

Mark Twain Union Elementary School District

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BOARD MINUTES

Board of Education Regular Meeting held March 9, 2017

Location: Copperopolis Elementary Gym / 217 School Street, Copperopolis, CA
Members Present: Jenny Eltringham, Maggie Rollings, Kendall Morlan and Timothy Randal
Staff Present: Julia Tidball, Roy Blair, Karen Vail, Paul Gehres, Bill Davis, Jeff Airola
Others Present: Jan Stephens, Ileana Grycel, Norma Wallace, Nina Palarca, Jean Wolfgang and Brad Wolfman

1. Opening of Meeting by Board President at 5:30 PM

1.1. Establishment of Quorum

Four members of the Board were present with one member absent.

1.2. Roll Call:

Timothy Randall, Kendall Morlan, Maggie Rollings, Jenny Eltringham

1.3. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Comment for Closed Session Items: None

3. Closed Session Items

There were no items listed and publicly posted for Closed Session discussion.

4. Return to Open Session Meeting by Board President at 6:30 PM

4.1. Report of Action Taken in Closed Session:

Due to an oversight there were no items listed and publicly posted on the Closed Session agenda for discussion. The Board was unable to discuss and take actions at this meeting.

5. Public Comment

Brad Wolfman, a parent, received the Boards letter on the findings of the three formal complaints he filed. He does not agree with all the findings but respects the Board for taking the time to review the complaints. There is one formal complaint that is incomplete and he disagrees with the findings. Mr. Wolfman read aloud a portion of the letter that stated the Investigator was unable to substantiate your claims with Ms. DeWitt in regards to the questions asked of your son and given to Mrs. Tidball. Because you do not want your child interviewed by the investigator the governing Board was denied the right to consider you son's statements in this matter. Mr. Wolfman said this is untrue. He informed the board about conversations he had with the investigator regarding this incident and the concerns he had with his child talking to the investigator, a stranger to his child. He let the investigator know that if at any time she was unable to complete the investigation without talking to his son that she should call him. He received no call back from the investigator. He also spoke with a Board member and offered the Board the opportunity to interview his son with appropriate questions. His son is still available

for the Board to interview. This is the part of the complaint that needs to be concluded. He has concerns that this person is still allowed to meet with students. Mr. Wolfman and his wife still would like the opportunity to speak with the person in question. There are unanswered questions regarding this complaint. Mr. Wolfman stated that this is not over. The investigation needs to be completed. He does not want his family to continually relive this with all the shenanigans that have gone on. The Boards statement that they were unable to reach a decision because they could not consider my son statements does not cut it. The Board should want to come to the bottom of this. He stated again his concerns regarding this person meeting with students. He did not like that he was sent a letter by the District's attorney stating he could not talk to the people who he filed complaints against and that he must retain an attorney in order to talk to anyone. If one person would have honored his request that no one talk to his son regarding the accident we would not be here today. Mr. Wolfman thanked the Board for their time.

6. Information & Discussion Items

6.1. Comments from the Board

Eltringham – No comment

Rollings – Learning more about our community and how we serve.

Morlan – Attended both schools Kindness Hero Celebrations and thoroughly enjoyed them.

Randall – no comment

6.2. Comments from the Student Representatives: None

6.3. Comments from the Principals:

Paul Gehres, Principal at Mark Twain Elementary reported his enrollment is 550 with an ADA of 93.45%. He thanked staff members, Sara Tutthill and Taryn Schneider for attending the National Positive Behavior Incentive Conference in Colorado. Sixth grade students attended Science Camp last week and had a wonderful time and great weather. The AMA Boys' Basketball Tournament concluded and now on to the volleyball season. He thanked staff member, Ken Swanner, for taking group of students to a robotics competition at Bret Harte High School. Mr. Gehres also thanked Board member, Kendall Morlan and Superintendent, Julia Tidball for attending the Kindness Hero Celebration.

Karen Vail, Principal at Copperopolis Elementary reported her enrollment is 301. Kindergarten Registration packets are being sent out with strong demand for those packets. Science Camp was amazing with great weather. Shannon Nelson joined Sara and Taryn at the NPBI conference. Volleyball game today with a win for Copperopolis.

