

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER HIGH SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION**

September 17, 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 was held on the date and place mentioned above.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Call to Order/Introduction

Brianna Garcia from School Services of California opened the meeting and welcomed Committee members and the public. Ms. Garcia also gave the audience information about how to submit public comment forms.

2. Establishment of Quorum

Committee to Consider High School Consolidation members present: Mia Bonta, Richard Bunker, Kelly Hartlaub Gregor, Cameron Furuichi Fong, Jyosna Jaslow, Dorothy Jones, Chuck Kapelke, Akiko Kelley, Denise Langowski, Marva Lyons, Cheryl Lua, Melody Ma, Lisa Gabato Morse, Ron Parodi, Melanie Shannon, Kathy Lamb-Tansey, Serena Woon, Bill Withrow, and Cindy Zecher.

Committee to Consider High School Consolidation members absent: Sofía Orduña.

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

3. Public Comments

*Greg deHaan – parent of AUSD students:* Mr. deHaan stated he was concerned about the process of how the consolidation of schools has been considered. Mr. deHaan stated the current District Office should be sold and the District Office should go back to where it was originally at Historic Alameda High School. Mr. deHaan stated the original plan for Alameda was that a large high school with athletic fields would be built at the Base. Mr. deHaan stated there are many pieces of property in Alameda that have been lost to developers. Mr. deHaan asked the Committee to not make hasty decisions when it comes to facilities.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Minutes from the September 4, 2018 Committee to Consider High School Consolidation were considered.

*Motion to adopt September 4, 2018 minutes.*

**MOTION:** Kelly Gregor

**SECONDED:** Kathy Lamb Tansey

**AYES:** Mia Bonta, Richard Bunker, Kelly Hartlaub Gregor, Cameron Furuichi Fong, Jyosna Jaslow, Dorothy Jones, Chuck Kapelke, Akiko Kelley, Denise Langowski, Marva Lyons, Cheryl Lua, Melody Ma, Lisa Gabato Morse, Ron Parodi, Melanie Shannon, Kathy Lamb-Tansey, and Cindy Zecher.

**NOES:** N/A

**ABSTAIN:** Bill Withrow

**ABSENT:** Sofía Orduña

**MOTION APPROVED**

Committee Member Sofía Orduña entered the meeting.

**C. REVIEW AND DISCUSS**

Chairperson Mia Bonta discussed moving item #3 to be the first item presented at the meeting. The Committee agreed to this agenda change.

3. Facilities Capacity Analysis – Presentation by Mark Quattrocchi, Quattrocchi Kwok Architects

In the spring of 2018, the Board of Education directed staff to convene a committee to consider the potential effects of consolidating Alameda High School and Encinal High School. At the committee's first meeting, Greg Davis of Davis Demographics provided student enrollment projections. At this second meeting, Mark Quattrocchi of Quattrocchi Kwok Architects (QKA) presented information on the classroom capacity at Alameda High School and Encinal High School and compared that to the projected enrollment for the two schools.

Mr. Quattrocchi stated there are 75 teaching stations at Alameda High School, including the gymnasium, that are used currently. Mr. Quattrocchi stated there will be an additional 46 classrooms that will come online when the Bond work is completed at Historic Alameda High School. This preliminary total is 121 classrooms. Mr. Quattrocchi then explained that if there is a consolidation of the two high schools, undersized classrooms currently used (that are part of the 121 classrooms) will need to be redesigned for a total of 113 classrooms available for the consolidated high school rather than the 121 which is what a person would get by just adding the current classrooms to the classrooms that will come online when construction is complete.

Mr. Quattrocchi further analyzed the classroom space to give information on three scenarios on how classroom space could be used in two different scenarios. The first scenario showed how classrooms are loaded with students according to contract allowances and capacity based on square footage of classrooms. In the first scenario, a consolidation is possible, but not favorable. In the second scenario, which allowed for some efficiencies in one campus from two campuses, a consolidation is not possible due to the lack of classroom space needed for the combined number of students.

Mr. Quattrocchi gave information on how additional campus buildings could be built. In this scenario, a tennis court and part of the Industrial Arts building could be used for classroom space to plan for growth.

