

BALLARD SCHOOL DISTRICT

2425 SCHOOL STREET
SOLVANG, CALIFORNIA 93463
(805) 688-4812

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010
6:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room

1. CALL TO ORDER

Julie Farrell called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

All board members were present. There were no guests.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Julie Farrell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

With corrections noted, the minutes of the regular board meeting held Wednesday, March 17, 2010, and the minutes of the special board meeting held Tuesday, March 28, 2010, were approved on a motion by Lynne Hemming, seconded by Shawn Knight and passed unanimously.

Corrections

#6 – Staff / Community Presentation added: “Classroom signage will also be included in the project.”

#7c – Report on Substitute Teacher Pay: “Allan explained that the board previously requested this information. Considering the economic climate and the fact that no request has been made to increase the substitute teachers’ rate of pay, the board will not pursue changes at this time. Julie suggested that the board may want to revisit this issue in the future.”

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

6. INFORMATION SECTION

- Tues, 4/13 1st to UCSB Touch Tanks
- Wed, 4/14 2nd/4th to Arroyo Hondo Preserve
- Wed, 4/14 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: 6:00 in multipurpose room
- Tues, 4/20 K to Cabrillo Aquarium
- Tues, 4/20 PTA Meeting: 2:30 at lunch tables

The PTA has been having some difficulty getting enough people to attend their meetings. They are changing the time to 2:00 to see if it will be easier for people to attend a meeting prior to picking up children in the afternoon.

- Thurs, 4/22 Spring Sing: 7:00 at Presbyterian Church Family Center

INFORMATION SECTION (cont)

We appreciate the Santa Ynez Valley Presbyterian Church for making their facilities available to Ballard School for the annual Spring Sing.

- Fri, 4/23 2nd/3rd to Ty Warner Sea Center
- Mon, 4/26 School Site Council: 3:15
- Wed, 4/28 Special Board Meeting, Public Hearing – Interdistrict Transfer Policy: 6:00 in multipurpose room

We spoke about having this meeting at 7:00 instead of 6:00. That change will be made when we send correspondence to parents. Discussing the logistics of this meeting is on the agenda later in this meeting.

- Wed, 4/28 – Fri, 5/14 STAR Testing: 2nd – 6th grades

STAR testing is for students in grades 2 – 6.

- Thurs, 4/29 April Awards Assembly: 11:30
- Fri, 5/7 1st Mother's Day Tea: 2:15 in multipurpose room
- Mon, 5/10 K to full day (Dismissal = Mon – Wed: 3:00, Thurs: 1:00, Fri: 12:00)

We have been moving kindergarten students to full day in the spring each of the last two years. Mrs. Carlson makes the determination when the students are ready for this transition. We believe that it helps the students with the longer day when they move to 1st grade. A note will be sent home about this change to parents later this week.

- Wed, 5/12 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: 6:00 in multipurpose room
- Thurs, 5/13 PTA Dinner: 5:30 & Open House: 6:30

b. Board Members' Report:

Lynne Hemming will attend the Santa Barbara County School Boards' Association annual dinner on Thursday, April 15, 2010. Bill Cirone and the Santa Barbara County teacher of the year will be the featured speakers.

Julie Farrell distributed an article from the most recent Time Magazine called 'Is the Cash the Answer?' The article addresses the issue about paying students as a motivator to enhance academic progress. Julie said it was interesting reading even though it didn't necessarily apply to Ballard.

c. PTA Report:

Allan reported for Phil Vacca who could not attend the board meeting. Phil has received a lot of feedback, although nothing specific, on both sides of the issue regarding interdistrict transfers and the upcoming special board meeting for public comment.

There was no PTA meeting in March. The next PTA meeting will be held at 2:30 on Tuesday, April 20, at the lunch tables. As mentioned earlier, the PTA is trying different meeting times in an effort to get more people to attend their meetings.

7. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Superintendent/Principal's Goals / Strategic Plan

Allan said there was little to report since we have not been in school much since the last meeting, March 17.

