

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

January 22, 2019

City Hall – Council Chambers

2263 Santa Clara Avenue

Alameda, CA 94501

### UNADOPTED MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING:** The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on the date and place mentioned above.

#### A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Public Comment on Closed Session Topics

There were no public comments prior to Closed Session.

2. Adjourn to Closed Session - 5:30 PM

Board of Education Members present: Mia Bonta, Ardella Dailey, Gray Harris, Gary K. Lym, and Jennifer Williams.

3. Reconvene to Public Session - 6:30PM

Board President Bonta reconvened the meeting at 6:30PM.

4. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance – Ruby Bridges Elementary School

Ruby Bridges Elementary School students led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Introduction of Board Members and Staff:

Board of Education Members present: Mia Bonta, Ardella Dailey, Gray Harris, Gary K. Lym, and Jennifer Williams.

Student Board Members present: Aidan Byrne-Sarno, Lydia Peterson, and Lily Conable.

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

#### B. MODIFICATION(S) OF THE AGENDA – there were no modifications made to the agenda.

#### C. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Highlighting Alameda Schools and Employee Spotlight – Ruby Bridges Elementary School

Ruby Bridges Elementary Principal Jesse Woodward introduced two Ruby Bridges staff members who go above and beyond to serve the Ruby Bridges community, Speech and Language Pathologist Zaby Bongiovonni and Office Manager Glenda Machrus. Mr. Woodward gave information about the Ruby

Bridges Wellness Center, which is led by Audrey Hyman, Intervention Lead and Wellness Center Coordinator.

2. Written Correspondence

The Board received 26 emails related to an item on the Closed Session agenda and 4 emails related to General Business Item #1, the Name Change Proposal for Haight Elementary School.

3. Board Members' Report

*Board President Mia Bonta* – Member Bonta stated the last two weeks have been a time of reflection for her and she has met with many members of the community to discuss ways to come together. Member Bonta stated she was pleased to be able to visit Alameda High School and talk with teachers. Member Bonta stated she has had the opportunity to meet with parents of children with Special Needs to see what supports they need and how AUSD can help. Member Bonta stated she met with teachers and students to talk about the challenges they are having because of the Board's decision to eliminate a student data program. Member Bonta stated we need to investigate how these decisions are made. Member Bonta stated she participated in the Women's March in Oakland and spoke on behalf of AUSD in support of teachers. Member Bonta stated she participated in a march on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day with members of the Haight Elementary School community. Member Bonta stated she has had many opportunities to visit with a wide range of community members over the last several weeks and she has appreciated community members welcoming her.

*Board Member Jennifer Williams* – Member Williams stated the district needs to invest in Mental Health Wellness. More information will come in the presentation later tonight on the Needs Assessment. Member Williams stated cultural competence is an issue that needs to be taught in AUSD, and she supports efforts to help the district in this regard.

*Board Member Ardella Dailey* – Member Dailey began her comments with a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Member Dailey stated there were three things that bothered her about the December 13<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting. Member Dailey stated these three things were: Why was she publicly disrespected as a leader? Why was her record for advocacy for children questioned? Why did a majority of the Board vote to change the bylaws? Member Dailey stated she was branded as not capable of leadership and this hurts all African American people. Member Dailey stated in 2016 Member Harris made a motion to nominate Member Dailey for Board Clerk as part of the rotation to then become Board President two years later. Member Dailey stated in 2017 she was moved into the role of Vice President. Member Dailey stated her record for advocacy was questioned. Member Dailey stated false and inflammatory information was given by Members Harris and Lym at the meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Member Dailey stated she stands proud of her accomplishments. Member Dailey stated she came

forward to run for the role of Board of Education member to help all the students in Alameda. Member Dailey stated she promised to work for equity in Alameda and she is still committed to that goal. Member Dailey stated she will continue to respect and value the role of students, staff, and families to build a school district of excellency. Member Dailey ended her comments with a quote: “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

*Board Member Gary K. Lym* – Member Lym stated he attended the Kindergarten Information Night at Bay Farm Elementary School. Member Lym thanked outgoing General Counsel Chad Pimentel for his guidance over the last several years and especially during the challenging times when the district needed to appoint Board members due to two sitting Board of Education members passing away.

