

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

November 27, 2018

Island High School Multipurpose Room

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

3. Reconvene to Public Session - 6:30PM

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

4. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance – Board Members

Board president Gray Harris opened the public meeting with 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.

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 to the agenda.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the November 13th Board Meeting were considered.

Motion to approve the adoption of the November 13th Board Meeting minutes.

MOTION: Member Williams

SECONDED: Member Lym

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES

AYES: Byrne-Sarno, Conable, and Peterson

NOES:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

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

NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

D. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Highlighting Alameda Schools and Employee Spotlight – Island High School
Island High School Principal Ben Washofsky gave the Board information on Island High School, including the school motto and Island High School's mission. Mr. Washofsky gave the Board information on the school's work with the Peralta Community College system and the college pathway classes the school offers. Mr. Washofsky gave information on the number of students who take college classes while enrolled at Island High School. Mr. Washofsky explained to the Board that Island High School students take field trips to visit the local community colleges, and the students also visit local businesses.

2. Written Correspondence
The Board did not receive any correspondence related to this agenda.

3. Board Members' Report
Board Member Jennifer Williams – Member Williams stated she recently attended the monthly PTA Council meeting, and she thanked Page Tomblin and the PTA Council for putting together the recent Mental Health and Wellness information night held at Lincoln Middle School.

Board Member Anne McKereghan – Member McKereghan congratulated Mia Bonta and Gary Lym for being elected and re-elected to the Board of Education. Member McKereghan stated it has been a privilege and honor to serve on the Board. Member McKereghan stated she has enjoyed her time on the Board, even when there were hard decisions to make. Member McKereghan stated there is a website to go to in order to help the schools and community in Butte County after the recent fires devastated the county, families, and schools in the area. Member McKereghan told the audience they could find this website by visiting the Merced County Office of Education website.

Board Member Gary K. Lym – Member Lym thanked Member McKereghan for her time on the Board and for volunteering in the community in the years prior to her becoming a Board member.

4. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Sean McPhetridge gave the Board information on the agenda for tonight's meeting. Dr. McPhetridge explained the Board will discuss and take action on resolutions to approve charter school renewal petitions for Academy of Alameda Elementary School and Nea Community Learning Center. Dr. McPhetridge also explained staff will present on recent audit findings regarding AUSD facilities use so that the Board and public are made aware of deficiencies in process that were discovered and steps that are being taken to remedy those concerns.

Dr. McPhetridge shared that staff will also present on environmental literacy efforts in recent years and there will also be an overview on what has been presented to the Committee to Consider High School Consolidation and Alternative Scenarios. Dr. McPhetridge thanked the members of Committee for their commitment as they work to finalize the process and prepare a report to the Board in early 2019. Dr. McPhetridge stated the work done by the committee will help the district on an AUSD Strategic Plan in the New Year.

Dr. McPhetridge stated the Board will also hear a presentation on work done to look at adjusting school start times for secondary schools, a movement that has been discussed in recent years but that failed to gain Governor Brown's approval as he has considered this a matter of local control instead of being decided by the State of California. Dr. McPhetridge stated the Board is asked to provide direction on how to proceed.

Dr. McPhetridge shared staff will also present an overview of work done this year on facilities construction under the Measure I Bond. Dr. McPhetridge thanked the community for voting to approve the Bond to help fix Alameda's aging school facilities.

Dr. McPhetridge closed his report by welcoming new Board member Mia Bonta, who along with returning Board member Gary Lym, will be sworn in at December 13th Board of Education meeting. Dr. McPhetridge thanked Anne McKereghan for her service as a Board appointee.

5. Student Board Members' Report

Aidan Byrne-Sarno (ASTI) – Student Board Member Byrne-Sarno stated ASTI had to reschedule their recent Spelling Bee due to the school being closed for air quality concerns. Member Byrne-Sarno stated the Spelling Bee will take place next week. Member Byrne-Sarno shared ASTI students will be competing in a canned food drive where the class which collects the most amount of food will get a reward.

Lily Conable (EJSHS) – Student Board Member Conable shared the Encinal High School football season came to a close and the team had a very successful season. Member Conable shared that Encinal student Shelby Nelson will be going to the state cross country championships for the third year in a row. Member Conable stated Encinal teachers are creating new

curriculum for new courses, including classes to learn about public speaking, marketing, and Restorative Practices.

