

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

January 9, 2018

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
3. Reconvene to Public Session - 6:30 PM
4. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance – Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School
Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School Student Board Member Audrey Wismar led the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Introduction of Board Members and Staff:
Board of Education Members present: Gray Harris, Anne McKereghan, and Jennifer Williams.

Board of Education Members absent: Gary K. Lym and Ardella Dailey.

Student Board Members present: Ken Der (ASTI), Audrey Wismar (Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School), and Morgan Devlin (Alameda High School).

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** – General Business item #6 will be moved to a subsequent meeting due to the presenter being ill.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes
Minutes from the December 12th Board of Education Meeting were considered.

Motion to approve the adoption of the December 12th Board of Education meeting minutes.

MOTION: Member Williams **SECONDED:** Member Harris
AYES: Members Harris, McKereghan, and Williams
NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

D. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Highlighting Alameda Schools – Paden Elementary School

Dan Hurst, Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School principal, gave information on the program at Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School. Mr. Hurst talked about how school staff is implementing Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). Mr. Hurst gave information about possible Career Technical Education Pathways he would like to bring to Encinal.

2. Written Correspondence

The Board did not receive any emails related to this agenda.

3. Board Members' Report

Board Member Jennifer Williams: Member Williams wished the audience a happy new year and stated she is excited to get great work done in AUSD in 2018.

Board Member Anne McKereghan: Member McKereghan welcomed the audience back after Winter Break. Member McKereghan thanked the parents, students, and staff at Ruby Bridges for enduring during the recent power outage. Member McKereghan recognized Alameda Education Foundation for partnering with the Alameda Free Library to show over 1,500 pieces of art done by Alameda youth throughout the Island. Member McKereghan stated the Alameda NAACP is organized the 39th Annual Service Day Celebration on Monday, January 15th in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. The theme this year is “Now is the Time.” Member McKereghan shared information about an event on February 21st organizing by three Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School students. The event is called “Political and Proud” and is aimed to get women and girls involved in leadership. The event will be held in the Encinal Gymnasium from 6-8pm. Member McKereghan stated the Board is going to have to address two very big issues in 2018: impending increase in pension costs, and the fact that AUSD staff is among the lowest paid employees in the County. Member McKereghan mentioned a blog written by an AUSD teacher, “Teaching on the Island,” for some insight into the fiscal realities facing AUSD currently.

Board Member Gray Harris – Member Harris stated she agreed with Member McKereghan’s remarks about the fiscal reality facing AUSD. Member Harris stated she was excited to hear more about the LCAP process. Member Harris stated she is also excited to hear about the agenda item later on in the evening that authorizes the District to join in amicus curiae brief to be filed with the

U.S. Supreme Court in the matter of Janus vs. AFSCME Council 31, which has to do with unions in the school district.

4. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Sean McPhetridge gave an update on a power outage that has impacted Ruby Bridges Elementary School. Dr. McPhetridge thanked the City of Alameda's Community Development Coordinator, Jim Franz, who is retiring this week. Dr. McPhetridge addressed middle school parents and teachers who are concerned about their school going from a seven period day to a six period day. Dr. McPhetridge spoke about the upcoming Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday and read quotes from Dr. King that are pertinent to today's youth.

5. Report from Student Board Members

Morgan Devlin, Alameda High School – Ms. Devlin announced Alameda High will be celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and will be closed on Monday, January 15th. Alameda High is also planning a blood drive for the end of the month.

Ken Der, ASTI – Mr. Der reminded the audience that applications to ASTI are due on January 19th. There is an upcoming retreat that had been rescheduled due to the fires in Napa County. Classes resume at ASTI next week.

Audrey Wismar, Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School – Ms. Wismar wished the audience a happy new year. Ms. Wismar asked the audience to save the date for the annual Encinal Crab Feed. The event will take place on February 24th. Ms. Wismar thanked the Board and staff for changing the calendar so that AUSD high school students have finals before Winter Break for the first time. Ms. Wismar explained it was very nice to be able to relax over break instead of having to prepare to take finals when school resumed.

6. Report from Employee Organizations

Cindy Zecher, President, CSEA 27: Ms. Zecher stated upon returning from break, her school site did not have any heat. Ms. Zecher stated there are many times that there are issues with the HVAC system after long school breaks. Ms. Zecher stated there was also a change to all AUSD email addresses, and this caused many problems for staff and families. Ms. Zecher stated she wonders if this was the best time to change email addresses. Ms. Zecher stated she was very unhappy with the recent Bond meetings and facility design process that is underway at Lincoln Middle School.

