

PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
120 Vista Avenue  
Piedmont, California 94611

MINUTES OF  
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

October 26, 2011

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CALL TO ORDER	Board President Roy Tolles called the meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:33 p.m.
ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM	Vice President Rick Raushenbush; Board Members Martha Jones, Ray Gadbois, June Monach
Adjourn to Closed Session	The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:34 p.m. to discuss:  A. Pending Litigation Against Piedmont Unified School District: One Case (Government Code Section 54956.9)  B. Conference with District Representative Constance Hubbard Regarding Negotiations with the California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 60 (Government Code Section 54956.6)  C. Conference with District Labor Negotiator Constance Hubbard Regarding Negotiations with the Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT) (Government Code Section 54956.6)
Reconvene to Regular Session	President Tolles called the Regular Session of the Board of Education to order at 7:09 p.m. led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
Others Present at Regular Session	Constance Hubbard, Superintendent Michael Brady, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Randall Booker, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Report of Action Taken in Closed Session	In Closed Session tonight, it was moved by Vice President Raushenbush, seconded by Board Member Jones, and passed unanimously to take action approving a settlement agreement in this case.
Agenda Adjustments	None
COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT)	APT President Harlan Mohagen commented that yesterday was the end of the first quarter of the 2011-12 school year, and that another Evaluation Committee is being held tomorrow. PHS Librarian and APT Negotiator Susan Stutzman shared that 11 teachers are involved in a national board certification process, which is being funded by the Piedmont High School Parent's Club. The teachers are very grateful.

California School Employees Association (CSEA) None

Parent Clubs None

Student Representative to Board of Education Karina Chan, Student Representative to the Board, advised that:

- A lot of mid-terms this past week
- Today is the third day of homecoming week
- The Homecoming game will be against St. Patrick's/St. Vincent's
- The girls' varsity and junior varsity water polo teams are undefeated in the league
- The girl's volleyball Senior Night was yesterday
- November 7 will be the first day of Winter Sports
- Grades will be sent out on Monday

Persons Wishing to Speak to Any Item Not Listed on the Agenda President of the Piedmont Soccer Club Mark Landheer wanted to follow up on the issue of better field access to groups such as the Piedmont Soccer Club. He supports the facilities replacement fund fee.

Superintendent Announcements None

Board President Announcements None

#### REVIEW & ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approve Single Plans for Student Achievement for:
- Piedmont High School
  - Piedmont Middle School
  - Millennium High School

California Education Code sections 41507, 41572, and 64001 and the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) require each school to consolidate all school plans for programs funded through the School and Library Improvement Block Grant, the Pupil Retention Block Grant, the Consolidated Application, and ESEA Program Improvement into the Single Plan for Student Achievement.

The Principal of each respective school and members of their site council representatives discussed their goals for the 2011-12 school year.

Piedmont High School Student Julia Wakeling found a lot of inconsistencies in the difficulty of the Spanish courses. Regarding the District's academic integrity policy, she feels there is a vast difference among teachers concerning this policy. Some teachers are greatly offended when a student cheats. They will talk about the incidence with the class. Other teachers do not consider it as such a big offense, just warning the student simply not to do it again.

Piedmont High School Student Brian Yang discussed the World Language IV program. The recent budget cuts in the departments have greatly affected the World Language Department (Mandarin) which he feels is a bit overlooked. Since a fewer number of students take this class, the World Language IV students were combined with the advanced students. The IV students felt excluded and were sometimes placed in the hallway to study and learn during classes. A more focused look should be taken regarding the World Languages program – especially Mandarin.

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It was moved by Board Member Monach, seconded by Board Member Jones, and passed unanimously to approve the Single Plans for Student Achievement for Piedmont High School, Millennium High School, and Piedmont Middle School for 2011-12. The elementary Single Plans will be presented at the Board meeting of November 9, 2011.

B. Review of Seismic Safety Bond Program Project Budget for Wildwood; and Approve Increase in Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP)

Assistant Superintendent Brady said this is the fourth increase in the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) that is being brought forth for approval.

Even with the increase in the GMP, the project is under the budget allotted for Wildwood. The GMP does not include the set-aside cost of \$300,000 for the heating and air conditioning system and roof work. The items under Change Order #4 which amounts to \$148,189, are for added scope and related to conditions not on the construction plans or unforeseen conditions (extensive dry rot and sheet rocking). Under the value added scope, there were a number of items that came in as part of the GMP that were donations from the Wildwood Dads Club as part of the GMP and also outside of the GMP (for instance, stage curtains).

