

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

October 23, 2018

City Hall Council Chambers

2263 Santa Clara Avenue

Alameda, CA 94501

ADOPTED 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: Ardella Dailey, Gray Harris, Gary K. Lym, Anne McKereghan, and Jennifer Williams.

3. Reconvene to Public Session - 6:30 PM

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

4. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance – Maya Lin School

Judy Goodwin, Maya Lin principal, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Introduction of Board Members and Staff:

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

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, and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Kerri Lonergan.

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

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the October 9th Board Meeting were considered.

Motion to approve the adoption of the October 9th Board Meeting minutes.

MOTION: Member Lym

SECONDED: Member Williams

AYES: Members Harris, Lym, McKereghan, and Williams

NOES:

ABSTAIN: Member Dailey

MOTION APPROVED

D. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Highlighting Alameda Schools and Employee Spotlight – Maya Lin School
Maya Lin principal Judy Goodwin introduced the two employees she chose to highlight. The employees are Noel Wiley, the Maya Lin office manager, and Janet McNamee, a 4th/5th grade combo teacher at Maya Lin. Ms. Goodwin thanked the two employees for going above and beyond in their service to the students and families of Maya Lin School.

Ms. Goodwin gave the Board information on Maya Lin School's vision and mission. Ms. Goodwin shared information on the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports initiative. Ms. Goodwin gave information on supports for English Language Learner students, and she shared the many ways staff use parent engagement to keep all families informed.

Ms. Goodwin introduced Constance Moore, Maya Lin Art teacher, to talk about Integrated Learning and Inquiry and how the students at the school use this tool in their work developing and discussing their artwork.

2. Written Correspondence

The Board received one email related to an item on the Closed Session agenda.

3. Board Members' Report

Board Member Jennifer Williams – Member Williams stated she attended a breakfast for all California School Boards Association to organize support for two bills, one for transportation and one federal bill to change the way Special Education is funded. Member Williams shared Girls, Inc. is undertaking a national campaign called the “Girls, Too Movement” to help girls learn to not be victims of sexual harassment or sexual violence. Please visit Girls, Inc. website for more information.

Board Member Gary K. Lym – Member Lym thanked the Earhart PTA for inviting him to their recent meeting. Member Lym thanked Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School for their recent School Board candidate forum.

Board Member Anne McKereghan – Member McKereghan stated she attended the Alameda Community Foundation Dinner, and she thanked the Alameda Community Foundation for inviting her.

Board Member Gray Harris – Member Harris congratulated Richard Bunker, Malia Vella, and Mike Henneberry for being honored at a ceremony that is being held tonight by Assemblymember Rob Bonta. Member Harris stated she recently has received several inquiries about an email sent by one of our Board members to community members and two AUSD employees that made disparaging remarks about the honorees. Member Harris stated the comments

made do not reflect the views of the Board of Education. Member Harris stated she congratulates all those honored and thanked Assemblymember Bonta for honoring these people and for the partnerships he has had with AUSD. Member Harris thanked the Alameda Firefighters for their recent pumpkin giveaway. Member Harris stated the Firefighters gave away over 1,000 pumpkins. Member Harris stated she attended the recent Committee to Consider High School Consolidation and Alternative Scenarios meeting, and she thanked the members of the committee for doing such important work to explore this topic. Member Harris invited the public to attend the upcoming ACCYF meeting.

4. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Sean McPhetridge shared information about proclamations on the agenda, including:

- California Sikh American Awareness and Appreciation Month – November
- National Native American Heritage Month – November
- Family Literacy Day – November 1, 2018
- Veterans Day – November 11, 2018
- America Recycles Day – November 15, 2018

Dr. McPhetridge gave the Board information on the resolution that will be part of the meeting's General Business agenda. The resolution is in support of a Citywide Ordinance Banning Flavored Tobacco Sales in Alameda. Dr. McPhetridge stated he feels the time is right to continue our partnership with public agencies to discourage tobacco use by AUSD students through our longstanding participation in local Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) efforts.

Dr. McPhetridge stated AUSD also supports creating minimum package sizes and minimum price for tobacco products, as well as prohibiting the sale of tobacco in pharmacies or near child-sensitive areas.

