

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

ATTENDANCE

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

Interim Superintendent: Terena Mares

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Turner 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: 7.01, Correspondence from Marin County Office of Education; 11.03, Blackboard Connect Contract; 11.06, Contract with Heartland School Solutions for Menu Planning; 12.01, Guidance on Willow Creek Academy Negotiations; 12.07, Approval of the 2018-2019 LCAP Amendments; 12.08, Approval of the 2018-2019 Budget – Unaudited Actuals.

Trustee Van Alst asked that items 11.03, 11.05, 11.06 be pulled from the consent agenda.

M/s/c Van Alst/Green to approve the agenda re-organization

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Trustees Green and Turner said they had a great time at the Back to School Night on both campuses. They both said that they are very excited about the new school year.

Trustee Barrow announced that trustee Newmeyer has resigned from the Board as he had to move out of the district for personal reasons. The Board acknowledged his long years of service to the district.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Sebastian Ferrando, a local resident, referred to a claim brought by Citizens and Taxpayers for Representative Government (CTRG) regarding conflicts of interest on the Board. He asked that the Board agree to a 20-day extension requested by CTRG to amend the complaint.

PRESENTATIONS

Principal Finnane introduced the staff and led the audience on a short tour of the school. He said that the staff is committed to giving the children the education they need and deserve.

Capitol Public Finance Group – Marin County Office of Education Feasibility Study for the Consolidation of Sausalito Marin City and Mill Valley School Districts

Managing Partner Cathy Dominico gave a summary of the study's preliminary findings. She said that community identity and the issue of segregation are the main challenges to the idea of consolidation.

Trustee Van Alst said that if the districts begin with a few initial collaborative programs that are successful, it will be easier to eventually move to a higher level of integration.

At 7:14 p.m., trustee Van Alst left the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Marin County Office of Education – Conditional Budget Approval

Superintendent Mares said that in order to avoid a conflict of interest between her two roles at the Marin County Office of Education and the Sausalito Marin City School District, the budget analysis was done by two external consultants hired through the Fiscal Crisis & Management Assistance Team. The review has resulted in a conditional approval. Ms. Mares said that the district did not bring a Tax Anticipation Note resolution to the Board in June as it normally does, so the budget was conditionally approved. Once the TAN is approved, the County will be able to lift the conditionally approval and approve the district's budget. The TAN must be received by October 8.

At 7:20 p.m., trustee Van Alst returned to the meeting.

Superintendent

Ms. Mares said that AB 2808, the Education Finance bill, was substantially gutted and failed to pass. She said that she believes a version of it will be back at the next legislative session.

Superintendent Mares acknowledged the following for their outstanding contribution to the district:
Jeff McNaughton and Brooks DeBruin for their hard work in preparing the school for the 2018-19 school year, especially in light of the absence of a director of maintenance and operations.

Christ Episcopal Church and pastor Chip Barker Larrimore for their willingness to host one of our staff development days at no charge.

Pastor Rondall Leggett and First Missionary Baptist Church, for their call to the community to greet our children on the first day of school.

Big Ideas Math for donating all our math textbooks and giving us 1.5 days of staff development at no charge.

The Kaiser Foundation for donating 140 backpacks.

Phoebe DeMund for a generous donation of books from our long standing volunteer May DeMund.

Site Leadership - David Finnane

Principal Finnane said enrollment is at ~~103~~ 123 students. He said that the school's motto is Panther Pride and he shared a flyer that explains the meaning of pride in various situations that students encounter. This work has made a big difference in our school culture, he told the Board. In addition, we have started a mindfulness program for our children and staff, working with Chelsea True of the Mindful Schools Project.

Amanda Otte of the California Collaborative for Education Excellence said that her organization has reached out to community partners to build a comprehensive resource map that meets students' specific needs. The community advisory committee will meet in October to look at school data to identify areas of need for our students.