6.4. Comments from the Certificated Representative: No comments

6.5. Comments from the Classified Representative: No comments

6.6. Comments from Director of Business Services:

Roy Blair deferred his comments for the Second Interim Report

6.7. Comments from the Superintendent

Julia Tidball said the student had a wonderful experience at Science Camp last week and thanked the staff, parents and community for helping to make this happen. Mrs. Tidball and Mr. Gehres attended an ACSA awards ceremony last night to honor Tonya Ziehlke. Mrs. Ziehlke wears many hats for the district. She is the Librarian at Mark Twain Elementary, substitute bus driver, she attends all basketball and volleyball games and teaches the students how to keep

score and schedules them for each game. She takes pictures for the yearbook and team photos, and she is the union president for the classified unit. She has served the district for over 30 years and Mrs. Tidball was happy to honor her last night.

6.8. Correspondence: None

6.9. Norma Wallace of Tuolumne County JPA and Terri Prichard of Prichard Health & Safety to present the Loss Prevention Award and check for \$5,000.00

Board President, Timothy Randall directed this item be moved to the end of the meeting as the presenters were not present.

6.10. Comprehensive School Safety Plan 2016-2017 – Mark Twain Elementary

Paul Gehres presented his Comprehensive School Safety Plan 2016-2017 to the Board. Updates to the Safety Plan included the addition of new staff members in key roles. He will be meeting tomorrow with Ms. Vail, Mrs. Tidball and both site secretaries on the re-unification plan and amend his safety plan when completed.

Board member, Jenny Eltringham asked about the fencing and gates. Parents have asked her why the cafeteria/MRP area is not gated.

Operations Manager, Bill Davis informed the Board that the fencing does not include the cafeteria/MRP due to having to move the entry door to the school office which entails cutting a door into a load bearing wall, removing window and moving a water main.

Further discussion on the this topic was exchanged

6.11. California School Dashboard

Julia Tidball reviewed the new California School Dashboard and the 10 indicators of school success. Schools will no longer be receiving a single score on how successful they were in state testing. The Dashboard has six state indicators that allow for comparisons across schools and districts. Four local indicators that are based on information collected by school districts, county offices of education and charter school. The four reports, Equity Report, Status/Change Report, Detailed Report and the Student Group Report will provide custom view of school success.

7. Consent Agenda Items

Before a motion was made Roy Blair spoke about the CPA firm of Vavriner, Trine, Day & Co. LLP. He is a former partner in this firm. He left the firm in 1999 and does not see any conflict of interest.

7.1. Warrants

7.2. Approval of Minutes for February 9, 2017 Board meeting

7.3. Request Board Approval for 7-8 PBIS Reward Fieldtrip to Sunsplash Waterslides

7.4. Request Board Approval for CPA firm of Vavriner, Trine, Day & Co. LLP for audit services

Motioned: Eltringham Seconded: Rollings

Motion Carried: 4-Ayes (Eltringham, Rollings, Morlan and Randall)

0-Noes / 1-Absent (Bateman) / 0-Abstained

8. Review and Action Items

8.1. Board to Consider Adoption of Resolution 2016-17-007 In the Matter of the Non-Reelection of Certificated Probationary, Pursuant to Education Code Section 44929.21, Subdivision (b)

Mrs. Tidball informed the Board that this is a Probationary 1 employee and she recommends release for no cause.

Motioned: Morlan Seconded: Rollings
Motion Carried: 4-Ayes (Eltringham, Rollings, Morlan and Randall)
0-Noes / 1-Absent (Bateman) / 0-Abstained

8.2. Board to Consider Adoption of Resolution 2016-17-008 In the Matter of the Creation of a 1.0 FTE Speech and Language Pathologist Position

Mrs. Tidball reviewed the proposal for the creation of a Speech and Language Pathologist position which included ease of training, creation of a unified service model for student, scheduling flexibility, and the strengthening of the Special Education District staff, in addition to a possible financial benefit. She reviewed the salary schedule created for this position and stated it would be a 7.0 hour per day / 183 day contract. This salary schedule is aligned with the state average salaries and competitive with neighboring counties' schedules. Mrs. Tidball informed the Board the need to move forward as the person in the current contract does not want to continue. She also informed the Board of the concerns expressed by the teachers union that this position is not part of their unit. She has no issue with this position being a part of ACE but expressed the need for a competitive salary schedule. Mrs. Tidball recommended the Board create this position and the corresponding salary schedule and start the hiring process for the next school year.