5. Student Board Members' Report

Aidan Byrne-Sarno (ASTI) – Student Board Member Byrne-Sarno stated this week is ASTI's Spirit Week where students dress up on the different days. This Friday is Spirit Day and a dance will be held.

Lily Conable (EJSHS) – Student Board Member Conable stated the Women's Volleyball team made North Coast Sectionals. Student Board Member Conable stated water polo league championships are this weekend. Student Board Member Conable stated the Encinal football team has a chance for a North Coast Sectionals bid. Student Board Member Conable stated the Encinal Marching Band won the recent Santa Cruz Band Review. Student Board Member Conable stated college application season is here, and staff are supporting students in getting applications filled out. Student Board Member Conable stated the Political and Proud School Board Candidate Forum was held with 125 students in attendance and all School Board candidates

attended. This event was held during Jets period. Student Board Member Conable commended Malia Vella, Richard Bunker, and Mike Henneberry for their outstanding leadership and for being honored by Assemblymember Rob Bonta.

Lydia Peterson (AHS) – Student Board Member Peterson stated Unity Assembly and Spirit Week are coming up in two weeks. Student Board Member Peterson stated the Unity Assembly helps students express their backgrounds and she stated she is really looking forward to Unity Week.

6. Report from Employee Organizations

Judith Klinger, President, Alameda Education Association: Ms. Klinger stated she was not aware that AEA's Richard Bunker won an award, and she stated she is very happy to hear that Mr. Bunker is being honored. Ms. Klinger stated a local Alameda photographer is doing a photo project on teachers in Alameda, and an Alameda High School student will be writing the copy on the photo project. Ms. Klinger stated AEA has a Go Fund Me drive going so that all teachers in Alameda can have a red AEA shirt.

Cindy Zecher, President, CSEA 27: Ms. Zecher stated as a child she was always taught that sticks and stones will break your bones but words will never hurt. Ms. Zecher stated words do hurt and she stated she is dismayed that a School Board member used her words to hurt. Ms. Zecher urged all to use their professionalism to communicate with others. Ms. Zecher acknowledged Richard Bunker, Malia Vella, and Mike Henneberry for being recognized by Assemblymember Rob Bonta. Ms. Zecher stated the public may look at her Facebook page for more information. Ms. Zecher stated Everyone Belongs Here and everyone deserves to be honored.

Report from PTA Council

Page Tomblin, President, PTA Council – Ms. Tomblin stated it is a very busy time of year for parents and school sites. Ms. Tomblin stated there is a Special Education Family Support Group meeting, which is open to everyone but particularly for families with a student who receives special education supports. Ms. Tomblin stated there are two parent workshops coming up: one is on Marijuana and the Brain, and the second one is on Teen Mental Health Wellness. Ms. Tomblin stated there will be a School Board Candidates Forum at the Phoenix on November 1st at 6:30pm. Ms. Tomblin stated tonight the Board is considering a resolution in support of the flavored tobacco ban the City of Alameda is supporting. Ms. Tomblin stated the PTA supports this resolution.

Public Comments

Mia Bonta, AUSD parent and candidate for School Board: Ms. Bonta stated tonight there is a celebration honoring many Alameda people, but specifically Malia Vella, Richard Bunker, and Mike Henneberry.

Serena Chen, Alameda resident and AUSD parent: Ms. Chen thanked the Board for passing a resolution last year regarding cannabis businesses and where they are located in the City of Alameda. Ms. Chen stated the City of Alameda is relaxing the restrictions they had put in place last year. Ms. Chen stated the City of Alameda doubled the number of dispensaries that are allowed to operate in Alameda.