*Board Member Gray Harris* – Member Harris thanked Ruby Bridges Elementary School teachers for the invitation to visit the site. Member Harris also thanked the teachers at Alameda High for the invitation to her and Member Bonta to come visit and speak with them.

4. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Sean McPhetridge gave the Board information about proclamations on the Board’s Consent Calendar:

- Season for Nonviolence – January 30 – April 4, 2019
- Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month – February
- African American History Month – February

Dr. McPhetridge gave the Board and public information about how the Haight Elementary Renaming Committee came about. Dr. McPhetridge stated he has heard from some staff at the school and others outside of the school that they do not support the name moved forward by the Committee. Dr. McPhetridge stated he values the democratic process and community engagement in our schools and our district, and he believes it is important for this Board to hear from the Committee to Rename Haight Elementary School, and ultimately it will be up to the Board of Education going forward to accept the name change. Dr. McPhetridge stated he appreciates all who involved themselves in the process and those who worked to lead discussion and a democratic vote required by AUSD Board Policy to rename the school.

Dr. McPhetridge stated the Board will also be hearing an update on the work done by the AUSD Needs Assessment Steering Committee, presentations about recent fiscal audits, a presentation on the Governor’s Budget Proposal, and the Measure A Annual Report.

Dr. McPhetridge stated recently he has heard concerns raised from some teachers about planning that is underway with Alameda Education Association about the elementary school schedule for next year. Dr. McPhetridge stated AEA has made a demand to bargain on this topic, staff has responded to AEA leadership, but while that process is playing out, we want to honor that process and make sure that we are not seen as bargaining in public.

Dr. McPhetridge closed his report by introducing new Special Education Coordinator Dr. Betty Lin. Dr. McPhetridge asked the audience to join the Board and staff in welcoming Betty Lin to the AUSD team.

5. Student Board Members' Report

*Lily Conable (EJSHS)* – Student Board Member Conable thanked all the students who came to speak at the last Board Meeting regarding Restorative Justice. Student Board Member Conable attended a meeting about the proposed change from SchoolLoop to AERIES. Student Board Member Conable stated course selection is happening at Encinal. Student Board Member Conable stated this brings up the concerns about what courses can be offered at Encinal. Student Board Member Conable stated Encinal students will not be able to take French 4/5 and other AP courses due to low enrollment. Student Board Member Conable stated she has been visiting all schools in AUSD and she hopes to continue having these conversations in 2019.

*Aidan Byrne-Sarno (ASTI)* – Student Board Member Byrne-Sarno recognized Martin Luther King, Jr. Day yesterday. Student Board Member Byrne-Sarno stated ASTI is just in the second week back from winter break. Student Board Member Byrne-Sarno stated ASTI students are planning for an upcoming dance.

6. Report from Employee Organizations

*Judith Klinger, President, AEA*: Ms. Klinger stated she and Executive Board member Ron Parodi went to the Oakland Unified School District headquarters to help Oakland teachers with their materials for families and students in case Oakland needs to go on strike. Ms. Klinger stated 80% of voting teachers voted yes on the Alameda Education Association Tentative Agreement. Ms. Klinger thanked the Negotiating Team members for the work they have done to communicate with members. Ms. Klinger acknowledged the enormous amount of time the team has spent in addition to the time they spend teaching.

7. Report from PTA Council

There was no report from the PTA Council.