Lydia Peterson (AHS) – Student Board Member Peterson stated Alameda High School students are looking forward to and preparing for finals.

6. Report from Employee Organizations

Cindy Zecher, President, CSEA 27: Ms. Zecher announced last night CSEA had a meeting with other CSEA chapters in the region. Ms. Zecher stated after hearing from folks in other chapters, she is very thankful for the work done by the Board and staff on the budget last year that allowed CSEA members to receive a 4.5% raise. Ms. Zecher thanked the Board for doing this work. Ms. Zecher stated she spoke with Dr. McPhetridge and she thanked him for the work he has done. Ms. Zecher stated she appreciates Dr. McPhetridge's leadership through some tough times lately, including the death of an Alameda student, and the recent school closure due to air quality concerns. Ms. Zecher stated Monday night is the Annual CSEA Holiday Dinner, and she invited the Board and staff to come celebrate with CSEA members.

Judith Klinger, President, AEA: Ms. Klinger congratulated Bobby Scofield and Olivia Torres for being recognized tonight as excellent Island High School staff members. Ms. Klinger stated AEA members are working on ways to get increased funding from the state of California. Ms. Klinger stated AEA is doing a holiday drive for socks and undergarments.

7. Report from PTA Council

Page Tomblin, President, PTA Council: Ms. Tomblin thanked Shariq Khan for his work on facilities and how they are booked and used in AUSD. Ms. Tomblin stated this has been confusing in the past, but she does appreciate Mr. Khan working with PTA Council on this issue. Ms. Tomblin stated she understands that AUSD needs to adhere to rules when it comes to booking school sites for PTA events. Ms. Tomblin stated schools are community centers, but she understands the district has a responsibility to take care of school property. Ms. Tomblin stated she knows there are many in the community who want to help make school facilities better. Ms. Tomblin thanked district staff and Board members for difficult decisions that have been made recently. Ms. Tomblin stated she was very impressed and she learned a great deal from a recent Restorative Practices training.

8. Public Comments

Mike Yep, parent of AUSD students: Mr. Yep thanked district staff and the Board for the work they do for the families and children of Alameda. Mr. Yep stated he has coached many teams in Alameda, and he currently has a child who plays basketball for Alameda High and one child that hopes to play basketball in the future at Alameda High School. Mr. Yep stated Alameda High School Basketball Coach Cameron Quick is a shining light for all youth in Alameda, but particularly for children of color in Alameda. Mr. Yep asked

the Board and staff to extend grace to find resolution and a way to reinstate Coach Quick as the coach of the Alameda High School basketball team.

9. Closed Session Action Report
No 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 Special Education Local Plan Area Master Contracts
7. Proclamation: Day of the Special Educator, December 3, 2018
8. Proclamation: Inclusive Schools Week, First Week of December
9. Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300
10. Resolution No. 2018-2019.15 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases
11. Resolution No. 2018-2019.18 Regarding Selection of December 13, 2018 as the Date for the Board of Education's Annual Organizational Meeting

Motion to approve the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

MOTION: Member McKereghan

SECONDED: Member Dailey

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) 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. Resolution No. 2018-2019.16 Approving Charter Renewal Petition for Academy of Alameda Elementary School
In August 2018, the Academy of Alameda Elementary Charter School (AoAES) submitted a petition asking the District to renew its charter for five

years. The charter petition review process is governed by state law, which specifies that student performance must be the most important criterion and the petitions must be approved unless the District makes specific, written findings demonstrating that the charter school has failed to meet one of the renewal standards set out in the Education Code.

As part of its renewal process, AUSD staff reviewed the petition, conducted a multi-day site visit, reviewed student performance data, analyzed the school's budget and audit reports, and interviewed AoAES board members, leadership, staff, parents, and students. After completing its review, staff recommends renewal.

The charter renewal petition came to the Board and the public for a public hearing on November 13th. Tonight the Board will be asked to vote on the resolution approving the charter renewal.

Public Comments:

Matt Huxley, Executive Director of Academy of Alameda Charter School: Mr. Huxley thanked the Board and AUSD staff for their work with AOA. Mr. Huxley stated AOA has already been addressing any findings mentioned in the charter renewal application.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-2019.16 Approving Charter Renewal Petition for Academy of Alameda Elementary School.