Piedmont High School student Tristan Blackmore urged for additional funding for the Foreign Language Department in order to allow for the creation of new language classes that cover German, Portuguese, Japanese, and/or Arabic. [comment should have been expressed under Item A.]

It was moved by Vice President Raushenbush, seconded by Board Member Monach, and passed unanimously to approve an increase in the Wildwood Project's Guaranteed Maximum Price by \$148,189, from \$5,127,661 to \$5,275,850.

C. Adopt Resolution 07-2011-12, "Approval of the Use of Secondary Pupil Grant Eligibility for Beach Elementary School Project"

Assistant Superintendent Brady advised that typically, in order to receive funding from the State, the District must have new construction grant eligibility at the grade level of the students for which the Project will house. While the District has some ninth through twelfth grade eligibility, there is not any eligibility at the elementary grade level to receive funding for these classrooms. The State School Facility Funding program does, however, allow districts to request new construction grant funding utilizing eligibility determined at a different grade level for all or a portion of a proposed project.

The District proposed to utilize high school grade level pupil eligibility to construct two elementary grade level classrooms to receive maximum SFP funding for the Project. In order to do so, the State requires the District's governing board to publicly acknowledge this action by adopting a resolution and "housing plan" to indicate that the District is using State funding grant eligibility in an alternative manner.

Resident George Childs was concerned how this action might affect capacity levels to ongoing high school programs if the District were to accept students from outside the District.

It was moved by Board Member Gadbois, and seconded by Vice

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President to adopt Resolution 07-2011-12, "Approval of the Use of Secondary Pupil Grant Eligibility for Beach Elementary School Project". The motion passed by roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Tolles, Raushenbush, Jones, Gadbois, Monach  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

#### INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### A. Educational Services Report: Spotlight on Student Learning

A. The Spotlight on Student Learning serves as a platform for information and recognition of our instructional priorities and academic success in the Piedmont Unified School District. Assistant Superintendent Booker reported on the following:

##### 1. ROP Biotechnology at Piedmont High School

The class is designed to give career-based experiences in the field of biotechnology which covers genetics, protein, chemistry, virology, immunology, synthetic biology, and bioethics through classroom experiments.

Student participant Brian Yang stated it is a great opportunity to be able to take this hands-on class. Student Hansel Lim expressed how interesting and visceral the class is through its lectures and field trips, and that it has affected his career outlook.

Superintendent Hubbard added that this is one of the Regional Occupation Program (ROP) classes completely paid for outside of the District's budget. It is supported by another State program. She commended Assistant Superintendent Booker for making the initial connection with the Contra Costa County Regional Occupation Program to contract for getting these classes. The District has been one of the few districts fortunate to be able to continue the ROP classes. Other districts are losing their ROP funding because they are not getting as good a student participation rate. ROP also provides funding for much of the special equipment, such as for lab. They are college-level classes and provide additional breadth and opportunity to our students. Other ROP classes, to be approved later under the Consent Calendar, are Journalism, Sports Medicine, AP Environmental Science, and AP Music Theory

##### 2. October Emergency Disaster Drill

The drill was held on October 20 at 10:20 a.m.

The District Office served as the Command Center. Students are chosen in advance to be "missing" and communications between the Command Center and school sites were ongoing, to include where injured students/staff were located, the condition of the student/staff member, what part of the body was affected, the seriousness of the condition, etc. Later that afternoon, an earthquake actually transpired and District Office staff took their positions to contact school sites and write down the outcomes.

##### B. Announcement of Special Board

Superintendent Hubbard advised that the Board will hold a Special

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Meeting – November 1, 2011

Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2011, 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers to discuss other criteria for allowing students outside of Piedmont to attend Piedmont schools, one of which is to consider allowing the grandchildren of Piedmont grandparents to attend Piedmont schools. The Open Enrollment Act (Romero Bill) will also be discussed. Attorney Jan Tomsy will be present and give a brief presentation. No action will be taken at this meeting.

A revised agenda will be coming out which will add a Closed Session to continue Board discussion on negotiations.

