

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

MINUTES OF

Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

October 11, 2006

CALL TO ORDER	Board President Lindenmayer called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:02 p.m. and led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM	President Ward Lindenmayer, Vice President June Monach, Board Members Cathie Geddeis, Ray Gadbois, Roy Tolles
OTHERS PRESENT FOR REGULAR SESSION	Constance Hubbard, Superintendent Michael Brady, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Agenda Adjustments	None
COMMUNICATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS	
Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT)	None
California School Employees Association (CSEA)	None
Parent Clubs	None
Student Representative to the Board	Sophie Coysh, Student Representative to the Board, reported on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applications have just been received for student offices and the process for paper screening begins tomorrow.• Homecoming still being worked on

Superintendent Hubbard read a statement which advised that, in view of some recent events that have been seen in the media, across the country, and closer to home that affect students and school safety, she wants to make sure the community is aware that the school district is very concerned about the emotional and physical safety of its students. The District is working closely with the police department and child protective services agencies to monitor all students and all things that affect student safety. She wants to make sure the community and parents understand and are aware of the procedures the District takes to help make its schools safe while still trying to maintain the supportive and caring environment in Piedmont that is so important to us all. The District is evaluating its current policies and procedures and working to improve systems that will help us respond now and in the future.

She advised that all administrators met and decided that communication and awareness of who is on and about our campuses is critical. With the financial support of the Parent Clubs, walkie-talkie radios were provided for all school sites and are in use.

The District is in the process of obtaining identification badges for all sites, and sites will be requiring all visitors to check in at school offices.

She continued that, with regard to recent media coverage concerning the vulnerability of children using the internet, the District has been working with the appropriate agencies and school site personnel. If anyone has specific questions, please feel free to contact her at 594-2614.

She ended by saying that within our schools across the District and with the community, we must work together to make our schools as safe as possible for students and staff.

Board President

Board President Lindenmayer reported on the:

- Community engagement meeting regarding bond projects to be held on Thursday, October 12, 7-9 p.m. at the Piedmont Community Hall
- Friday, October 13 home football game with Kennedy High; 4 p.m. Junior Varsity; 7 p.m., Varsity
- Sunday, October 15 annual PAINTS Chalk Art Festival at Beach, 10:00 a.m.; a pancake breakfast will also be held
- Thursday, October 19, 7-9:30 p.m. Piedmont High School College Information Night for Juniors and Seniors and their parents at the Alan Harvey Theater
- Friday, October 20, 6:00 p.m. annual Piedmont Asian American Club Dinner at the Silver Dragon Restaurant
- Friday, October 27 Homecoming Game at Witter Field; 7 p.m. Varsity
- Saturday, October 28 Homecoming Dance

REVIEW & ACTION ITEMS

Update by Board Subcommittee on Public Engagement Process (Community-wide communications)

Superintendent Hubbard announced a community meeting regarding the bond projects tomorrow evening from 7-9 pm at the Piedmont Community Hall.

Vice President Monach said this is the first in a series of community meetings. A progress report will be provided; the new Project Manager will discuss near-term program planning; and Board Member Gadbois will give a quick update report. The target date for bringing the bond project web site live is November 1, 2006. Ms. Monach encouraged people to go to the District web site to sign up to receive information on the bond projects: www.piedmont.k12.ca.us.

Superintendent Hubbard advised that there will be an hour set aside at the community meeting for the public to have an opportunity to ask questions and provide input. That part of the meeting will be conducted by Gina Bartlett from the Center for Collaborative Policy.

Update on Bond Projects by Capital Program Management, Inc. (CPM) Project Manager David Burke

David Burke explained that he intends to provide an update to the Board at the first Board meeting of each month (where there are two Board meetings in a month). He has met with the Board; chaired the first two Steering Committee meetings, focusing on the architectural and engineering selection process; met with the Public Engagement Subcommittee to work on the community meeting presentation; and met with the Technical Advisory Committee meeting, where finalists were identified and interviews scheduled for October 18, 2006. There was a total of eighteen (18) Statements of Qualifications submitted. Out of that group, eight were selected for interviews. Out of the eight firms, an architectural/engineering pool will be established. As the District moves forward to assigning projects, the committee will look at the pool for

project-specific competence toward the type of project.