8. Public Comments

*Margie Sherratt and Debbie Bradshaw, former AUSD Administrators*: Ms. Bradshaw stated on December 13<sup>th</sup> Board members voted to change standing Board Policy so that the rotation system for Board officers was changed to an

election. Ms. Bradshaw asked why this was done before Board members Dailey and Williams had a chance to rotate through the President and Vice President roles, respectively. Ms. Sherratt stated the disrespect shown to Member Dailey is shocking. Ms. Sherratt stated the 35 retired administrators she represents have worked with Member Dailey, they support Member Dailey, and they had believed she would have her time as President of the Board. Ms. Sherratt stated the retired administrators she represents will be watching personnel and Board decisions going forward. Ms. Sherratt stated that she and the other retired administrators who signed the letter no longer work for AUSD but they care for the AUSD community.

*N. Waldorf, AUSD student:* Ms. Waldorf gave the Board information about horrific incidents of Anti-Semitism that have happened to her while she has been a student at Alameda High School. Ms. Waldorf stated she reported the hate incidents but the students who used racist and violent terms to her were not made to apologize and even remained in the same classes as she was in. Ms. Waldorf stated the Dean who was in charge at the time left the district and the new Dean did not even know the names of the students who had used hate speech against Ms. Waldorf. Ms. Waldorf stated her parents went to the Superintendent and the Superintendent defended the actions of the Alameda High administrators. Ms. Waldorf asked the Board to change the leadership of AUSD.

*Mel Waldorf, AUSD parent:* Mr. Waldorf stated the students who directed hate speech at his daughter were not made to apologize. Mr. Waldorf stated the Superintendent stated it was not his role to step in for administrators at Alameda High School who did not discipline the students in this situation. Mr. Waldorf stated that some teachers support Dr. McPhetridge, including one teacher who made a statement of support for Dr. McPhetridge at a public meeting after his daughter made a personal appeal to Dr. McPhetridge. Mr. Waldorf asked the Board to change the leadership of AUSD.

*Cara Cavanaugh, AUSD parent:* Ms. Cavanaugh stated there is a lack of uniform adherence to district policy regarding social media. Ms. Cavanaugh stated she was disappointed when a clear message about bullying did not come from the district during a time when her daughter was physically attacked on campus and bullied through social media. Ms. Cavanaugh's daughter copied Dr. McPhetridge on an essay she wrote regarding this issue. Ms. Cavanaugh stated her daughter missed part of her senior year due to the bullying issues at Island High School. Ms. Cavanaugh stated she is unhappy with the way Measure B1 has been implemented, and she was unhappy with the cuts made to the Earhart Innovative Program. Ms. Cavanaugh asked the Board to change the leadership of AUSD.

*Olivia Higgins, AUSD parent, and former chair of the LGBTQ Round Table:* Ms. Higgins stated she is speaking in the role of a parent tonight. Ms. Higgins stated when she first came to the district she was aware of the opposition to inclusive lessons, which were at that time being revised. Ms. Higgins stated

the policy which was changed to not allow Member Ardella Dailey to become president or Member Jennifer Williams to become vice president is an example of a policy that hurts the district rather than moves the district forward. Ms. Higgins asked Member Bonta to take steps to allow Member Dailey to become president now, and Jennifer Williams to become president after that.

*Vickie Smith, former AUSD McKinney Vento Coordinator and community organizer:* Ms. Smith gave the Board information about how the former Chipman School became the Academy of Alameda Charter School. Ms. Smith stated Member Dailey was the assistant superintendent at the time and was assigned to help Chipman out of the Program Improvement process. Ms. Smith stated the negative remarks about Member Dailey being pro-charter are unfair and uncalled for. Ms. Smith stated Member Dailey is pro-student.

*Carol Robie, former AUSD administrator:* Ms. Robie stated she questions the rationale for the change of Board Bylaw for the Board officers' rotation. Ms. Robie stated this Board Bylaw could have been changed following the rotation of Member Dailey and Member Williams. Ms. Robie stated she believes this was a power play. Ms. Robie stated sitting members of the Board benefitted from the rotation policy. Ms. Robie stated Board members can make a motion to change the Board Bylaw back to the rotation policy.