7. Closed Session Action Report

There was no reportable action taken 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 Measure I Contracts (Standing Item)
6. Approval of Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints
7. Proclamation: California Sikh American Awareness and Appreciation Month - November
8. Proclamation: National Native American Heritage Month - November
9. Proclamation: Family Literacy Day - November 1, 2018
10. Proclamation: Veterans Day - November 11, 2018
11. Proclamation: America Recycles Day - November 15, 2018
12. Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300
13. Resolution No. 2018-2019.13 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases

Motion to approve the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

MOTION: Member Lym

SECONDED: Member Williams

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Byrne-Sarno, Conable, and Peterson

NOES:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members Dailey, Harris, Lym, McKereghan, and Williams

NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. AUSD's Process for Reviewing Charter Renewal Petitions: Presentation from Academy of Alameda Elementary School

On August 28, the district received a charter renewal petition from Academy of Alameda Elementary School. AUSD General Counsel Chad Pimentel introduced Matt Huxley and Nora Bullock from the Academy of Alameda Elementary School to the Board, and he stated they will share information about their school. Mr. Huxley and Ms. Bullock are the Executive Director and Principal of the AOA Elementary School, respectively.

Academy of Alameda leadership gave the Board information on their program and goals. Ms. Bullock shared information about how the organization frames belonging, ability, success, and value for their students and families. Ms. Bullock stated AOA Elementary School is in the top 10 percent of most diverse schools in the state of California. Ms. Bullock stated there is an Equity Studies focus at the Elementary School. Ms. Bullock shared a math problem where the student used he/she/they pronouns to explain the word problem.

AUSD staff will give a draft recommendation on the charter renewal petition to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

Public Comments:

Holly McKale Larson, parent of AOA students: Ms. McKale stated her family met with Nora Bullock when their son was in 1st grade. Ms. McKale stated when their family heard the vision for AOA Elementary School they thought it would be a great fit for their child. Ms. McKale stated both their children excelled at AOA and the family has had a wonderful experience at the school. Ms. McKale stated AOA Elementary School teaches the whole child and this is part of the curriculum. Ms. McKale stated Equity Studies teach her children about gender identity, skin color, and race.

Que Chu, parent of AOA students: Ms. Chu stated she recently joined the Board of the Academy of Alameda. Ms. Chu stated AOA Elementary has a reading specialist, who helps students and groups students by reading level. Ms. Chu stated the reading specialist recently shared the strategies she uses when working with students in the classroom. Ms. Chu stated families and students are included and welcomed at the school. Ms. Chu stated her children feel comfortable and safe at the school. Ms. Chu stated there are many opportunities for families to be engaged at the school.

A Board member asked if there are Special Education Day Classes at the school. Ms. Bullock stated students with IEPs are fully integrated into mainstream classrooms. The Board member asked what the percentage of students is with IEPs at the school. Ms. Bullock stated approximately 7% of the population at AOA receives special education services. The Board member asked about the AOA discipline policy. Ms. Bullock stated they have never suspended a student at AOA Elementary School.

A Student Board member asked what the average class size is. Ms. Bullock stated the class size is 25-1. The Student Board member asked what curriculum is used for restorative practices. Ms. Bullock stated there is no packaged program that covers everything AOA wants teachers to know regarding restorative practices, but they do have eight days at the beginning of the year where AOA teachers have professional development.

A Board member stated she appreciates the work done by AOA staff and teachers.

2. AUSD's Process for Reviewing Charter Renewal Petitions: Presentation from Nea Community Learning Center

On August 28, the district received a charter renewal petition from Nea Community Learning Center. AUSD General Counsel Chad Pimentel introduced CLCS Board president Kimberly Miller and staff from Nea Community Learning Center to the Board and he stated they will share information about their school.

Ms. Miller introduced Matthew Wienclawski, the lead facilitator of the 6-12 program at Nea Community Learning Center. Mr. Wienclawski gave information on the Nea mission statement and the Nea goals. Mr. Wienclawski stated the school community works together to keep families engaged. Mr. Wienclawski introduced Jan Chabre, the lead facilitator for the K-5 Nea program. Ms. Chabre gave the Board information on why Nea Community Learning Center is unique. Ms. Chabre shared the challenges the school has had, and Mr. Wienclawski shared the successes the school has seen.

AUSD staff will give a draft recommendation on the charter renewal petition to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

Public Comments:

Nick Rathslip, leader of Nea/ACLC United: Mr. Rathslip read a letter of support for the Nea Charter Renewal from the teachers of ACLC and Nea. Mr. Rathslip stated the teaching staff at Nea is dedicated to an environment where every child can learn. Mr. Rathslip stated teachers at the site are proud of the partnership they have with Nea leadership. Mr. Rathslip stated the innovative and project rich program is responsive to each and every learner.