Willow Creek Academy

Head of School Tara Seekins said enrollment stands at 407, with 176 students from Marin City, 155 from Sausalito and 76 who live outside district boundaries. WCA is part of a consortium of Local Education Agencies applying for a Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant. The Fall Welcome event, including a book fair, street tacos and outdoor movie, will take place on September 22.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item 11.04, Renaissance Contract for Accelerated Math & Reader Software – 2018-2019, was removed from consideration.

M/s/c Van Alst/Green to remove the Renaissance Contract from Consideration

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

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

Payment of Warrants – Batches 5-6

Minutes of the August 9, 2018 Regular and Special Board Meetings

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Blackboard Connect Contract for 2018-2019

M/s/c Turner/Green to approve the Blackboard Connect Contract for 2018-2019

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Van Alst

Contract with Heartland School Solutions for Menu Planning – 2018-2019

M/s/c Turner/Green/Turner to Approve the Contract with Heartland School Solutions for Menu Planning – 2018-2019

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Van Alst

Contract with School & College Legal Services - 2018-2019

Ms. Mares said that School & College Legal Services is widely used by school districts in the Bay Area. She said that they would not replace our current counsel for ongoing issues that she is excluded from as specified in her contract through the Marin County Office of Education, but will provide legal services to her for new items.

M/s/c Turner/Green to Approve the Contract with School & College Legal Services - 2018-2019

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

At 8:31 pm, Trustee Van Alst left the meeting.

Willow Creek Academy MOU Negotiations – Guidance

Superintendent Mares said that this item was mistakenly included in closed session in the August board meeting. It is now a part of open session discussions, intended to cure a Brown Act violation that was brought to our attention by the California Attorney General. As a result, the MOU negotiation session scheduled for late August was cancelled.

Trustee Turner said that she recommends that the MOU should be reconsidered every year and structured to enhance maximum transparency. It should show clearly when discretionary funds are allocated to one school and not another, she said.

No action was taken on this item.

At 8:43 p.m., trustee Van Alst returned to the meeting.

Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

M/s/c Turner/Van Alst to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Memorandum of Understanding with Performing Stars of Marin – Phoenix Project Initiative

M/s/c Turner/Green to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Performing Stars of Marin – Phoenix Project Initiative

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Memorandum of Understanding with Dominican University

M/s/c /Van Alst /Green to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Dominican University

Ms. Mares said that this MOU will result in cost savings and extended on-site nursing services for our students.

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Memorandum of Understanding with the Larkspur Corte Madera School District for .5 FTE Maintenance Services Director

M/s/c Van Alst/Green to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Larkspur Corte Madera School District for .5 FTE Maintenance Director Services

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

Contract with Ryland School Business Consulting for September – December 2018

M/s/c Green/Turner to approve the Contract with Ryland School Business Consulting for September – December 2018

Ms. Mares described the contract with Ryland as providing business services within the allocated business services contract with the Marin County Office of Education, and not in addition to the budgeted amount.

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner, Van Alst

Noes: None

At 9:22 p.m., trustee Van Alst left the meeting.

2018-2019 Local Control and Accountability Plan Amendments

Ms. Mares reported that the Marin County Office of Education required a few minor technical amendments.

M/s/c Turner/Green to approve the 2018-2019 LCAP Amendments

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Van Alst

2017-2018 Budget - Unaudited Actuals

Interim CBO Amy Prescott gave a presentation on the 2017-18 final financial activity.

M/s/c Turner/Green to approve the 2017-2018 Unaudited Actuals

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Van Alst

Resolution 758 - 2018-2019 Tax Anticipation Note

Roll Call Green/Turner to Approve Resolution 758 - 2018-2019 Tax Anticipation Note

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Van Alst

Resolution 759 - 2018-2019 Gann Limit

Roll Call Green/Turner to Approve Resolution 759 - 2018-2019 Gann Limit

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Van Alst

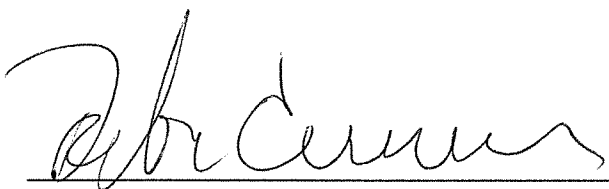
ADJOURNMENT

M/s/c /Turner/Green to Adjourn at 9:55 p.m.

