

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER HIGH SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION  
AND ALTERNATIVE SCENARIOS**

December 4, 2018  
Island High School – Multipurpose Room  
500 Pacific Avenue  
Alameda, CA 94501

**UNADOPTED MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING:** The special meeting of the Committee to Consider High School Consolidation and Alternative Scenarios was held on the date and place mentioned above.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Call to Order/Introduction

Chairperson Mia Bonta called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

2. Establishment of Quorum

Committee to Consider High School Consolidation members present: Mia Bonta, Richard Bunker, Cameron Furuichi Fong, Kelly Hartlaub Gregor, Jyosna Jaslow, Chuck Kapelke, Akiko Kelly, Denise Langowski, Marva Lyons, Sofía Orduña, Ron Parodi, Melanie Shannon, Kathy Lamb-Tansey, Serena Woon, Bill Withrow, and Cindy Zecher.

Committee members absent: Dorothy Jones, Liza Gabato Morse, Cheryl Lua, Melody Ma

AUSD staff members present: Superintendent Sean McPhetridge, General Counsel Chad Pimentel, Chief Business Officer Shariq Khan, Chief Academic Officer Steven Fong, Senior Manager of Community Affairs Susan Davis, and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Kerri Lonergan.

3. Public Comments

There were no public comments under this agenda item.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes from the November 8, 2018 Committee to Consider High School Consolidation were considered.

*Motion to adopt the November 8, 2018 minutes of the Committee to Consider High School Consolidation and Alternative Scenarios meeting.*

**MOTION:** Bill Withrow

**SECONDED:** Richard Bunker

**AYES:** Mia Bonta, Richard Bunker, Cameron Furuichi Fong, Kelly Hartlaub Gregor, Jyosna Jaslow, Chuck Kapelke, Akiko Kelly, Denise Langowski, Marva Lyons, Sofía Orduña, Ron Parodi, Melanie Shannon, Kathy Lamb-Tansey, Serena Woon, Bill Withrow, and Cindy Zecher.

**NOES:** N/A

**ABSTAIN:** N/A

**ABSENT:** Dorothy Jones, Liza Gabato Morse, Cheryl Lua, Melody Ma

**MOTION APPROVED**

**3. REVIEW AND DISCUSS**

1. Potential Consolidation Impacts on Transportation, Traffic, and Parking  
Shariq Khan, Chief Business Officer, gave the Committee information on the potential impacts a school consolidation may have on transportation, transit, and parking in Alameda.

*Committee member Dorothy Jones entered the meeting at 6:37pm.*

Mr. Khan stated that parking would be negatively impacted in the neighborhood of Alameda High School if the two high schools were to be consolidated onto one campus because a student parking lot does not exist. Currently, Alameda High School students who drive to school park in the neighborhoods in the vicinity of Alameda High School. If parking in the Alameda High neighborhood becomes a problem, the neighbors in that area could petition the city to get permits for residents of the neighborhood. This would increase the parking issues in the Alameda High School neighborhoods.

Brian McGuire from BikeWalk Alameda gave the Committee some information about the proposed Central Avenue redesign. Mr. McGuire invited the members of the Committee to a workshop the City of Alameda is having about the Central Street project. Mr. McGuire explained BikeWalk Alameda advocates for safe walking and biking streets for the residents of Alameda. Mr. McGuire stated the proposed Central Avenue plan will benefit students and citizens whether the high schools are consolidated or not.

A Committee member asked if students have to pay to ride AC Transit. Mr. Khan stated a student bus card is \$22-25 a month. The Committee member also asked who was paying for the City's proposed Alameda Shuttle. Mr. Khan stated the first two years will be paid for by grants, and after that it could potentially be paid for by taxpayers in years following. Mr. Khan stated there is not a plan for the funding of the Alameda Shuttle at this time.

A Committee member asked if neighborhood residents get a permit process in place, who pays for this? Mr. Khan stated the enforcement of the permits and traffic enforcement pay for the permit process.

A Committee member asked if there would be only one bus running the route from Encinal High to Alameda High in the morning. Mr. Khan stated yes, only one supplemental bus would be running during that time.

A Committee member asked how many students ride bikes to the high schools currently. Mr. McGuire stated we don't have current data on how many students ride bikes to schools now, but the City is working to get that data soon.

A Committee member stated that in the presentation it shows that if the schools were to consolidate, Encinal would still be used for a school site. The Committee member asked what cost savings would be realized? Mr. Khan stated the Encinal campus would be used for students, and one way to realize cost savings could be combining the middle schools, or combining multiple elementary schools.