Mr. Quattrocchi gave details on the work that is currently being done at Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School. Mr. Quattrocchi stated construction work at Encinal is frozen until the discussion of consolidation is complete. Mr. Quattrocchi stated the work is slated to begin in June 2019. Mr. Quattrocchi stated if the decision regarding consolidation is delayed much longer, work on Encinal will be delayed, which could possibly increase costs.

Mr. Quattrocchi stated it would be a challenge to combine the two high schools into the current space of Alameda High School. Mr. Quattrocchi stated he believes the current AHS property will be undersized for the number of classrooms the school would need. Mr. Quattrocchi stated the 1970s building would need to be rehabilitated to be used for the combined school. Mr. Quattrocchi stated that some of the money for this work could come from the new building that would not be built at Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School if the schools were to be consolidated.

A Committee member asked where new lockers would go to accommodate students. Mr. Quattrocchi stated a location has not been determined yet, but there are locations at the current site where they can be built.

A Committee member asked about the undersized classroom spaces currently at Alameda High School. Mr. Quattrocchi stated there are classrooms in the 1970s building at Alameda High that are smaller than the standard classroom size determined by the Department of Education. Mr. Quattrocchi stated 8 classrooms would be lost to increase the size of the classrooms that are undersized.

A Committee member asked about the total cost of the Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School project and what amount of the total cost would go toward Alameda High if the schools were consolidated. Mr. Quattrocchi stated the new building at Encinal would not be built for a savings of \$6-9 million dollars. Mr. Quattrocchi stated this savings could be applied to expand the current AHS campus.

A Committee member asked if there is a time limit on using Bond money once the Bond is passed. Mr. Quattrocchi stated there is a time limit, but the current schedule for the projects at Encinal does not exceed that time limit, even with the delay for the Committee to consider consolidation of the two schools.

A Committee member asked when construction was planned to be completed at Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School. Mr. Quattrocchi stated it would be fall of 2021 or winter of 2022 because the construction is being done in phases while students are still in the buildings. Mr. Quattrocchi stated if consolidation were not to happen, the new building at Encinal would be built first and this building would be used to move students around while other work is being done at the campus.

A Committee member stated the kitchen at Alameda High is not big enough to feed all the students in Alameda. The Committee member explained the food for Alameda High School currently comes out of Wood Middle School. Mr. Quattrocchi stated a new kitchen would be needed at the site if consolidation were to be done.

A Committee member also asked if there was direction given on what would go into the Encinal campus if consolidation were to happen. Mr. Quattrocchi also stated there has not been any direction given on the use of Encinal if the consolidation were to happen.

A Committee member asked how many classrooms were to be built as a part of the new building at Encinal. Mr. Quattrocchi stated the new building at Encinal would provide 12 classrooms. Mr. Quattrocchi stated that because of the reconfiguration of the rooms to account for undersized rooms that exist currently, it was only a net gain of 1 classroom.

A Committee member asked how much it has cost to retrofit Alameda High School. Mr. Quattrocchi stated the original budget was approximately \$42 million dollars, not including additional structural work that was discovered after the project was started.

A Committee member reiterated that AHS is short 15 classrooms now, and the site may need 10-12 classrooms in the future if the two high schools are consolidated. Mr. Quattrocchi stated this is correct.

A Committee member stated the data does not reflect that a consolidation is possible. The Committee member stated she is not comfortable with consolidation at this time.

A student Committee member shared that Alameda High School is currently very crowded and it is difficult to get to classes on time. A second student Committee member stated due to construction at the site there are parts of the campus that are off limits to students. The student stated it sounds like

many classrooms may go offline if there was additional construction to happen for extra classrooms to be added.

The students were asked about lunchtime at Alameda High School. One student Committee member stated it is extremely difficult to get lunch on time during the time allotted.

A Committee member challenged the committee to look at options other than closing one high school and putting all students at one mega-school. The Committee member stated the committee can look at the different options that are out there rather than just close one high school.

A Committee member added some historical information on how it was decided that Alameda High School would get 38 classrooms in the Bond project. The Committee member stated there were meetings starting in 2012 where the community came out and demanded that the historical building be saved.

A Committee member stated she was disappointed that the renovations at Encinal were put on hold.