Phillip Milestone, Nea Board member and Nea parent: Mr. Milestone thanked all the Nea families and staff in the room. Mr. Milestone stated he chose Nea for his child because of the Nea principles, including curiosity, problem solving, team work, and integrity. Mr. Milestone stated he didn't know at first how his child was going to learn these principles in school. Mr. Milestone stated his children are getting an academic education and they are learning how to be whole compassionate people. Mr. Milestone stated Nea students learn how to push through to excellence. Mr. Milestone stated there are many schools in Alameda doing fabulous work.

Shino, student at Nea Community Learning Center: Shino read a speech about her experience at Nea Community Learning Center. Shino stated the facilitators and students are very close. Shino stated she was drawn to the school because learners are given appropriate challenges. Shino stated middle school students are able to advance to higher courses and high school students are able to take classes at the College of Alameda. Shino stated many learners devote a good amount of time to outside activities such as sports, dance, and art. Shino stated “the tree” helps students to reset and do homework. Shino stated facilitators help students strive to be their best. Shino stated she is grateful to the facilitators and students at Nea Community Learning Center.

A Student Board member asked how much power students have over structures and policy at the school. Mr. Wienclawski stated there is a Judicial Committee that is made up of students, and if there are to be policy changes, these changes have to go through the Judicial Committee first. A Student Board member asked what ways students are protected when there is a conflict. Mr. Wienclawski stated the school does implement PBIS, and students elected to the Judicial Committee do have to go through training.

A Board member stated there is a legal issue the AUSD Board is having with the CLCS Board. The Board member stated the AUSD Board has the right to appoint a member to the CLCS Board and the CLCS Board has not agreed to follow this law. The Board member stated she finds it disturbing that CLCS is not following the law in this regard. Mr. Milestone stated he does not feel any law has been broken, and there is ongoing litigation on the matter. Mr. Milestone stated the CLCS Board has invited the AUSD Board to appoint a member. The Board member asked Mr. Milestone if CLCS sees themselves as a corporation or a school. Mr. Milestone stated he didn’t know why they can’t be both.

3. Resolution No. 2018-2019.12 in Support of Citywide Ordinance Banning Flavored Tobacco Sales in Alameda

Superintendent Sean McPhetridge presented the resolution in Support of Citywide Ordinance Banning Flavored Tobacco Sales in Alameda. Alameda Unified School District works with Alameda County Office of Education and other partnering public agencies to discourage tobacco use by AUSD students through our longstanding participation in local Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) efforts.

The tobacco industry has now targeted young people and vulnerable communities with tobacco products that mask the harsh taste of tobacco with flavors highly appealing to youth (including bubble gum, cotton candy, grape, gummy bear, and menthol flavors).

Research shows tobacco companies have historically targeted communities of color with aggressive marketing of mentholated tobacco products, resulting in disproportionate rates of tobacco-related disease and death (e.g., 95% of Black

youth smokers, 61% of Asian youth smokers, and 58% of Latino youth smokers report use of menthol-flavored cigarettes).

Alameda Unified School District joins others in support of a citywide Tobacco Retail Licensing Ordinance to ensure tobacco retailers do not sell tobacco products to young people and to prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products in the City of Alameda, including menthol cigarettes. AUSD also supports creating minimum package sizes and minimum price for tobacco products, as well as prohibiting the sale of tobacco in pharmacies or near child-sensitive areas.

Public Comments:

Serena Chen, AUSD parent and Alameda resident: Ms. Chen passed around flavored tobacco products for the Board to examine. Ms. Chen also showed a “Juul,” which is a device students are using as e-cigarettes. Ms. Chen stated the use of e-cigarettes is very pervasive AUSD’s high schools. Ms. Chen stated surrounding cities have banned these products, so the products are being pushed to Alameda stores.

Rachel Gratz Laserith, Alameda County Public Health Department, speaking in her capacity of an Alameda parent: Ms. Laserith stated when flavored cigarettes were banned and tobacco companies started producing flavored tobacco products such as “Juuls.” Ms. Laserith stated one in four AUSD students have reported “vaping” in high school. Ms. Laserith handed out a fact sheet to the Board on flavored tobacco products.

