

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
October 24, 2023
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, California 94501

UNADOPTED MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at the date and location mentioned above.

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Public Comment on Closed Session Topics:

The Board did not receive any public comments related to this agenda.

2. Adjourn to Closed Session - 5:30 PM

Board of Education Members present: Board President Heather Little, Board Clerk Gary K. Lym, Board Trustee Jennifer Williams, and Board Trustee Ryan LaLonde.

Board of Education Members absent: Board Vice President Megan Sweet.

Staff present for Closed Session: Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Timothy Erwin; Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Shariq Khan

Items discussed in Closed Session:

Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Existing Litigation (Govt. Code §54956.9, subd. (d) (1)) Agency designated representative: William Tunick, Attorney from Dannis Woliver Kelley (DWK) (one case):

- 1) Traiman v. Alameda Unified School District: Case No. RG20061550 (Alameda County Superior Court)

Student Discipline, Student Suspension, Student Expulsion, or Student Expulsion Readmittance (Govt. Code § 35146, 48918) (one case):

- 1) Student ID #82369

Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Existing Litigation (Govt. Code §54956.9, subd. (d) (1)) Agency designated representative: Leonore Silverman, Attorney from Fagen Friedman Fulfroost, LLP (one case):

- 1) John Doe and Alameda Unified School District: Compromise and Settlement Agreement dated October 6, 2023.

3. Reconvene to Public Session - 6:30PM

Board President Heather Little reconvened the meeting at 6:30PM.

4. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Board of Education President Heather Little led the Pledge of Allegiance

5. Introduction of Board Members and Staff:

Board of Education Members present: Board President Heather Little, Board Vice President Megan Sweet, Board Clerk Gary K. Lym, Board Trustee Jennifer Williams, and Board Trustee Ryan LaLonde.

Student Board members present: Lianna Lau (AST)

AUSD staff members present: Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, Timothy Erwin; Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Shariq Khan; Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Kirsten Zazo; Senior Manager of Community Affairs, Susan Davis and Senior Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Kerri Lonergan.

Student Board members absent: Talia Kotovsky (AHS) and Mirabelle Kruger (EJSHS).

6. Closed Session Action Report:

in Closed Session.82369 4-0 to expel student.

B. MODIFICATION(S) OF THE AGENDA:

There were no modifications of the agenda.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Board was asked to consider the minutes from the June 27th and August 8th Board meetings.

Motion to approve minutes from the June 27th and August 8th Board meetings.

MOTION: Member Lym

SECONDED: Member Williams

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT: Members Kruger and Kotovsky

ABSTAIN: Member Lau

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members Little, Sweet, Williams, Lym, and LaLonde

NOES:

ABSENT:

MOTION APPROVED

D. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:

Drew Higginson, parent of AUSD student: Mr. Higginson spoke about wanting to take a Sabbatical at work and his desire to take his child out of school to go with him on the Sabbatical, but AUSD Board Policies dictate that a student is unenrolled after being gone from the district for 30 days. Mr. Higginson asked the Board to look at these policies to adjust them so that students in this situation in the future do not lose their enrollment position.

Joyce Boyd, parent of AUSD student and member of United Democrats of Alameda: Ms. Boyd stated there was a guest speaker at a meeting of the United Democrats of Alameda who discussed California's Math Framework.

August Zajonc, parent of AUSD student: Mr. Zajonc stated his family is new to the district, and they were very impressed with the kindergarten program at Edison Elementary. Mr. Zajonc asked about discretionary funding and he asked how school groups know what to spend these dollars on.

2. Written Correspondence:

The Board did not receive any emails related to tonight's agenda.

3. Report from Employee Organizations:

Amy Keegan, CSEA 27 President: Ms. Keegan announced that several paraeducators are attending the Para Conference next year and that the Chapter has ratified MOUs about two new job descriptions.

4. Report from PTA Council:

Erica Hartono, Representative of PTA Council: PTA Council representative Erica Hartono expressed a need for transparency around how funds are allocated to sites, including for green spaces, Prop 28 (arts funding), and inclusion of students who receive Special Education services.

5. Board Members' Report:

Board Member Ryan LaLonde: Board Member LaLonde mentioned he spoke on a panel for Equality California, with a leadership team of folks who will be running for office. He was inspired to see that many people who would be running for School Board positions in the Bay Area were people of color. Board Member LaLonde stated he also really enjoyed attending a recent Alameda High Volleyball Game, where it was Senior Night, with Board Member Williams. Board Member LaLonde stated he really appreciated that the Alameda High folks even recognized the Senior players from the visiting team.