The all-staff meeting held on March 4th was a potluck. As previously reported, it was a great meeting with almost all staff members in attendance.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT (cont)

- Spanish Enrichment Classes

The Spanish classes continue to go well.

Science enrichment: Allan continues to work with a UCSB graduate student in an effort to develop an after school science enrichment program for Ballard School. Allan also passed out information (see board packet) regarding another option for after school science enrichment, called Club Invention (www.clubinvention.org).

Animation: Allan discussed running an in-school animation enrichment course with the 6th grade class. The instructor works in the film industry. If all goes well then we may be able to add animation/claymation to the 2010/2011 enrichment program.

- Santa Barbara County School Boards Association (SBCSBA) By-Laws

The SBCSBA will be amending their by-laws with a vote at their dinner meeting on Thursday (see board packet). Allan wanted the board to be aware of the proposed by-law changes in case they will be attending the meeting.

At the last board meeting there was discussion regarding legal fees and the deferred maintenance hardship funds and projects. Allan made follow-up comments regarding those items:

Legal:

General retainer = \$1,802 / 9.8 hours

Previous invoice = \$4,578 was for retainer + approximately 16 additional hours

Collective Bargaining/Personnel retainer = \$6,191 – 36.4 hours

Previous invoice = \$7,993 = retainer + approximately 10.5 hours above

Deferred Maintenance Hardship:

Allan contacted the County Planning and Development Historical Landmarks Advisory Commission to explain the upcoming projects on the Red Schoolhouse. The person he spoke with is going to relay the information to either Supervisor Deborah Aceves or Supervisor Geraldine Shepherd. They may want a tour or letter explaining the projects. Allan does not anticipate this will be a problem, but wants to make sure we follow the proper protocol.

Allan passed out Form 700. He asked the board to complete their forms and return them by Friday. This is an annual conflict of interest form that must be completed by all board members and the superintendent/principal.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

The superintendent may share pertinent correspondence at this time.

- Email from Wally Olsen regarding Special Education Review noncompliance items

Allan shared an email (see board packet) from Wally Olsen, Special Education Consortium Director, that stated Ballard School was the only school in the consortium that had no noncompliance issues in the latest Special Education Self Review. Kudos to the special education staff for making that happen.

- Responses to email from Diane Devine regarding:

1. Staff Training
2. Interdistrict Transfers
3. Ballard School Staffing

Allan commented that the two pieces of correspondence (see board packet) include the following information:

- List of the staff development that has taken place at Ballard School since 2008/2009. There is an emphasis on English/language arts, technology, mathematics, and team building/conflict resolution.

CORRESPONDENCE (cont)

- Rationale for having the TOA position at Ballard School. In addition to the programmatic benefits described, the letter also includes data about Ballard's continuing positive ending balance, a staffing comparison between Ballard School and Cold Spring School, and a chart showing the per pupil expenditures for basic aid school districts that only have one school.
- The concluding point in the letter stated: *"Taking all of the above into consideration perhaps the question/realization that the board has come to over the past several months is: How can we justify not having eight full-time certificated staff at Ballard School? Our goal is to maximize the community's tax investment in the children at Ballard School. We must maintain a balance between offering supplemental programs for our students (music, Arts Outreach, instructional assistants, literacy TOA, technology, etc.) with a healthy fiscal reserve. We believe that we are accomplishing these objectives."*
- Finally, the letter addressed the procedure should a family be attending Ballard School with falsified enrollment or transfer information. Issues to be considered include taking the child into consideration, examining the child's impact on the programs at Ballard School, and then implementing the 'Denial or Revocation of Enrollment' procedure as described in Administrative Regulation 5111.1.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Warrants
- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 1611627 – 1611641 | (3/12/10) |
| 1612932 – 1612943 | (3/19/10) |
| 1614035 – 1614041 | (3/26/10) |

1627 – Allan Pelletier: mileage, student awards (\$97.50)

1629 – Arts Outreach: winter workshops (\$1,320)**

1630 – Between your Ears Entertainment: assembly (\$495)**

1635 – Limotta Technology: three, 3 year extended warranties on Dell laptops (\$580.55)