C. Information on October 19, 2011 State Bond Sale (oral report)

Assistant Superintendent Brady notified the Board that on October 19, the State sold construction bonds for schools, roads, bridges, and basic infrastructure. Of the \$1.8 billion in bonds sold, approximately \$1 billion was for school construction. Our District has been waiting for months for a sale of this kind. All indications are that \$6.2 million will be forthcoming to Piedmont. This will be decided at the State Allocation Board in the first week of December. Funds would be received by the end of December. With respect to where we are on the Beach Project, the GMP for Cahill Construction is for \$6.5 million in construction costs, plus another \$750,000 in finance costs if we needed to borrow money or get a loan from Cahill to complete this work. With the \$6.2 million, we would not only be able to complete Phase 1 of the project, but the Board can entertain doing the Phase 2 work as well, which has already been approved as part of the DSA plans.

Election Timeline for February 7, 2012 Municipal Election

Superintendent Hubbard again announced that for any community member interested in becoming a member of the Board of Education, Monday, October 17, 2011 is the date when forms from the City Clerk's Office will first become available. A copy of the election timeline was provided. Because the last date to turn in the paperwork (Friday, November 11) is a holiday, the deadline is extended to Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. The City advises that anyone planning to run for a position turn in their paperwork as soon as possible before the deadline.

[As stated previously by Superintendent Hubbard, Board Member Monach will not be re-running due to term limits, Board Member Jones will not seek re-election at the end of her first term, and Vice President Raushenbush has decided to run for another term.]

Board Member Monach added that she spoke with the City Clerk and one additional edit on the dates is that the timeline shows November 24<sup>th</sup> as the final date to file the FPPC pre-election campaign statement but since it is Thanksgiving, the date has been moved to November 28<sup>th</sup>.

Announcement of League of Women Voters Workshop

Superintendent Hubbard advised that a panel discussion on civic engagement will be sponsored by the Piedmont League of Women Voters on Thursday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The panel of experts outside of Piedmont will share common public dialogue formats that foster productive and open discussions of important issues. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions. It will be televised on KCOM.

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## CORRESPONDENCE

Board Member Monach reported that the Board received:

- A. Three emails providing input on whether community members thought the District's interdistrict transfer policy should be relaxed to permit grandchildren of Piedmont grandparents to be eligible to attend Piedmont schools
- B. One email thanking the District for making suggested facility improvements in the Witter Field complex
- C. One email from a Witter Field neighbor with energy-savings suggestions about night lighting of the Complex
- D. Late today, an email was received from the Piedmont Soccer Club regarding the Facilities Preservation proposal, and that a desire that the proposal be implemented fairly and equitably

Board Member Gadbois received an email which he forwarded to the rest of the Board and District administrators from a parent with suggestions for parent participation in a future high school graduate survey.

## BOARD REPORTS

Board Member Monach attended a Piedmont League of Women Voters consensus study meeting regarding to what degree the federal government should have a role in education; the Piedmont Middle School parent meeting regarding block scheduling; and an Infinite Campus work group, of which she is a Board liaison member.

Vice President Raushenbush attended the Piedmont Middle School block schedule meeting and the Piedmont High School Site Council meeting.

Board President Tolles thanked Vice President Raushenbush for chairing the last Board meeting. President Tolles attended a Piedmont Middle School Site Council meeting, a Piedmont Educational Foundation meeting, the "Every 15 Minutes" crash site and subsequent assembly, a Bond Program Citizens' Oversight Committee meeting, a Budget Advisory Committee meeting, an Appreciating Diversity Committee meeting, and a Bond Steering Committee meeting. He also attended the retirement celebration for Brooke Zimmerman, Director of Student Services and commended Assistant Superintendent Brady on his Master of Ceremonies speech.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

Resident George Childs asked for clarification of Item D. on the Consent Calendar: what does this Resolution for temporary borrowing from the County mean, and how would the District repay the borrowed monies. Assistant Superintendent Brady provided the explanation.

President Tolles acknowledged the donation by Catherine Yap in the amount of \$500, with requested use for the Wellness Center Program; and a donation by Camilla & Shahan Soghikian in the amount of \$1,000, with requested use for the Wellness Center Program.