Judith Klinger, President, AEA: Ms. Klinger mentioned that the renaming of Haight Elementary School is something the AEA Rep Council will vote on at their next meeting. Ms. Klinger stated she was very pleased to see that the Board is going to vote to join in amicus curiae brief on the side of labor. Ms. Klinger referenced December's Budget Report to the Board and asked the Board to spend new money on employee compensation. Ms. Klinger

mentioned the upcoming report on the LCAP and asked the Board why “attracting and retaining excellent teachers” isn’t listed in the LCAP.

7. Report from PTA Council

There was not a representative from PTA Council present to speak.

8. Public Comments

Manuel Cortez Rodas: Mr. Cortez Rodas stated pension costs are negatively impacting all school districts in California. R. Cortez Rodas attended the public hearing in Sacramento regarding English Language Learners. Mr. Cortez Rodas stated the ELAC test is very, very challenging for English Learners.

Jenny Hartigan, teacher, Lincoln Middle School: Ms. Hartigan spoke in support of a possible proposed 6 period day at Lincoln Middle School (the school currently has a 7 period day). Ms. Hartigan stated teachers will have fewer contacts (students) with a 6 period day, and the 6 period day will help make the schools across Alameda equitable (the other middle schools in AUSD have a 6 period day). Ms. Hartigan stated it is better for students to have more time in each of their academic classes because it is better for student executive function.

Lynn Landry, parent, Lincoln Middle School: Ms. Landry stated she has two students at Lincoln Middle School. Ms. Landry stated she is not in support of a 6 period day at Lincoln Middle School. Ms. Landry stated some families choose to go to Lincoln because of the extra period that students use for a second elective. Ms. Landry stated she doesn’t feel like her family gets a good return on their investment due to the high cost of living in Alameda.

Tina O’Grady, parent, Lincoln Middle School: Ms. O’Grady stated she is the president of the music boosters at Lincoln Middle School. Ms. O’Grady stated her children like having a second elective class. Ms. O’Grady stated she feels the music program will suffer if there is only one elective period at the school.

Mary Grace Basco, parent, Lincoln Middle School: Ms. Basco stated she is in favor of having a 7 period day at Lincoln Middle School. Ms. Basco stated her children are in the advanced band class at LMS. Ms. Basco stated her children hope to continue their music education in high school and were happy they could take a second elective class at Lincoln rather than having to select between band and another elective.

Tyra Cable, music teacher, Lincoln Middle School: Ms. Cable stated she is against the proposed 6 period day at Lincoln Middle School. Ms. Cable stated she has taught an award winning program for over 15 years, and prior to coming to Alameda she has many, many years of experience working with middle school students. Ms. Cable stated if Lincoln switches to a 6 period day, it will be difficult to keep students in the music program for three years.

Ms. Cable stated the standards of the program will have to be lowered to accommodate students who don't have as much experience in music.

Rasheed Shabazz, community leader: Mr. Shabazz invited the Board and the Superintendent to an event on Monday, January 15th from 1-3pm honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. Shabazz stated there will be a number of speakers at the event including members of the Encinal High School Black Student Union. Mr. Shabazz stated the group will march from Haight Elementary School to City Hall as a demonstration asking the community to consider renaming the school.

9. Closed Session Action Report

The Board voted 3-0 to accept the resignation of a teacher effective June 30, 2018.

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 Measure I Contracts (Standing Item)
6. Approval of New Secondary Course Descriptions
7. Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300
8. Resolution No. 2017-2018.34 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases
9. Resolution No. 2017-2018.35 Delegation of Authority to Purchase and Contract

Motion to approve the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

MOTION: Member Williams

SECONDED: Member McKereghan

AYES: Members Harris, McKereghan, and Williams

NOES:

ABSTAIN: Student Board Member Der

MOTION APPROVED

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Career Technical Education (CTE) and WorkAbility Review

Felicia Vargas, Career Technical Education Specialist from Alameda Unified School District's (AUSD) Career Technical Education Program, showed a student designed video highlighting the Internship Programs the City and the District offer.