Mike Wasserman of CPM was also present.

Conduct Public Hearing and Adopt Resolution 06-2006-07, "Resolution on Sufficiency of Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials"

Superintendent Hubbard advised that each year, Education Code requires that a school district conduct a public hearing determining whether textbooks and instructional materials were provided to all students, including English learners.

It was moved by Board Member Geddeis and seconded by Vice President Monach to adopt Resolution 06-2006-07. The Board was polled and the motion passed unanimously.

Adopt Resolution 07-2006-07, "Approval of Adult Education Courses"

A list of the courses offered through the Piedmont Adult Education Program for 2006-07 was included with the Resolution. Course approval is a requirement by the State. The Adult School offers fee-based courses and courses that receive reimbursement from the State.

Board Member Tolles asked how much the Adult Education program could expand. Assistant Superintendent Michael Brady responded that, in the past, the cap has been about 225 students. As a result of the last Coordinated Compliance Review, a course was taken out of the Adult Education program because it was not in the City of Piedmont jurisdiction. The Adult Education is trying to build up its program as a result of that loss.

It was moved by Vice President Monach and seconded by Board Member Gadbois to adopt Resolution 07-2006-07. The Board was polled and the motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION

Report on District Enrollment and Two-Year Comparison

Assistant Superintendent Brady wanted to note that the comparison statistics for 04-05 and 05-06 were taken on the tenth day of the respective school years and the 2006-07 statistics were taken as of the second Tuesday of October (CBEDS day), so the two previous school years will show a smaller enrollment.

The District receives money from the State for pre-planned Independent Study contracts for five consecutive days or more. Anything less than five days does not qualify for State reimbursement.

The distinction between enrollment and ADA is: Enrollment is the number of students we actually have in the school and ADA is the average number of days the students are attending school. Two snapshots of attendance during the school year are taken: the first week of school (P-1 report); and the second snapshot is funded on the P-2 report, which is usually done the second week in April.

Status of Development of 2007-08 Instructional School Year Calendar

Superintendent Hubbard clarified that the school year instructional calendar is a negotiated calendar, per the Rodda Act, between teachers and District staff negotiators. It has been agreed between the two parties to negotiate the school year calendar separate from other negotiation issues. It has also been the commitment to adopt the calendar for a following school year in October of the preceding year. Surveys have been conducted in the past with parents and staff; attendance patterns are looked at, as well as coordinating parent conferencing at the elementary level and coordinating collaboration days.

There are many factors that need to be configured and balanced into the instructional calendar, such as, the requirement to have 180 student days, two teacher work days, and three staff development days. There will never be unanimous agreement by everyone. It is anticipated that an Instructional School Year Calendar will be brought to the Board for adoption at the October 27 Board meeting.

Board Member Gadbois said he had served on a group that worked on a collaborative school year calendar in the past and it is impossible to reach unanimous agreement. The feedback from parents is very mixed.

Vice President Monach also participated in this as a parent, as well as President Lindenmayer, who can both attest that it was very complex and there is no one solution. The focus of the calendar is to truly be an instructional calendar. The educators felt the delivery of instruction can only be at its best with the majority of students being present; as also for student testing. President Lindenmayer said it is very complicated and virtually a no-win situation. Some of the holidays have to be on a certain day by law, such as Veterans Day. He feels the calendar committee should include parents as a negotiation subcommittee, although parental input is given via the District negotiating representatives.

Superintendent Hubbard advised that a parent survey was done in the 2003-04 school year and when she asked the parents if they wanted to do a survey for the 2005-06 school year, they responded no.