Ayes: Barrow, Green, Turner

Noes: None

Absent: Van Alst

 10/22/18

Signature/Date

Clerk
Title



Capitol | PFG

**Overview of Reorganization
Study Feasibility Data
for the Possible Consolidation of
Mill Valley and
Sausalito Marin City School Districts**

September 4, 2018

Agenda



Overview of Requirements for Reorganization and Analysis

Review of Feasibility Analysis Criteria

Discussion/Next Steps



Overview

Overview of Requirements for Reorganization

Nine criteria set forth by
Department of Education

- Must either meet the criteria or provide reason for waiver consideration

Criteria evaluates student demographics, funding, assets, community factors, educational program of the affected school districts

- Although charter school data is important for the decision to reorganize a district, it is not directly evaluated as part of the State's criteria



Approach to Analysis

Completed

Phase 1: Evaluate readily available data on objective reorganization feasibility criteria

Consider whether compelling reasons exists to consider further analysis

Not Completed

Phase 2: Research, discussion and analysis with stakeholders to further evaluate State criteria

Some findings require significant research, input and discussions with stakeholders

Determine whether reorganization is feasible

Not Completed

Phase 3: Formalize findings into Feasibility Report and begin reorganization process

Includes legal reorganization process and community education and outreach



Review of Feasibility Analysis Criteria



Review of Feasibility Analysis Criteria

- Not all criteria explored in-depth during Phase 1
 - Stakeholder input needed to make findings for some criteria

Evaluated In-Depth

- Criteria #1: Adequate Number of Pupils
- Criteria #3: Equitable Division of Property and Assets
- Criteria #5: Substantial Increase in State Costs
- Criteria #7: School Housing Costs
- Criteria #8: Property Values

Partially Evaluated

- Criteria #4: Discrimination/ Segregation
- Criteria #9: Sound Fiscal Management

Not Evaluated

- Criteria #2: Community Identity
- Criteria #6: Promoting Educational Performance