A Committee member stated currently the bus that goes from Alameda High School to Bay Farm Island is overcrowded with students. Mr. Khan stated there are two buses that serve students that need to get from Alameda High to Bay Farm Island and it would be cost prohibitive to add additional buses.

Committee members remarked about the police presence in Alameda around the schools and stated there are huge traffic issues around all AUSD schools.

2. Prioritized Alternative Scenarios: Considerations for Future Discussions and Strategic Planning

At the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee to Consider High School Consolidation and Alternative Scenarios, committee members broke into small groups to brainstorm alternative ideas for AUSD's high school configurations. The four small groups then reported on their brainstorm activity to the larger group. The ideas from each group were consolidated into one document.

At the October 30<sup>th</sup> meeting, committee members selected two alternative scenarios, in addition to high school consolidation, for further exploration. The first of the two alternative scenarios selected was:

- Separate high schools with open enrollment

Steven Fong, Chief Academic Officer, presented information to explore each of the alternative scenarios more fully.

*Committee member Melody Ma entered the meeting at 7:18pm.*

Committee members asked if there was ever a time in AUSD where the high schools schedules were aligned. Superintendent Sean McPhetridge stated the high schools had aligned schedules in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Committee members asked why AUSD wouldn't utilize students being able

to take a class online now. Mr. Fong stated he could only see this being done currently if there was a teacher that had a credential or experience in one thing and AUSD only had one teacher that could teach this one thing. A Committee member stated in the late 1970s students at Alameda High School shared facilities with Encinal High School because there was no gymnasium or a field at Alameda High School so students had to travel to share these facilities with Encinal High School. The Committee member stated this created a bond between the students at both schools.

A Committee member suggested the 4 x 4 block schedule would be more expensive because schools would need to be staffed more than they are currently. Mr. Fong agreed with this assessment and said staff would have to research more fully the 4 x 4 block schedule scenario.

*Committee member Kelly Hartlaub Gregor left the meeting at 7:32pm.*

The second of the two alternative scenarios selected was:

- Expansion of dual enrollment with the Peralta College District (PCCD) system

Mr. Fong stated there are some mitigating factors involved in expanding dual enrollment with the Peralta College District system. One of these factors would be prioritizing enrollment for our students over the public. Another factor would be that course materials would be significantly higher in cost at the community college level than what is currently in AUSD.

### 3. Discussion of Draft Report to the Board of Education

Brianna Garcia, School Services of California, shared the first draft outline of the report the Committee would give to the Board of Education at the end of this process. Committee members discussed adding historical information to the report, including how the district got to the point of where they wanted to explore the idea of consolidation. The Committee also discussed an appendix being added to summarize the findings from each meeting.

A Committee member asked to see more information included about pros and cons of all scenarios.

A Committee member asked to see more specific financial savings information on each of the line items.

A Committee member stated he thought it would be important to let the public know that the committee expanded the scope of the Committee early in the process.

A Committee member asked for information about what was going to happen with the “extra” classrooms in the newly updated Alameda High School. Superintendent Sean McPhetridge stated there have been plans

underway for a while to move the Adult School to the 1970s structure at Alameda High School. Dr. McPhetridge also stated there are plans to move Island High School to the former Miller School site, which is a much more modern school than the current Island High School. Dr. McPhetridge stated the boundary for Alameda High School could be moved slightly west to accommodate more students that are currently slated to go to Encinal High School, which would then free up space for additional Jr. Jets capacity. Dr. McPhetridge stated it could make more sense to have students on the West End go to College of Alameda which is approximately one mile away from the current Encinal High School than to make students from the West End travel to Alameda High School on the East End.

A Committee member stated the 4 x 4 block schedule leaves out time for students to have their SMART period, as they have now. The Committee member stated this period is very important to students. Mr. Fong stated it could be explored to add a SMART period into a 4 x 4 block schedule, but it may be at the expense of a longer school day.

#### **4. NEXT STEPS**

##### **1. Discussion of Upcoming Agendas**

Committee Chairperson Mia Bonta reminded the Committee that the meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup> is the last meeting for the Committee. Ms. Bonta asked Committee members to go back and review all meeting materials that have been presented so far. Ms. Bonta asked Brianna Garcia to share a report that more closely aligns with the suggestions presented tonight.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned the meeting at 8:26PM in honor of the student from Alameda High School who passed away last month.