*Cheryl Taylor, AUSD parent, member of CLCS Board:* Ms. Taylor stated the timing of the change of the Board Bylaw is suspect. Ms. Taylor stated there was a statement made that the rotation policy had failed. Ms. Taylor stated there were no examples given of the failure of the rotation policy. Ms. Taylor stated the remarks made about Member Dailey were mean-spirited and cruel. Ms. Taylor stated African American people are not interchangeable. Ms. Taylor stated this is an erasure and something that happens to the African American community often. Ms. Taylor asked the Board to resign the current offices and elect Member Dailey to president and Member Williams to vice president.

*Trish Spencer, former AUSD School Board Trustee and former Mayor of the City of Alameda:* Ms. Spencer stated as a Board of Education member she was passed over six times for the role of president. Ms. Spencer stated she was in favor of the rotation system for Board offices. Ms. Spencer stated she has supported Member Lym and Member Bonta in the past. Ms. Spencer stated the disrespect shown to Ms. Dailey on December 13<sup>th</sup> was wrong and apologies need to be made. Member Spencer stated we tell children to follow the rules and because of that the adult leaders in AUSD need to do the same.

*Michael Yoshi, pastor of Buena Vista United Methodist Church:* Pastor Yoshi stated he came tonight to support Board Member Ardella Dailey. Pastor Yoshi stated he first met Member Dailey when there were concerns about representation of the Asian community in AUSD leadership in 1991-1992.

Pastor Yoshi stated Member Dailey was a principal at the time and listened and worked closely with the Asian community to impact positive change.

9. Closed Session Action Report

The Board did not take action in Closed Session.

**E. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Certificated Personnel Actions
2. Classified Personnel Actions
3. Approval and Acceptance of Donations
4. Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers
5. Approval of Calendars for Alameda Science and Technology Institute (ASTI), Alameda Adult School, and Woodstock Child Development Center (WCDC)
6. Approval of California Interscholastic Federation Representatives to League for 2018-2019 School Year
7. Approval of Measure I Contracts (Standing Item)
8. Approval of Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints
9. Approval of Special Education Local Plan Area Master Contracts
10. Out-of-State Field Trip Request: EJSHS to Washington, D.C.
11. Proclamation: African American History Month - February
12. Proclamation: A Season for Nonviolence, January 30 – April 4, 2019
13. Proclamation: Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month - February
14. Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300
15. Resolution No. 2018-2019.25 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases
16. Resolution No. 2018-2019.26 Authorization to Dispose of Surplus Property

*Motion to approve the adoption of the Consent Calendar.*

**MOTION:** Member Harris

**SECONDED:** Member Williams

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES**

**AYES:** Byrne-Sarno, Conable, and Peterson

**NOES:**

**BOARD MEMBER VOTES**

**AYES:** Members Bonta, Dailey, Harris, Lym, and Williams

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**MOTION APPROVED**

## F. GENERAL BUSINESS

### 1. Name Change Proposal for Haight Elementary School

The Haight Renaming Committee has been meeting since March 2018.

Comprised of Haight parent/guardians, staff, and alumni, the committee has followed and exceeded the steps mandated by AR 7310 for renaming a facility. Specifically, the committee solicited name suggestions and then held two elections (a primary election and a general election) to determine which name had the most support in the Haight community. The resulting name was “Love Elementary School.”

As set forth in AR 7310, the committee then presented a recommendation for the new name to the superintendent. He has accepted the name.

During tonight’s presentation, the superintendent will present the name to the Board of Education, and representatives of the Haight Renaming Committee will discuss the process by which the name was chosen. The Board will accept comments on the proposal for 90 days before voting on it.

#### Public Comment:

*Elizabeth Farrar, former Haight Elementary parent and current Haight Elementary teacher:* Ms. Farrar stated staff at Haight Elementary are having a hard time standing behind the name “Love Elementary.” Ms. Farrar stated staff at Haight trusted the committee to follow the process. Ms. Farrar stated “Love Elementary” does not meet the criteria outlined in the Board Policy. Ms. Farrar asked the Board to review the name and come up with something the whole community can be proud of.