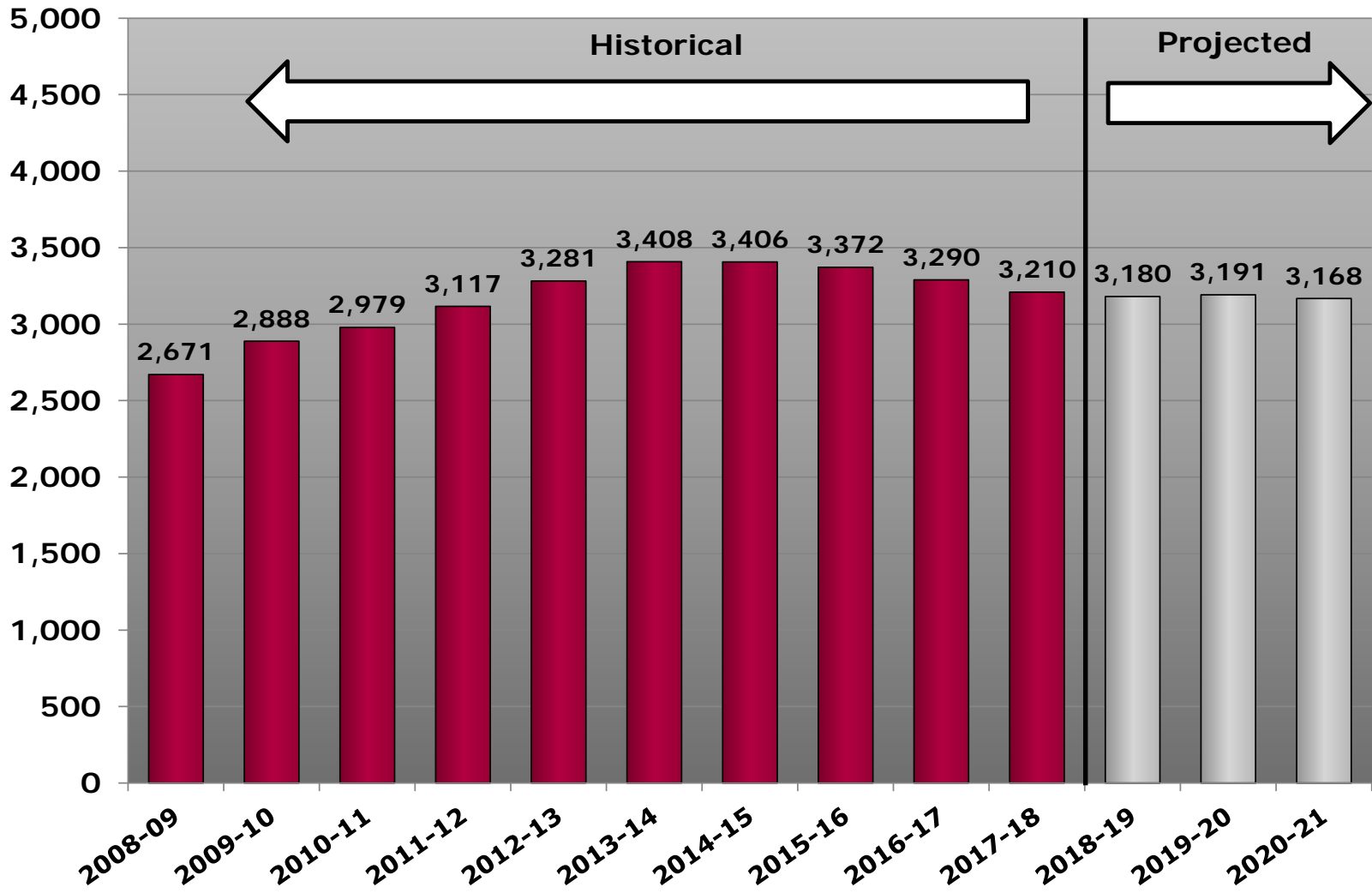
Criteria #1: Adequate Number of Pupils

The reorganized districts will be adequate in terms of number of pupils enrolled.

- At least 901 students for elementary district and projection of whether enrollment will increase or decline



Historical and Projected Enrollment of Merged Mill Valley and Sausalito Marin City School Districts



Criteria #2: Community Identity

The districts are each organized on the basis of a substantial community identity

- Community identity can be determined by evaluating the following:
 - Usage patterns for parks and school facilities for recreation
 - Traffic patterns
 - Public transportation routes
 - Shopping patterns (local and regional)
 - Architecture style and size of homes
 - Sports activities
 - Electoral boundaries
- Determine whether merger would result in any proposed changes to school attendance boundaries

Not
Evaluated



Criteria #3: Equitable Division of Property and Facilities

The proposal will result in an equitable division of property and facilities of the original district or districts



Criteria #3 Findings

- With proposed merger, all property and facilities will be transferred to the new merged district
 - Completed an inventory of sites to identify property to be transferred



Criteria #4: Discrimination/Segregation

The reorganization of the districts will preserve each affected district's ability to educate students in an integrated environment and will not promote racial or ethnic discrimination or segregation

Partially
Evaluated



Student Ethnicity 2016-17

Ethnicity	Mill Valley	% of Total	SMCSD	% of Total	Combined	% of Total
African American	22	0.7%	82	50.9%	104	3.2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	7	0.2%	0	0.0%	7	0.2%
Asian	137	4.4%	14	8.7%	151	4.6%
Filipino	10	0.3%	4	2.5%	14	0.4%
Hispanic or Latino	238	7.6%	47	29.2%	285	8.7%
Pacific Islander	5	0.2%	0	0.0%	5	0.2%
White, not Hispanic	2,415	77.2%	8	5.0%	2,423	73.7%
Multiple or No Response	294	9.4%	6	3.7%	300	9.1%
Total	3,128		161		3,289	