Board Clerk Gary K. Lym: Board Clerk Lym stated he was very happy to have attended Bay Farm School's Fall Festival. Board Clerk Lym stated it was a really interesting event. Board Clerk Lym thanked the Bay Farm parent community for putting the event on.

Board Vice President Megan Sweet: Board Vice President Sweet stated last week she was able to sell her home, which is something she has been working towards for a while. Unfortunately, this puts her in an odd space as an elected official in Alameda. Board Vice President Sweet stated she currently does not

have an address in Alameda, and she has been staying in an Air BNB. Due to not having an address in Alameda, Board Vice President Sweet can no longer stay as a member of the Board of Education, because she does not want to be in limbo while the Board works on some very important issues. Board Vice President Sweet stated she never had any political aspirations, she ran for the Board when we were in the middle of a pandemic, and she thought she was in a good position to assist the District. Board Vice President Sweet stated she originally thought she was going to give something, her experience and knowledge of the issues, to the District, she found that she received so much more back for her efforts. Board Vice President Sweet thanked the community for giving her the opportunity to serve.

Board Vice President Sweet left the meeting at 6:49pm.

Board Member Jennifer Williams: Board Member Williams wasn't planning on making a statement, but she would like to thank former Board Vice President Sweet for her work on the Board. Board Member Williams stated Ms. Sweet always brought a focus to issues that needed attention so that the Board could weigh in on these issues or make changes as needed. Board Member Williams stated Ms. Sweet always asked the hard questions and Board Member Williams is happy Ms. Sweet is putting her health and her family first. Board Member Williams stated she will express her appreciation for Ms. Sweet's work to her when she next sees her.

6. Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi: Superintendent Scuderi thanked Ms. Sweet for her work on the Board, especially for the work Ms. Sweet contributed to on the District's Strategic Plan.

7. Student Board Members' Report:

Student Board Member Lianna Lau (ASTI): Student Board Member Lau thanked Ms. Sweet for her work on the Board.

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 Board Policy Updates from the October 17th Board Policy Subcommittee Meeting
- 6) Approval of Facilities Bond Measure I and Measure B Contracts (Standing Item)
- 7) Approval of Project Award of Alameda High School - Kofman Auditorium Stage Upgrades Pursuant to Request for Proposal Dated September 13, 2023
- 8) Approval of School Family Involvement Policies for 2023-24 School Year
- 9) Approval of Special Education Local Plan Area Master Contracts

- 10) Approval of the Formation of a Pool of Qualified Consultants to Perform Construction Testing and Inspection Services per Request For Qualifications dated September 25, 2023
- 11) Proclamation: California Sikh American Awareness and Appreciation Month - November
- 12) Proclamation: National Native American Heritage Month - November
- 13) Proclamation: Veterans Day - November 11, 2023
- 14) Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300
- 15) Resolution No. 2023-2024.17 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases
- 16) Resolution No. 2023-2024.18 Annual Signature Authorization for California Department of Social Services Childcare and Development Services Contracts for FY 2023-2024
- 17) Resolution No. 2023-2024.19 Authorization to Dispose of Surplus Property

Motion to adopt the Consent Calendar.

MOTION: Member Lym

SECONDED: Member Williams

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Member Lau

NOES:

ABSENT: Members Kruger and Kotovsky

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members Little, Williams, Lym, and LaLonde

NOES:

ABSENT: Member Sweet

MOTION APPROVED

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Update on School Level Initiatives to Support African American Achievement at Alameda High School

AUSD continues to share the struggle of many school districts when it comes to serving all our students effectively. That is, we continue to see differences in outcomes and opportunities for students in our system, differences that correlate to factors like race, disability, and housing status. This pattern warrants both our sustained attention and a sustained effort to disrupt.

It is our belief that through collective action we can disrupt and change the outcomes we are seeing for our African American students.

In May 2023, leaders from Ruby Bridges Elementary, Wood Middle, and Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School presented their plans for particular programs and strategies to support achievement for our African American students.

Tonight, Principal Robert Ithurnburn, Vice Principal Allison Krasnow, and Program Manager Jessica Downs from Alameda High School shared

information about their site plans to support achievement for AUSD's African American students with the Board. The Board will next hear from Lincoln Middle School and Love Elementary School after the new year.

Public Comments:

Iris Mitchell, parent of AUSD student: Ms. Mitchell thanked the team for their work and the progress that is being made. Ms. Mitchell specified that she was looking forward to seeing the impacts tutoring will have on student achievement.