MOTION: Member Harris

SECONDED: Member Williams

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES

AYES: Byrne-Sarno, Conable, and Peterson

NOES:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

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

NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

2. Resolution No. 2018-2019.17 Approving Charter Renewal Petition for Nea Community Learning Center

In August 2018, the Nea Community Learning Center Charter School (Nea) submitted a petition asking the District to renew its charter for five years. The charter petition review process is governed by state law, which specifies that student performance must be the most important criterion and the petitions must be approved unless the District makes specific, written findings demonstrating that the charter school has failed to meet one of the renewal standards set out in the Education Code.

As part of its renewal process, AUSD staff reviewed the petition, conducted a

multi-day site visit, reviewed student performance data, analyzed the school's budget and audit reports, and interviewed Nea's board members, leadership, staff, parents, and students. After completing its review, staff recommends renewal.

The charter renewal petition came to the Board and the public for a public hearing on November 13th. Tonight the Board will be asked to vote on the resolution approving the charter renewal.

Mr. Pimentel stated Nea leadership has sent a letter to the Board outlining that Nea would like to meet in the 2020-2021 school year to address some of the issues that have been mentioned in the previous presentation.

A student Board member thanked the Nea leadership team for meeting with him to discuss the charter renewal. Another student Board member stated she found some discrepancy in the enrollment data that was previously presented. The student Board member stated the presentation stated there is a higher presentation of Nea students who live in Alameda than there actually is. The student stated she is happy to see Nea is using Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Restorative Practices. The student stated that even though these practices are being used, she doesn't feel there is fidelity to this process. The student stated she has concerns over the way the Judicial Council is structured at the school.

Two Board members stated they have serious concerns approving the Nea charter renewal petition. The Board members stated they believe the program in the lower village is successful, but the upper village program is problematic. The Board members cited data from the Smarter Balance Assessment, and they expressed concerns about the low number of students who are showing success in these assessments. A third Board member stated she feels the same way the other two Board members feel. The Board member stated she would like the opportunity to work with Nea to come up with an MOU.

The Board and staff worked to edit the renewal resolution. Mr. Pimentel suggested the Board return to Closed Session to discuss legal aspects of resolution.

Motion to table discussion of this item while the Board adjourns to Closed Session.

MOTION: Member Williams

SECONDED: Member Harris

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES

AYES: Byrne-Sarno, Conable, and Peterson

NOES:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

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

NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

Board adjourned to Closed Session at 7:53pm.

Board reconvened to Open Session at 8:12pm.

A Board member stated she was not comfortable voting no on the petition for the lower village as that program appears to be working for the Nea community. A second Board member reiterated these thoughts. The Board member stated she had hoped Nea would have split the petition into two, one for the lower village and one for the upper village. A third Board member stated he felt the same, and he expressed he is very concerned about the enforceability of a resolution that would be edited tonight. The Board member stated there was a two week window where Nea leadership could have changed the charter petition, but this did not happen. A student Board member stated she is concerned that improvements have not been made in the upper village over the last few years.

Public Comment:

Annalisa Moore, Executive Director, Nea Community Learning Center: Ms. Moore explained she cannot unilaterally revise the resolution to include new language or an MOU without consulting with her Board. Ms. Moore stated Nea has negotiated for three years with AUSD to get the facility space the site needed to offer students the classes they need. Ms. Moore stated she is committed to going to her Board this week with MOU language to get their input, but she explained she cannot approve language tonight.

A Board member asked what would happen if the charter renewal doesn't go forward tonight? Mr. Pimentel stated the petition would automatically get renewed if alterations to the resolution were not made tonight.

A Board member asked if the Board votes no tonight, will the Board have fulfilled their obligation to vote on the charter renewal? If this happens, can the AUSD Board and the Nea Board come together to discuss and agree on language that can be added to the resolution that is agreeable to both sides?

Mr. Pimentel stated if AUSD voted no tonight, this vote could not be revisited again after the Nea Board was consulted. Mr. Pimentel explained there would need to be another charter renewal process started.

Motion to table this item to give counsel time to come up with language that may be agreeable. This new order of the agenda items will make this item come after the current number 5 in General Business.