A student Committee member stated there is a large amount of anxiety for students at Encinal High School. The student stated there needs to be an easy way for students to get information on what is going on during these meetings.

A Committee member asked the Committee to consider what the “why” is for the Committee. The Committee member mentioned issues of inequity at the two schools. The Committee member stated whatever solution is decided on it needs to bring the district forward because status quo is not working.

Public Comments:

*Lily Conable, current student at Encinal High School:* Ms. Conable stated she believes the additional classrooms added to Alameda High School creates inequity.

*Donna Fong, longtime resident of Alameda:* Ms. Fong stated she understands the concerns of staff and the Board. Ms. Fong stated when she attended UC Riverside where she realized she was not as prepared as other students. Ms. Fong gave examples of hardships that would increase should Encinal be consolidated at Alameda High. Ms. Fong asked the Committee to keep both schools open. Ms. Fong asked the Board to make Encinal better, not close it. Ms. Fong stated we have an obligation to give our neediest students an education.

*Dorothy Perillo Dutton, current student at Encinal High School:* Ms. Dutton stated the issue of commuting from the West End to Alameda High School needs to be considered. Ms. Dutton stated many students would have a very

hard time getting to school if the schools were consolidated. Ms. Dutton stated before high school she was trying to get into Alameda High and she is very happy she stayed at Encinal High School.

*Don Sherratt, chairperson of Measure I Bond Oversight Committee:* Mr. Sherratt stated the Committee needs to look at what is best for students. Mr. Sherratt stated a lot of money goes toward personnel, and other districts pay much less than AUSD. Mr. Sherratt stated he was on a similar committee in the 1980s, and he is very pleased with the make-up of the current Committee to Consider High School Consolidation. Mr. Sherratt asked the Committee to keep their minds open.

1. Discussion of Committee Scope

Brianna Garcia of School Services of California stated the Board had a discussion about the scope of the Committee during a Special Meeting held last week. Ms. Garcia stated the Board does want a discussion of a possible consolidation. Ms. Garcia stated the Board does want some decisions made and a report presented to the Board by the January deadline in order to meet the timelines of Bond construction projects. Ms. Garcia stated the Board is open to looking at a list of options the Committee comes up with.

Chairperson Bonta asked members of the Committee who attended the Special meeting what they felt the Board said regarding scope.

A Committee member stated she heard the Board say they could use their committee meetings to start coming up with what students need rather than focusing just on consolidation.

A Committee member stated she heard the Board say it was not just high schools that were on the table to consider for consolidation. The Committee member stated she heard the Board say they wanted to hear any and all brainstorming ideas, including different programming changes at the high schools.

A Committee member stated she signed up for a Committee to Consider High School Consolidation. The Committee member stated she does not want to go to endless meetings for a list of things the Board will not have money to implement.

A Committee member stated she heard from Mr. Khan that the Committee was going to know by tonight if consolidation was possible or not. The Committee member stated she was also not sure just brainstorming ideas was an effective use of the Committee's time.

A Committee member stated he felt the money question was not addressed in the list of agenda items. The Committee member asked how much money would be provided to teachers as a result of a possible consolidation.

Chairperson Bonta reiterated the ideas and values the Committee expressed:

- Continuing to look at pros/cons with combining two high schools
- Explore other options related to secondary school programming
- Looking at question with equity lens. Look at what could happen at Encinal to support systemic changes.
- Costing all these changes out to provide to the Board
- Deliverable to Board: cost, programming, equity to give the Board the information they need to consider consolidation. Report would still be due in January.

Chairperson Bonta suggested the next meeting of the Committee focus on brainstorming the different scenarios and what information the Committee would need to consider the scenarios.

A Committee member stated there are a number of districts that are comparable to AUSD in size and the Committee should look at what those districts are doing with their programming.

A Committee member asked if the Committee can focus on the benefits of a small school, forgetting for a moment the particular schools in Alameda. The Committee member stated colleges are looking at much more than just grades, they are looking at how students contribute to their community.

Chairperson Bonta asked Ms. Garcia to take the comments from tonight and put together another document regarding scope, agenda items, and a timeline.

2. Review of Questions/Requests from September 4, 2018 Meeting  
The Committee did not discuss this item.

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned the meeting at 8:30PM.