2. Update on Literacy Framework

AUSD has been (in collaboration with the community AND using state guidelines and research) working on developing a clearly articulated framework for literacy, that will support the adults in our system to have a shared understanding of effective literacy instruction, that will support our students' wide range of literacy needs so that students can experience success at reading, writing, listening, speaking and thinking.

The first update on the work done around Literacy Framework was brought to the Board in March of 2023

The focus of tonight's presentation is on Investments in Early Literacy, specifically:

- Intervention Materials,
- Universal Screening and Progress Monitoring for Dyslexia, and
- Teacher in-service

Public Comments:

Caroline Brossard, parent of AUSD students: Ms. Brossard thanked Ms. Edwards and the Scholar Staff Advisors for their work with AUSD students. Ms. Brossard said it would be wonderful to have this work expanded so that all African America would have a Scholar Staff Advisor to work with. Ms. Brossard also asked the District to look into putting more supports in place for the summertime.

3. Update on Exploration of Potential Parcel Tax Renewal: Results from Community Poll

Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi introduced the agenda item and EMC Research representative Sara LaBatt and Team Civx representative Jeremy Hauser who presented the item to the Board and Community. Measures B1 (approved in 2016) and A (approved in 2020) provide more than \$22 million per year to AUSD's budget and are crucial to maintaining core programs for students and competitive salaries for staff. Measure B1 expires in 2025; Measure A expires in 2027.

It is a shared interest of the District and the community to maintain both programs funded by Measure B1 and salaries that will attract and retain excellent employees. To measure public support for a renewal of these local revenue measures, the District contracted with TeamCivX, LLC and EMC Research, Inc. to conduct and analyze an opinion survey of likely voters in the

District to assess the feasibility of renewing Measures B1 and A.

Between September 28 - October 4, Alameda residents were surveyed about their support for the District and the possibility of renewing the two measures. Tonight, staff with TeamCivX and EMC will present an update on the work done to explore a potential parcel tax and will discuss polling results.

4. Approval of Superintendent's Recommendation to Appoint Members to the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee

Susan Davis, Senior Manager of Community Affairs gave the Board and community information on the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee. In October 2020, the Board approved changes to Board Policy 3471 that allow for combining the oversight committees of Measure B1 (approved by voters in 2016) and Measure A (approved by voters in 2020). The creation of a combined "AUSD Parcel Tax Program Oversight Committee" allows for a more unified and efficient approach to managing AUSD's parcel tax programs.

The primary task of the Oversight Committee is to review the District's compliance with the terms of both measures.

On August 11, 2023, the District made available applications for the 2023-24 AUSD Parcel Tax Program Oversight Committee to local media, every District employee, and all AUSD families. The District also posted news of the applications to its Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn accounts.

This notice resulted in four applications for the committee.

The 2023-24 Oversight Committee will begin meeting in March 2024. It is likely the committee will meet five or six times over the next year to complete its Annual Report, which will be presented to the Board of Education in January, 2025.

All meetings of the Oversight Committee comply with the Brown Act. Minutes, agendas, and any other relevant communications and information are posted on AUSD's website 72 hours prior to each meeting. Meetings will not exceed two hours unless extended by majority vote. Meetings start on time and are open to the public. Members of the public have the opportunity to address the Committee at the time of any item or presentation on which they wish to speak.

Any recommendations or reports from the Oversight Committee must be supported by a majority of Oversight Committee members voting, but the Oversight Committee will have the goal and intention of reaching agreement by consensus. A chair will be selected from among voting members to conduct the meetings and to serve in representative capacity as needed.

Superintendent Scuderi's recommendation was to appoint Jessica Downs (AUSD teacher), Anna Maier (Teacher, education policy analysis), Timoth McQuillan (Accountant), and Ron Parodi (AUSD teacher) to the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee.

Public Comments:

Joyce Boyd, parent of AUSD student and current member of the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee: Ms. Boyd thanked Susan Davis, Senior Manager of Community Affairs for her work with the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee.

Motion to approve the Superintendent's Recommendation to Appoint Members to the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee.

MOTION: Member Lym

SECONDED: Member Williams

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Member Lau

NOES:

ABSENT: Members Kruger and Kotovsky

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members Little, Williams, Lym, and LaLonde

NOES:

ABSENT: Member Sweet

MOTION APPROVED

- G. ADJOURNMENT** – Board President Heather Little adjourned the meeting at 8:49pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Kerri Lonergan
Senior Executive Assistant
Alameda Unified School District