Criteria #5: Substantial Increase in State Costs

Any increase in costs to the state as a result of the proposed reorganization will be insignificant and otherwise incidental to the reorganization



Criteria #5 Findings

- Both Districts are currently Community Funded
 - Are anticipated to continue to be Community Funded if merged
 - Will not require additional State aid
- Merger will not require additional classroom capacity
 - Will not require State New Construction Funding

Criteria #6: Promoting Educational Performance

The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound education performance and will not significantly disrupt the educational programs in the districts affected by the proposed reorganization

Not
Evaluated



Criteria #7: School Housing Costs

Any increase in school facilities costs as a result of the proposed reorganization will be insignificant and otherwise incidental to the reorganization

- To evaluate school housing costs, consider:
 - Inventory of school facilities
 - Enrollment and capacity of school sites
 - School site condition assessment
 - Capital funding
 - General Obligation bonding capacity
 - State funding eligibility



School Site Capacity

Site	# of Traditional Classrooms	Estimated School Capacity	2017-18 Enrollment	Estimated Available Capacity
Edna Maguire Elementary (Mill Valley SD)	35	910	588	322
Old Mill Elementary (Mill Valley SD)	13	338	298	40
Park School (Mill Valley SD)	15	390	310	80
Strawberry Point Elementary (Mill Valley SD)	22	572	355	217
Tamalpais Valley Elementary (Mill Valley SD)	26	676	482	194
Mill Valley Middle (Mill Valley SD)	56	1568	1050	518
Bayside MLK (SMCSD)	9	225	127	98



Criteria #7 Findings

- School Site Condition Assessment
 - All sites were in good condition, even older sites
 - Reflected good maintenance and regular upkeep
- Capital Funding
 - Both Districts have obtained voter approval for General Obligation Bonds
 - Have issued all authorized bonds
 - SMCSD issued \$3.67 million of Certificates of Participation in 2013
 - To fund a classroom construction project at Bayside/MLK
- Available bonding capacity of approx. 60% with merged district



Criteria #8: Property Values

The proposed reorganization is primarily designed for purposes other than to significantly increase property values



Criteria #8 Findings

- Assessed values for both districts have followed a similar growth trend
 - Mill Valley SD – 4% average annual growth
 - SMCSD – 4.7% average annual growth
- Median home values in both districts are relatively high and have been steadily increasing at a similar rate
- Available bonding capacity of approx. 60% with merged district
- Parcels in a merged district would be predominantly single-family residential (approx. 85%)



Criteria #9: Sound Fiscal Management

The proposed reorganization will continue to promote sound fiscal management and not cause a substantial negative effect on the fiscal status of the proposed district or any existing district affected by the proposed reorganization.

Partially
Evaluated



Projected Merged Budget

	2017-18 Merged Budget	2018-19 Projection	2019-20 Projection
Revenues	\$49,476,609	\$49,907,225	\$51,524,734
Expenditures	\$49,517,016	\$49,694,296	\$51,213,105
Net Increase/ (Decrease)	(\$40,407)	\$212,929	\$311,629
Ending Balance	\$16,171,996	\$16,384,925	\$16,696,554

Does not
assume
administrative
cost savings
through
merger

In March 2018, data from Phase 1 of the analysis was presented to the Consolidation Committee

- Initial data did not provide a compelling reason to move forward with the feasibility analysis at this time
- Committee discussed the potential for collaboration between the two districts prior to pursuing a reorganization



Next Steps

The Board of each District can consider directing staff to pursue opportunities for collaboration

Both non-instructional and instructional collaboration (e.g., sharing of administrative staff or joint educational programs)



After efforts on collaboration, revisit the feasibility of a merger

Update data gathered in Phase 1 and begin Phase 2 (research, discussion and analysis with stakeholders from each District)

