

PACIFIC GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 18, 2008

The Board of Education held a meeting on September 18th at the High School Library.

I. OPENED BUSINESS

- A. Called to Order 6:30 p.m.
- B. Roll Call President: Mike Niccum
Clerk: Beth Shammass
Members Present: Jessie Bray
Bill Phillips
Tony Sollecito
Administration Present: Ralph Porras
Robin Blakley (6:50 p.m.)
Board Recorder: Laura Emerson
Student Board Member Present: Brandon Ceyress (6:45 p.m.)

C. Adopted Agenda

MOTION Bray/Shammass to adopt agenda as presented
Public comment: none
Motion CARRIED 5 – 0

D. Identified Closed Session Topics

Personnel Matter

E. Public comment on Closed Session item - none

F. Adjourned to Closed Session 6:34 p.m.

II. CLOSED SESSION

III. RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION 7:12 p.m.

A. Reported action taken in Closed Session

Personnel Matter – the Board gave staff direction

B. Pledge of Allegiance – pledge recited

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Written Communication

Porras acknowledged a confidential letter he received and gave to trustees

B. Board Member Comments

Ceyress said the Leadership Class attended the California Association of Student Councils meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 17th to learn about building on the structure and organization of the ASB. They were encouraged to establish a ten-year vision for the ASB along with three-year goals and one year objectives and to make the goals permanent by writing them down. On Sept. 25th, they will be attending Jostens Leadership camp where they hope to come away with an exchange of ideas for such topics as dance themes and ways of

increasing student involvement with other schools. Coastal Cleanup is Saturday, Sept. 20th, 9 am – 12 pm at Asilomar Beach. Homecoming tickets will be available for sale very soon.

Phillips was struck by the intensity of staff at the Back to School nights he attended at the Middle School and the High School. “I am so happy my kids are in the Pacific Grove School District.”

Shammas wanted to remind the Board about issuing a communication piece on the Measure D projects. The recent concern about trees could be included. “We need a policy on trees.” She asked for the item to be placed on a future agenda. Following her comments about the appearance of the entrance to the Adult School, Blakley said the project is in the Measure D plans for that site. He also noted that Measure D updates are being provided on the District website.

Bray wanted to publicly thank Blakley for handling the request for information about the trees so quickly. The person who asked for the information said they felt respected that the response came so quickly.

C. Superintendent Report

Porras congratulated the sites for the wonderful Back to School programs. “I am so proud to be involved with this District.” He commented on the stranger alert that went out this morning in response to an incident that occurred the previous evening. On October 8th there will be a summit in Sacramento regarding the Algebra I requirement, lawsuits are pending. The legislature has passed a budget bill that the governor will veto.

V. INDIVIDUALS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Linda Jones said PG Pride is still holding the Walk for Pride, but this year it will be a virtual walk due to ongoing coastal construction and the Rec. Trail being unavailable. They were able to raise nearly \$17,000. She asked us to mark our calendars for this year’s Great Taste of PG to be held on March 15, 2009 at Spanish Bay.

Wendell Nuss said he appreciates having updates on the stadium construction at the High School.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of September 4, 2008 Board of Education Regular Meeting
- B. Certificated Assignment Order # 3
- C. Classified Assignment Order # 3
- D. Approval of Contract with Challenge Day Consultants
- E. Declaration of Surplus Property for 2008 Butterfly Parade Bazaar
- F. Approval of SPURR Gas Contract Renewal
- G. Dancing Classrooms Monterey County
- H. Approval of Contract for Forest Grove Physical Science Program Services – Carol Young

Sollecito noted the error in start/end dates of the contract in Item G.

MOTION Sollecito/Phillips to approve Consent Agenda as corrected.

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED 5 – 0

VII. PUBLIC HEARING Textbook Sufficiency

McAweeney said the library technicians at all sites worked well together to get all the books ready for this year’s students, including the additional 4-5 combination classroom at Forest Grove. Science adoption is proceeding well.

Opened hearing at 7:39 p.m.

No public comments

Closed hearing at 7:40 p.m.

VIII. ACTION/DISCUSSION

- A. Approval of Resolution #830 Regarding Sufficiency of Instructional Materials for FY 2008-09

MOTION Shammas/Phillips to adopt Resolution #830

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED 5 – 0

- B. Approve Resolution \$831 Gann Limits for 2007/08 and 2008/09

MOTION Bray/Sollecito to approve of the Gann Limit calculation as contained in Resolution #831

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED 5 – 0

- C. Approval of Unaudited Actual Financial Report 2007/08

[Details of the ten funds that are highlighted in Blakley's staff report can be found on page 11-A of the Board Agenda.]

MOTION Bray/Sollecito to accept the unaudited actual financial report and authorize its filing with the County

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED 5 – 0

- D. 2008/09 General Fund Budget Revision #3

[Details of the proposed revisions to the budget can be found in Blakley's staff report on page 12 of the Board agenda.]

MOTION Phillips/Shammas to approve the proposed budget revisions as presented.