*Megan Thornton, Haight Elementary parent:* Ms. Thornton stated she feels the process for the renaming was inclusive and she and her family received many notices about the name change. Ms. Thornton stated she hopes others can keep an open mind. Ms. Thornton stated the name has grown on her and she really likes it.

*Michael Yoshi, pastor Buena Vista Methodist Church:* Pastor Yoshi thanked the Haight School Community for their work to support recent immigrants to Alameda. Pastor Yoshi stated he supports the renaming of Haight School. Pastor Yoshi thanked Rasheed Shabazz for the work he has done on this issue and similar issues around Alameda dealing with race. Pastor Yoshi stated the name “Love” does not meet the requirements the committee set. Pastor Yoshi stated he humbly re-submits the name of “Neilsen Tam” for the new name of Haight School. Neil Tam was a former administrator and Board member for Alameda Unified. Pastor Yoshi stated the students at Haight were not educated about the other names proposed.

*Rasheed Shabazz, community organizer, submitted petition for name change of Haight Elementary:* Mr. Shabazz stated when the students selected the name



“Love” for their school, they were really excited. Mr. Shabazz stated he feels it is unfortunate that teachers did not take the opportunity to engage in the renaming process. Mr. Shabazz stated he originally came forward to change the name of the school, but he is happy to engage the community over bigger issues that Alameda currently faces. Mr. Shabazz stated the criteria established was for names that had to do with people. Mr. Shabazz stated children should have the opportunity to name their school “Love” as a value and as a statement.

A Board member stated she believes the Board policy and process was followed and she is personally conflicted because two of the names nominated were people she knows and both deserve to have schools named after them.

A Student Board member asked about the cost of changing the name of the school. Susan Davis, Senior Communication Manager, stated the cost is estimated to be approximately \$10,000.

A Board member stated she believes the process for the renaming of the school has been a process that has gone on for the last 11 months. The Board member stated she appreciates the initiative involved in bring the petition forward to change the name of the school.

2. Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Each year, a school district is required by law to review at a public meeting the annual audit of the school district’s financial records for the prior fiscal year.

The audit examines the District’s compliance with state and federal standards and procedures in order for the District to implement sound fiscal management practices for the most effective and efficient use of public funds.

Ashley Kalieta from the audit firm Christy White Accountancy Corporation presented the audit report to the Board.

***Motion to approve the adoption Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018.***

**MOTION:** Member Harris

**SECONDED:** Member Lym

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES**

**AYES:** Byrne-Sarno, Conable, and Peterson

**NOES:**

**BOARD MEMBER VOTES**

**AYES:** Members Bonta, Dailey, Harris, Lym, and Williams

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

## **MOTION APPROVED**

3. Measure I Bond Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Each year, a school district is required by law to review at a public meeting the annual audit of the school district's financial records for the prior fiscal year.

The audit examines the District's compliance with state and federal standards and procedures in order for the District to implement sound fiscal management practices for the most effective and efficient use of public funds.

Ashley Kalieta from the audit firm Christy White Accountancy Corporation presented the audit report to the Board.

***Motion to approve the adoption Measure I Bond Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018.***

**MOTION:** Member Dailey

**SECONDED:** Member Harris

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES**

**AYES:** Byrne-Sarno, Conable, and Peterson

**NOES:**

**BOARD MEMBER VOTES**

**AYES:** Members Bonta, Dailey, Harris, Lym, and Williams

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

## **MOTION APPROVED**

4. Governor's Budget Proposal

The Governor presented his Proposed 2019-2020 Budget on January 10, 2019. AUSD staff attended the School Services of California budget presentation on January 15, 2019 in Sacramento, CA.