A Board member asked if any of the grants listed had matching funds. Ms. Vargas explained that the District covers the salaries of the 12-13 CTE teachers employed in AUSD.

A Board member stated she is very interested in the work being done with our Career Pathways. The Board member stated it is a high value of hers to have these internships available for our students, especially considering that not every student necessarily headed directly to a four year university. The Board member stated even students with very high grades and test scores are having a hard time getting into California's public colleges and universities.

Mary Baker-Hendy, Special Education and WorkAbility Specialist, provided an update about how students are being served through the WorkAbility Program. The presentation included an overview of grant-funded career initiatives, job placement data, and an update regarding future planning.

2. Review of Homework Survey Results

Steven Fong, Chief Academic Office, gave an update on the AUSD Homework Workgroup. The workgroup convened in May 2017 and has met a total of 5 times to date. Composed of teachers, parents/guardians, students, administrators, and district office staff, the workgroup has reviewed research, read a shared text, and started the process of considering policy statements. Additionally, the workgroup developed and administered a survey to stakeholders in late October – early November 2017. The presentation also gave an overview of the survey results.

A Board member thanked Mr. Fong and the members of the Homework Workgroup for their time during the process.

3. 2018 Teacher of the Year Launch

Sandy Wong, Human Resources Coordinator, gave information about the Teacher of the Year Program for 2018. Each year parents, students, staff, and the community have the opportunity to recognize excellent teachers in the District by nominating them for Teacher of the Year (ToY).

Nomination forms will be available online and distributed to sites. Qualified nominees will be notified and have the opportunity to complete the process by submitting an application and letters of support.

The Teacher of the Year Committee will review the documents submitted by nominees and determine which nominees move forward as finalists. The Teacher of the Year Committee will observe all finalists and determine the candidate to best represent Alameda Unified as its nominee for the Alameda County Teacher of the Year.

The Teacher of the Year and finalists will be honored at a Board of Education meeting in May 2018.

4. Update on LCAP Process

Steven Fong, Chief Academic Officer, provided an update on the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) process including:

- The status of the 2017-18 LCAP
- The timeline for the 2018-19 LCAP
- A brief overview of LCAP Engagement
- A brief overview of the new state accountability process including differentiated assistance

5. Resolution No. 2017-18.36 Authorizing District to Join in Amicus Curiae Brief to be Filed with U.S. Supreme Court in the Matter of Janus v. AFSCME Council 31

In 2015, Board members expressed an interest in learning more about a case (Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association, Docket No. 14-915 (OT 2015)) then pending before the U.S. Supreme Court. Friedrichs challenged the “fair share service fees” currently required by the California Educational Employment Rights Act (“EERA”).

Since 1976, EERA has granted most District employees the right to designate an exclusive representative (or “union”) to bargain with the District over the terms and conditions of employment with the District. EERA does not require all employees in a unionized district to join a union but does provide for such employees to pay a “fair share services fee” to cover the union’s costs of representing nonmember employees. The petitioners in Friedrichs claimed that the EERA fair share service fee burdens their First Amendment rights and sought to eliminate all fair share fee requirements for all government employee unions nationwide.

Upon learning of the potential effects of Friedrichs, the Board resolved to communicate its position on the case to the Court by joining in a nonparty “friend of the court” brief filed on behalf of a group of school districts. Ultimately, a shorthanded Court split 4-4 on whether to strike down fair share fees.

Now that the vacancy on the Court has been filled, a new case, Janus v. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 31, Docket No. 16-1466 (OT 2018), has revived the Friedrichs challenge to fair share fees. A group of school districts is again preparing a nonparty “friend of the court” brief with the Court. The brief will explain the potential effects on districts if fair share service fees are eliminated. The District has been invited to join in the brief. If approved, this resolution would authorize the District to join the brief as a nonparty friend of the court.

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2017-18.36 Authorizing District to Join in Amicus Curiae Brief to be Filed with U.S. Supreme Court in the Matter of Janus v. AFSCME Council 31.

MOTION: Member Harris

SECONDED: Member Williams

AYES: Members Harris, McKereghan, and Williams

NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

6. ~~Preview of Needs Assessment for District Mental Health and Behavioral Needs~~

This item will be presented at a subsequent Board of Education meeting.

G. ADJOURNMENT 9:34pm. Meeting adjourned in honor of former AUSD teacher Nancy Gannon Mongerson, who recently passed away.