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED 5 – 0

- E. Approval of High School Stadium Project Contract Change Orders

The Board discussed the future of the old wooden Breakers sign that sat on top of the announcer's booth, that it must be included somewhere in the new stadium. Bray reminded them about a sign indicating the track being named in honor of Coach Chamberlain.

Blakley presented a list of proposed change orders needed to both address unforeseen conditions and adjust the project scope to keep it within budget. Board members discussed whether they should add funds to the budget to address items that were being deleted. Blakley cautioned trustees to wait until all bids are in on all projects before adding funds to this project and modifying the proposed change orders. DMC is working as quickly as possible to complete the project in time. Everything is working on schedule, although the concession building was delayed by soil conditions. Bleachers are in the review stage and November 4 is drop dead date for State approval in order to have them installed in time for graduation. Board members discussed certain change orders, stressing their concern that the completed facility look nice. They want to have the vinyl fencing, not the galvanized. Blakley explained that fencing was already in process and may not be able to be changed – at least for perimeters.

MOTION Phillips/Shammas to approve the proposed change orders 1–48, excluding 17, 28 and 16 as identified on the table, for the DMC contract on the High School Stadium Project as well as authorizing up to an additional \$80,000 for changes.

Public comment:

Schramm asked about conduit being installed under track at the finish line to later install an electronic timing system. Blakley confirmed, also adding that the scoreboard clock will contain the requisite hundreds of a second needed for track meets.

Motion CARRIED 5 - 0

F. Approval of Topics City/District Public Meeting – October 7, 2008

Porras said the City has reviewed the list of topics and added one item to Traffic/Safety. The format will be Information/Discussion for this first meeting with Dan Cort and Niccum acting as facilitators.

MOTION Bray/Shammas to approve the list of topics for the upcoming City/District public meeting.

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED 5 - 0

G. Approval of Revised Board Regulations 6200 for Adult Education – Third and Final Reading

A typo was noted.

MOTION Shammas/Sollecito to approve revised Board Regulations 6200.

Public comment: none

Motion CARRIED: 5 - 0

H. Board Calendar/Future Meetings

none

IX. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A. Subcommittee Reports

Community Human Services

nothing to report

City/District

already discussed as Action/Discussion item F

ROP

Next bimonthly meeting will be at PGHS

B. Food Services Report

Blakley said that creating the Food Services Director position was a positive step because of all the improvements to the food services program that were implemented by Meschi. Interviews for the new Food Services Director are tomorrow. He acknowledged Meschi's assistance during the transition as well as the expertise she brought to the Measure D planning for updating the food programs at all sites.

Phillips is interested in exploring the midmorning break at the High School suggested in the report as a future goal.

Bray wanted to make sure credentials are verified, that it is also critical the person be well educated and have basic English skills.

Shammas appreciated Meschi taking on a position that had no precedent and making it so proactive. She enjoyed working with the many caring people on staff when the wellness policy was being developed. Perhaps

the midmorning break at the High School will help to recover the monies lost from Open Campus.

C. 2008 STAR Results

McAweeney said students are doing well, but there is room for improvement.

Porras said do not look so much at the particular score but what the score is telling us about where we should improve.

D. Reconfiguration Goals, Process and Timeline

Porras discussed the time line, saying that the first step would be to approve the goals, process and timeline at the October 2nd Board meeting, then providing it is approved, bring it back again for implementation at the November 13th meeting.

Shammas said she was comfortable with the timeline.

Phillips said the timeline is acceptable.

Sollecito said the timeline is okay with him, that his biggest concern is how to transport siblings between school sites and suggested maybe staggering bell schedules.

Bray said she sees no benefit in delaying

(MOTION Sollecito/Phillips to extend the meeting to no later than 10:30 p.m.; Motion CARRIED 5 – 0.)

Alex Taurke, Robert Down parent, said reconfiguration will have a huge change to school life and he has strong concerns. The most telling comment for him is that many parents don't know about it. Why is there no upfront communication to parents? There needs to be better communication or otherwise, there may be a firestorm.

Eric Lauritzen, Forest Grove parent, said he knew nothing about reconfiguration going into effect.

His concern is the timeline and lack of communication. He apologized for not attending the previous meeting, and appreciates the deliberations the Board is going through but believes that engaging the parents is critical.

Schramm said he commends the Board for taking on this project and encouraged them to go forward. There is a new generation of parents who do not know about the previous discussions around this issue. With his son having been in the school system from preschool to High School, he has seen how many negatives there are to having two separate elementary sites. The positives outlive the negatives.

Shammas said the Board should take note of how they communicate to parents. Phillips said it would be helpful to provide all information on the district webpage so parents could download and review it. Niccum suggested holding dialogues at the sites with the Site Councils and the PTAs.

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Summary Report on the Board's Self-Evaluation
Policy on grounds

B. Future Agenda Items

Bell Schedule
Green District
Instructional Minutes/Instructional Day
Measure D Special Sessions
Open Campus
Board Goals/Superintendent Goals

XI. ADJOURNED

10:30 p.m.