It was moved by Vice President Raushenbush, seconded by Board Member Monach, and passed unanimously to approve all

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items on the Consent Calendar as presented:

- A. Accept Donations (as acknowledged above)
- B. Adopt Regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2011 and October 12, 2011
- C. Approve Personnel Action Report
- D. Adopt Resolution 08- 2011-12, "Temporary Borrowing from the Alameda County Treasury: Cash Borrowing Resolution"
- E. Approve Overnight Field Trip for Piedmont High School Cross Country Team to attend racing event, October 28-29, 2011, Arcadia, CA (Orange County)
- F. Approve Consultant Services Contract Between the District and Burke Construction Services (David Burke) for services provided relating to the Seismic Safety Bond Program Project, effective October 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, at a total amount not to exceed \$45,000 (\$5,000/month) (Funding Source: Seismic Safety Bond Program)
- G. Approve 2011-12 Budgetary Management Agreements Between the District and the Contra Costa County Office of Education/Regional Occupation Program  
The agreements are for payment for ROP teachers for the following programs. The CCCOE provides the instructional materials, textbooks, software, and technology for classroom instruction as follows:
  - 1. Journalism, PHS \$15,822.90
  - 2. Biotechnology & Lab, PHS \$19,122.90
  - 3. Sports Medicine, PHS \$36,479.84
  - 4. AP Environmental Science, PHS \$20,571.98
  - 5. AP Music Theory \$21,905.85\$113,903.47
- H. Approve Revision to one Individual Services Agreement with Alpine Academy, to add the provision of mental health services, and add an additional number of days for educational and residential services, for one student, effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, at an increased amount not to exceed \$79,670.00. Funding: Special Education

#### FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Future Board Agenda items are listed below:

→ **SUBJECT TO CHANGE** ←

- Special Board Meeting, November 1, 2011 Re: Interdistrict Attendance Permits(Nov 1)
- Evaluation Committee Report (Nov 9)
- Approve Single Plans for Student Achievement-Elementary (Nov 9)
- School Site Safety Plans (Nov 9)
- Approve List of Donor Funding Opportunities for Beach Project Enhancements (Nov 9)
- Review First Interim Financial Report and Approve a Positive Certification of the District's Ability to Meet Financial Obligations for Current and Subsequent Two Fiscal Years; and Authorize Appropriate Budget Transfers (Dec)
- Review and Approve Facilities Funding Agreement for Upkeep of City and School District Athletic Facilities ("Preservation

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- Fund”) (TBD)
- Uniform Complaint Form Board Policies (TBD)
  - Conduct First Reading of Proposed Revised Board Policy 6146.1, “High School Graduation Requirements” (TBD)
  - Conduct First Reading of Proposed Revised Board Policy 5144, “Discipline” (title to be changed to “*Student Discipline*”) (TBD)
  - Conduct First Reading of Special Education Board Policies (TBD)
  - Review of Board Bylaws (Section 9000) (TBD)
  - Report of Professional Development (TBD)

Vice President Raushenbush requested to add “Use of Athletic Facilities”. The District wants to ensure equitable use as much as possible. Direction needs to be clarified about the Board’s views on how to provide more, not less, access between Piedmont users, many of whom are Piedmont students who use the fields through different programs.

Vice President Raushenbush also requested a presentation or Board workshop on “common assessments”. He is not sure what the term means. It can be used in a lot of different ways to ensure equal assignments in classes, equal grading policies, and to identify where are we succeeding in teaching vs. where we are not: is it a common failing among our presentation, or an individual need to improve but our goal is to identify best practices and he wants to make sure it is getting used in that way. He has heard that some kinds of classes are not suitable for common assessment. If we are not doing a common assessment, what is the alternative common assessment strategy? And what is happening with this data once collected – does it get placed into *Data Director* so that the data can be analyzed? He would like to be further educated on this issue.

The November 1 Board agenda will be amended to include a Closed Session for further discussion on negotiations.

Superintendent Hubbard added two more items: a re-adoption of the regular Board Meeting Schedule for 2011-12 will be added to the next Board meeting due to a conflict in the use of the City Council Chambers (the Wednesday, April 18, 2012 Board meeting needs to be changed); and a Special Board Meeting that has been scheduled in February for the swearing in and reorganization of new Board members in order to meet the 15-day reorganization deadline under Education Code.

Adjournment

There being no further business, and with no objection by the

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Board, President Tolles adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

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ROY TOLLES, Board President  
Piedmont Unified School District  
Board of Education

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CONSTANCE HUBBARD  
Secretary, Piedmont Unified School District  
Board of Education