1637 – Outdoor School: 6th grade camp this year, and deposit for next year (\$2,528.40)**

1639 – SYV High School – van usage on field trips (\$120)

2941 – Student Transportation of America – 2 buses for field trip (\$740.16)**

4035 – Allan Pelletier: mileage, student awards (\$134.79)**

** indicates that PTA contributes to help offset these costs

b. Approval of Certificated and Classified Payroll: March, 2010

c. Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints – no complaints received

There were no Williams Complaints received for January – March, 2010.

d. Approval of Certificated and Classified Payroll:

The Consent Agenda was approved on a motion by Julie Farrell, seconded by Lynne Hemming, and passed unanimously.

10. BUSINESS MATTERS

- a. Agreement between Moss, Levy, Hartzheim LLP and the Ballard School District for audit services
Background: The school district participates in an annual audit. MLH has served as the district's auditor for several years.

Recommendation: Approval of the agreement

We have been pleased with MLH's audits and feedback in the past. They have provided guidance and listened to our concerns. The cost for 2010 = \$4,635, 2011 = \$4,795, and 2012 = \$4,940. Allan did contact another firm for a rate comparison and their rate for 2010 was \$7,000.

BUSINESS MATTERS (Continued)

The agreement between Moss, Levy, Hartzheim and the Ballard School District for audit services was approved on a motion by Julie Farrell, seconded by Shawn Knight, and passed unanimously.

- b. Agreement between Johnson Controls, Inc. and the Ballard School District for deferred maintenance hardship projects.

Background: This is an amendment to the original agreement between JCI and the district. We will now be completing the deferred maintenance hardship projects in phases as the funds are received from the state. This agreement reflects that timeline as well as the 'Guaranteed Maximum Price.'

Recommendation: Approval of the agreement

Judy Capps from Johnson Controls attended the last board meeting and discussed the summer projects. This agreement is an addendum to the original agreement. It is necessary because we will not be completing all the projects at one time. It includes an ending date of August 15, and a maximum price guarantee of \$473,799.

The board discussed and wanted to make sure that there were no hidden costs related to travel and lodging for workers coming from out of the area. Julie Farrell moved to approve the agreement between Johnson Controls and the Ballard School District, conditionally, with the understanding that there will be no additional costs associated with transportation, lodging, and food for workers coming from out of the area. Shawn Knight seconded the motion as presented and it passed unanimously.

- c. Agreement between the Dolinka Group and the Ballard School District for the preparation of a Residential and Commercial/Industrial Development School Fee Justification Study

Background: The Ballard School District has not participated in a Developer Fee Justification Study for several years. The Dolinka Group just completed a study for the Santa Ynez High School District. Since Ballard's attendance area falls within the high school's attendance area, it makes sense to use the same company. This study will be funded from Fund 25 – Capital Facilities.

Recommendation: Approval of the agreement

The board previously expressed an interest in pursuing a developer fee justification study for the purpose of determining whether the district should continue assessing developer fees. If so, at what rate? The Dolinka Group recently finished one such study for the high school district. Since they were pleased with the work and since our boundaries are within the high school district boundaries, Allan recommended that we also use the Dolinka Group for our study. The cost of the study will be \$3,000 and it will come out of Fund 25. (see board packet)

The board discussed the following points:

- Developer Fees (Fund 25) must be used specifically for capital improvements to Ballard School. Those funds must be used within a certain time frame. We have not used the funds since 2006.
- Shawn asked if we had received a specific complaint about the fees. Allan confirmed that we had not been questioned about the fees, but reiterated the importance of having an up to date justification study should somebody question the fees in the future.

Following the discussion, the agreement between the Dolinka Group and the Ballard School District was approved on a motion by Shawn Knight, seconded by Lynne Hemming, and passed unanimously.

BUSINESS MATTERS (Continued)

- d. Agreement between the Santa Barbara County Education Office and the Ballard School District for County Co-op (Consolidated Application) services.

The county has provided this support to Ballard and other small districts for years. The fee equals 6.25% of categorical funds received (\$1,502 in 2009/2010).