MOTION: Member Harris

SECONDED: Member Williams

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES

AYES: Byrne-Sarno, Conable, and Peterson

NOES:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

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

NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

Motion to amend the resolution by inserting the following language after the second sentence of numbered paragraph 2:

“The Board’s approval is made in reliance on Nea’s representation that Nea’s governing board will meet within 30 days to consider a Memorandum of Understanding addressing the recommendations set forth on page 24 of the November 13 staff report. The Board’s approval is conditioned on the Parties agreeing to an MOU addressing those recommendations and options.”

MOTION: Member Williams

SECONDED: Member Harris

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES

AYES: Byrne-Sarno and Peterson

NOES: Conable

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

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

NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-2019.17 Approving Charter Renewal Petition for Nea Community Learning Center as amended.

MOTION: Member Harris

SECONDED: Member Williams

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES

AYES: Byrne-Sarno and Peterson

NOES: Conable

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

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

NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

3. Summary of Findings: AUSD Facilities Use Audit

Chad Pimentel, General Counsel, gave the Board information on a recent facilities use audit conducted by an outside firm under direction from the District. In response to complaints from community members, AUSD recently conducted an evaluation of its facilities rental processes and procedures. Results from that evaluation prompted AUSD to retain an audit firm to determine whether District procedures were adequate and whether failure to follow existing policies had cost the District money in the past. This presentation summarizes the findings from this audit.

4. Environmental Literacy/Science Update

Terri Elkin, Secondary Coordinator, introduced the AUSD Environmental Literacy/Science presentation. Ms. Elkin invited teacher Michele Kuttner and Go Green Coordinators Ruth Abbe and Debi Ryan. This item presents the Alameda Unified School District's efforts and accomplishments in Environmental Education. The presentation includes a timeline of the last 10 years, the variety of avenues these efforts have taken, and the role of our partner organizations.

Student Board members asked if there was programming being developed for high school students to explore advocacy about climate change. A student Board member asked if there was work being done to make the Go Green initiative and work equitably across all schools on the Island. Ms. Elkin stated we continue to look at ways to bring partners to Alameda so that all our students can participate instead of having to pay for buses, which are very expensive, to take students on field trips to places off the Island.

AUSD and its schools have received several awards for environmental initiatives and continue to strive to increase the environmental literacy of all of our students and our community

5. Update on Committee to Consider High School Consolidation and Alternative Scenarios

Steven Fong, Chief Academic Officer, gave the Board and the public an update on the work currently being done by the Committee to Consider High School Consolidation and Alternative Scenarios. The Board of Education directed staff to convene a committee of parents/guardians, staff, and students to review data on the viability and effects of combining Alameda High School and Encinal High School into one comprehensive high school.

The Committee is tasked with providing a report to the Board of Education that will lay out several scenarios for AUSD's high school program.

Staff have put together a webpage for the Committee to Consider High School Consolidation and Alternative Scenarios. All presentations given to the Committee can be found on this page. Please follow this link for presentations, agendas, and background information given to the Committee.

https://alamedausd-ca.schoolloop.com/pf4/cms2/view_page?d=x&group_id=1514016404838&vdi_d=i12aj1y4ks1e0

The Committee work will continue through January, and the final report will come to the Board at the end of the Committee's work.

6. ~~Update on School Start Times~~

This item was moved to a subsequent agenda.

7. Facilities Construction Update

Robbie Lyng, Senior Construction Project Manager, gave the Board an update on 2017-18 construction related activities.

8. Approval of 2018 Schedule of December Board of Education Meeting

At the annual organization meeting, the Board sets its meeting schedule for the calendar year. Board of Education regular meetings are usually held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. Regular Board of Education meetings are held in City Council Chambers as the City calendar allows.

There is only one regular Board of Education meeting scheduled for December. This meeting was previously set for December 11, 2018, but a majority of Board members had a conflict with this date. Staff is seeking approval to change the date of the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting to December 13, 2018.

Motion to change the date of the December Board of Education meeting from December 11, 2018 to December 13, 2018.

MOTION: Member Harris

SECONDED: Member Lym

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER (PREFERENTIAL) VOTES

AYES: Byrne-Sarno, Conable, and Peterson

NOES:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

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

NOES:

MOTION APPROVED

G. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the meeting and thanked Board Member Anne McKereghan for her time and service on the Board of Education at 9:57pm.