A Student Board member stated there was a recent PTA presentation on this issue and there was a lot of support for this ban.

A Board member stated she has always been interested in the Board of Education “staying in their lane.” The Board member stated this issue is completely within the purview of the Board to take action on.

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2018-2019.12 in Support of Citywide Ordinance Banning Flavored Tobacco Sales in Alameda.

MOTION: Member Harris

SECONDED: Member Lym

A Board member thanked Board President Harris for bringing this issue to the agenda. The Board member also thanked Serena Chen and Rachel Laserith for their important work on this topic.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Byrne-Sarno, Conable, Peterson

NOES:

ABSENT:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members Dailey, Harris, Lym, McKereghan, and Williams
NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

4. Math Pathways Overview

Terri Elkin, AUSD's Secondary Coordinator, presented information on planned changes to AUSD's secondary math pathways. The presentation includes a discussion of the rationale, process for decision-making, data supporting the discussion, and next steps. The key priorities in considering changes to the secondary math pathway were to minimize the amount of content missed at any point of acceleration while preserving the ability to reach the same advanced mathematics 12 grade courses. To achieve this, the staff involved in developing the plan identified multiple avenues for acceleration, a key shift from the current single point of acceleration between 6th and 7th grade.

A Student Board member stated she did not support the proposed changes, and she asked what students are missing in math in 6th and 7th grade that are making them not able to accelerate and skip some of the classes. The Student Board member stated it would be very hard for students to have a compressed pre-calculus and Algebra 2. A different Student Board member stated he was very supportive of the proposed changes to the math class structure.

A Board member stated there is a tight deadline for the next steps given in the presentation. Ms. Elkin stated there has already been curriculum selected to pilot. The Board member also asked what the story is now with students taking dual enrollment and/or summer math courses. Ms. Elkin stated she has been working with the math chair at College of Alameda and they are happy to support AUSD students. Ms. Elkin also stated the new proposal will help increase equity across the Island.

A Board member stated she is concerned the changes proposed will not happen soon enough. The Board member asked what supports are in place that are not in the schools and programs listed. Ms. Elkin stated her team leaders are trying many experimental targeted interventions for students who need support.

A Board member stated this work is very important to him and he feels this presentation is heavy on the accelerated students. The Board member stated he recently spoke to five college students who stated they were not prepared with the correct foundations from their Alameda schools. The Board member also stated he has concerns about what happens to students who struggle in middle school. The Board member stated he is very worried about students who cannot pass the first semester of math in high school. The Board member stated he would like to see more work on interventions and at risk students.

A Board member stated she appreciates the plan because it helps students who want to accelerate and it helps students who need support. The Board member stated she believes this is a good step in the right direction.

A Student Board member recounted her experience as a student moving into AUSD midway through her 8th grade year. The Student Board member stated since she missed half of Algebra in middle school, she was not prepared for pre-calculus as an 11th grade student. The Student Board member thinks the plan can help students with stress. The Student Board member stated she is distressed about not having institutionalized supports for middle school students in math across the Island.

Steven Fong, Chief Academic Officer, thanked the Board for their varied feedback and comments. Mr. Fong stated there are a lot of opportunities and options that we can use, and the most supports will come when our schools align their schedules.

Dr. McPhetridge stated staff will come back in the coming months to talk about math interventions and he thanked the Board for their valuable feedback.

5. Student Support Services Overview

Kirsten Zazo, Chief Student Support Officer, presented information on the work that is done by the departments under the Student Support Services umbrella. Ms. Zazo spoke about PBIS, MTSS, McKinney-Vento Services, the District nurses, After School Programming, and Community Engagement. Ms. Zazo introduced Dr. Victoria Forester, Director of Special Education, to speak about AUSD's work with students receiving Special Education supports.

A Board member asked if it was true that there are only two District nurses for over 9,000 students. Ms. Zazo stated this is true, there are only two District nurses.

G. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the meeting at 9:30PM in honor of Vince Sablan, a former head custodian at Lincoln Middle School.