This is a renewal of an annual agreement with the SBCEO that has been in place for several years. The Consolidated Program Co-op is in place for small school districts. Larger districts employ a person to handle all the paperwork necessary related to state and federal categorical programs. Even though Ballard is small the volume of paperwork is still substantial. The Co-op helps smaller districts with this workload.

The agreement between the Santa Barbara County Education Office and the Ballard School District for Consolidated Application services was approved on a motion by Lynne Hemming, seconded by Julie Farrelli, and passed unanimously.

- e. Review Current Board Report

We are three fourths through the school year. The expenses are on track and the revenues are lagging, but that is not a surprise. The district will receive another large revenue payment in April when property taxes are due. Looking at the comparison over past years (see board packet), the revenues and expenditures remain remarkably similar historically. There has been no change in Funds 14 and 17, and there is a \$50,000 balance in Fund 25. Allan pointed out the remarkable consistency in the timing of revenue allocation to the district over the years.

11. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Approval of Interdistrict Transfer: K (2010/11) from Ballard to Solvang
b. Approval of Interdistrict Transfer: 6th (2010/11) from Ballard to Santa Ynez

Addendum: Item 11c – Kindergarten student from Ballard to Los Olivos.

Student A (K transfer from Ballard to Solvang) was born after the December 2nd deadline and wished to pursue other options. Student B (6th grade transfer from Ballard to Santa Ynez) wished to continue at College School District.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a. Discussion about the Special Board Meeting, Public Hearing – Interdistrict Transfer Policy, to be held on Wednesday, April 28. No action will be taken.

Allan shared with the board a draft handout to be sent home announcing the meeting and providing background information. (see board packet) The board discussed the upcoming meeting and the information sheet. It was suggested that some possible pros and cons be listed in the information to be sent home to parents. In addition to the interdistrict transfer policy, the board expressed an interest in getting feedback on two additional and related areas:

- Parental employment within school district boundaries as a means to establish district residency
- Paying taxes on property owned within the district, but not living in the district – Should the child be permitted to attend Ballard?

The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2010, and was moved to 7:00 pm in an effort to make the meeting time more family friendly. The board is eager to hear from the community about these issues.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (continued)

- b. Board Policy and Administrative Regulation Updates:
First Reading of 7000s (Policies and Regulations 7000 - 7310) - Facilities
Recommendation: Approval of first reading with input for second reading

The board reviewed and provided feedback for the second reading, the following board policies and administrative regulations from the 7000 – Facilities section:

7000

Facilities

7000	BP	Concepts and Roles	1
28	BP	Facilities Master Plan	3
7111	AR	Facilities Master Plan	5
7131	BP	Relations With Local Agencies	7
7140	BP	Architectural and Engineering Services	9
7140	AR	Architectural and Engineering Services	10
7150	BP	Site Selection and Development	12
7150	AR	Site Selection and Development	14
7160	BP	Charter School Facilities	16
7160	AR	Charter School Facilities	18
7210	BP	Facilities Financing	26
7211	BP	Developer Fees	28
7211	AR	Developer Fees	30
7212	BP	Mello Roos Districts	36
7213	BP	School Facilities Improvement District	38
7214	BP	General Obligation Bonds	41
7214	AR	General Obligation Bonds	44
7310	BP	Naming of Facility	48

13. ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

14. NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Unless otherwise announced, the next regular board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at 6:00 in the multipurpose room at Ballard School.

A special board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 28, 2010, at 7:00 in the multipurpose room at Ballard School. The purpose of this meeting is for a public hearing regarding the interdistrict transfer policy.

15. CLOSED SESSION


Personnel / Contract Negotiations, Government Code Section 54957

The board convened to closed session at 9:38. Julie Farrell announced that no action would be taken.

16. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION: ANNOUNCE CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

The board reconvened in open session at 9:48 pm. Julie Farrell announced that no action had been taken.

17. ADJOURNMENT – Time: 9:50 pm.


Lynne Hemming, Clerk of the Board

5-17-10
Date