The release of the Governor's proposed budget is the first step in a marathon that will end with the adoption of the State budget in June. The District will work to prepare the 2nd Interim Budget Report for the March 12, 2019 board meeting. At that time, the Governor's proposed budget will be reflected in the District's multi-year projection (MYP). The creation of the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) will continue over the spring for final adoption in June. The Governor will release the Revised Proposed 2019-2020 Budget in May, and staff will work to make the pertinent changes to the final AUSD budget adoption for the June 2019.

5. Update on Needs Assessment Steering Committee

Kirsten Zazo, Chief Student Support Officer, gave the Board information on the recently completed Needs Assessment. The purpose of the Needs Assessment is to identify student behavioral needs, inventory existing school and community-based services, and identify gaps in services. The goal is to develop recommendations, create a more coordinated and integrated behavioral health service system, and make services more accessible to all students. Ms. Zazo explained that Cultural Competence is a strong area of focus for her and she wants to make sure we don't combine data about issues such as suspensions so that we are not recognizing how children of color are disproportionately impacted by this.

Ms. Zazo gave information on how much it would cost to fully implement Tier I supports, which would be approximately \$300k. To fully implement Tier II, it would cost close to a million dollars, and to fully implement Tier III, which would mean Social Workers on staff, would cost \$360k. Ms. Zazo stated to meet the academic needs of our students, we have to meet their socio-emotional wellness needs.

A Board member stated he has focused his time on the Board on mental health and wellness. The Board member thanked Ms. Zazo for bringing the budget needs forward so the Board can make difficult decisions.

A Student Board member stated she has used the Student Based Health Center at her school site and she has found it to be incredibly welcoming. The Student Board member stated there should be more communication about how a student can refer their peers to the Student Based Health Center. The Student Board Member asked how students are being engaged at the school sites. Ms. Zazo stated the Intervention Leads at each school work on outreach to students along with staff from Alameda Family Services.

A Board member stated there has been some confusion expressed from staff that they aren't sure if Tier I supports are for mental or behavioral supports. Ms. Zazo stated she will continue to communicate this to staff.

A Student Board member stated there was not a Student Based Health Center at ASTI and he asked if ASTI students could use one of the other Student Based Health Centers. Ms. Zazo stated any Alameda student can use any one of the Student Based Health Centers. Ms. Zazo stated the Student Based Health Center located at the Nea/ACLC campus may be the closest Student Based Health Center to ASTI geographically.

6. Measure A Annual Report

On March 8, 2011, Alameda voters approved Measure A, with 68.01% voting yes. This parcel tax generates approximately \$12 million per year for seven years. It replaced the former Measure A (passed in 2005) and Measure H (passed in 2008).

In May 2017, the Board reviewed staff recommendations for allocations of Measure A funds for the 2017-18 school year. In June 2017, the Board acted on those recommendations as part of its budget adoption for 2017-18.

Measure A provides that the "...District will provide the Board of Education and the general public...an annual report on the Measure." Tonight, staff presents the 2017-18 staff Measure A Annual Report. The chair of the Measure A Oversight Committee will also present its annual report.

To ensure public accountability and fiscal transparency, Measure A also provides for an Oversight Committee to "review District compliance with the terms of this Measure."

In September 2018, the Board of Education approved the appointment of the 2017-18 Measure A Oversight Committee. The Committee met five times in public meetings between March 2018 and January 2019 to review the District's compliance with the terms of Measure A for 2017-18. All meetings of the Committee were open to the public and complied with open meeting laws as set forth under the Brown Act. Agendas were posted at least 72 hours before each meeting.

Susan Davis, Senior Manager of Community Affairs, presented the Measure A staff report to the Board. The Oversight Committee Report was given by Carrie Hahnel, chair of the Measure A Oversight Committee. The reports and presentation also contain summary data for Measure A from 2011 to 2018.

A Board member thanked Ms. Hahnel for her service as chair of the Measure A Oversight Committee.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

The Board adjourned the meeting back to Closed Session in honor of Vernon "Archie" Lowry, a former AUSD teacher and coach at 9:24pm.