The Board discussed this topic in more detail and posed questions regarding caseload

Motioned: Rollings Seconded: Morlan
Motion Carried: 4-Ayes (Eltringham, Rollings, Morlan and Randall)
0-Noes / 1-Absent (Bateman) / 0-Abstained

8.3. Board to Consider Adoption of Multi Year School Calendars 2018-2019 and 2019-2020

Board member, Kendall Morlan questioned Spring Break for 2018-2019. It does include April 22. Note: adopt calendars with the correction made on the 2018-2019 - Spring Break April 15-22

Motioned: Eltringham Seconded: Rollings
Motion Carried: 4-Ayes (Eltringham, Rollings, Morlan and Randall)
0-Noes / 1-Absent (Bateman) / 0-Abstained

8.4. Board to Consider Approval of 6th Grade Science Camp Program Funding

Mrs. Tidball reviewed her proposal on the Districts funding for Science Camp and recommended the Copperopolis site consider moving their tuition fundraising practices to the model utilized by Mark Twain. This shift would ease the burden of fundraising while still ensuring that all students have the opportunity to participate. The District would continue to ensure that all students had the opportunity to attend and that financial hardship would not be a barrier for participation. She recommended that staffing and transportation costs continued to be paid directly by the District but does not recommend the District fund a per student amount prior to tuition fundraising.

Ileana Grycel, a parent at Copperopolis and here tonight representing the PTC presented to the Board a proposal that included 2 options. 1 – Increase the District contribution by \$100.00 per student (40% District / 60% Parents). 2 – Increase the District Contribution by \$50.00 per student (25% District / 75% Parents)

Further discussion on this topic ensue with Board President, Timothy Randall requesting this item be tabled for now and added back for review in April. The Board requested Roy Blair to review the impact to the budget.

Motioned: Rollings Seconded: Eltringham
Motion Carried: to table this item and bring back for review in April
4-Ayes (Eltringham, Rollings, Morlan and Randall)

0-Noes / 1-Absent (Bateman) / 0-Abstained

At this this time item 6.9 was presented. Norma Wallace of Tuolumne County JPA and Nina Palarca of Prichard Health & Safety along with Jean Wolfgang presented the Loss Prevention Award and check for \$5,000.00. The District received this award for having the least amount of hazards related to the inspections of the school facilities. For this the District is awarded a check in the amount of \$5,000.00. Ms. Palarca congratulated Bill Davis and his staff for a job well done.

Operations Manager, Bill Davis thanked the presenters.

8.5. Board to Consider Approval of the 2016-17 Second Interim Budget Revisions and Second Interim Report.

Roy Blair, Director of Business presented the 2016-2017 2nd Interim Report to the Board. Mr. Blair reviewed the changes between the 1st and the 2nd Interim report. The total revenues increase by \$16,383. The LCFF funding increased \$29,258. This increase was from higher projected ADA for 2nd interim. Federal revenues decrease by \$16,386 due to federal census data. Total expenditures decreased by \$52,087. Multi-year projections reflect that the district will meet the 4% reserve requirement for each of the three years. The district is experiencing a rise in enrollment and if it remains the ADA is projected the increase through 2018-19.

Motioned: Rollings Seconded: Eltringham
Motion Carried: 4-Ayes (Eltringham, Rollings, Morlan and Randall)
0-Noes / 1-Absent (Bateman) / 0-Abstained

9. **Adjournment**

Board President, Timothy Randall adjourned the meeting at 8:08 PM

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Signature Page

Board of Education Regular Board Meeting March 9, 2017

Handwritten signature of Timothy Randall in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Timothy Randall, Board President

6/6/17

Date

Handwritten signature of Julia Tidball in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Julia Tidball, Superintendent

6/8/17

Date