m.
Ayes: Barrow, Green, Newmeyer, Turner, Van Alst
Noes: None
Absent: None

 8/9/18
Signature/Date

Clerk
Title