Having the entire Thanksgiving week off was mixed in the survey, but actual attendance figures shown is not mixed; absenteeism is heavy and now even starting the Friday before Thanksgiving week.

The two most contentious times are the mid-Winter recess in February (ski week) and the date school starts.

Christine Cumbelich, parent of a Middle School and two Beach students, read a statement as a representative of a contingency of parents regarding the start of school date and the calendar process. The statement expressed that parents want a greater voice and parents feel they do not have true input and are not being heard. They visited web sites of other districts and learned that some other district do not give the entire week off for both "ski week" and mid-winter recess.

Another parent talked about the information that was gathered on the web site. Other districts included information on who served on the committee.

Board Member Tolles added that part of the District goals are to promote increased public engagement.

Tammy Becker of Dracena Avenue, commented that recently in the newspaper, several phone calls about the beginning of the school year had been received by the Superintendent. She would rather see the school calendar added on to June rather than backing up into August.

Announcement of Board Workshop to Discuss District Policies and Procedures on Student Discipline and

Superintendent Hubbard announced that a Board workshop has been scheduled for Monday, November 6, 2006, from 8:00-10:00 a.m. in the District Office Board Room to review student discipline and the policies currently in place. Any action would come back at a regularly scheduled

Governing Law, Monday, November 6, 2006, 8:00-10:00 a.m., District Office Board Room

Board meeting. This is an informational meeting to provide an opportunity to the Board to talk about the process and how discipline rules are applied at the school sites. No board action will be taken. Public comment will be invited. Board workshops are provided as informational topics to the Board, where staff provides information to the Board. Any proposed action resulting from a Board workshop would be taken up at a regular Board meeting.

Superintendent Hubbard advised that, although the Board needs to make the process transparent; at other times, as mandated by law, the public needs to understand that some parts of the process cannot be transparent.

Several Board workshops were set at the beginning of the school year in order for Board members to schedule their times. Specific topics were assigned, not all of which have been decided yet. President Lindenmayer plans that written summaries of the various Board workshops will be prepared for those who cannot attend. Members of the Board will take the notes.

Rachel Murray, parent of a recent student victim, is glad to hear the Board is being open to a more amendable process and hopes the Board's decisions are more transparent to the public. She hopes the November 6 Special Board Meeting will address effects on the victims. Immediately following a student incident, a victim needs to know they handled the situation as best they could and victims need to hear kudos from their community for taking action. Teen victims of crime are much more likely, if they have to encounter their perpetrator in the next few months following the crime, to suffer post-traumatic syndrome.

She said she and her son's father were never told that Assistant Principal Dan Bonnin from the Middle School, would become their son's bodyguard, which she felt was inappropriate.

CORRESPONDENCE

President Lindenmayer advised a series of emails were received regarding the school calendar.

A parent asked what the procedure was for hearing back from the school board when an email is sent. President Lindenmayer stated a protocol has been circulated and briefly explained the protocol.

Board Member Gadbois responded that the Board is time challenged in responding to all of the emails and perhaps the employment of a communications person should be reconsidered. He wanted to convey to the public that Board members are volunteers and spend a lot of time on Board matters, and District staff is stretched thin. However, we are all mindful of the responsibility of keeping the public apprised.

Vice President Monach added that in other smaller districts, the Board assumes more responsibility in terms of doing direct communications as part of the public process and due diligence.

BOARD REPORTS

Board Member Tolles attended his first California School Boards Association (CSBA) Masters in Governance workshop. He attended the Beach Parent Organization meeting at which there was an extensive discussion of the school year calendar; a PRAISE workshop and a Wildwood Parent Club meeting. He has also attended Measure E

Steering Committee meetings and a Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

Board Member Gadbois has been involved in Public Engagement Subcommittee meetings and attended a Curriculum Council chaired by Jamie Adams that went very well. Another Curriculum Council meeting will be held tomorrow from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in Room 27 at Piedmont High School for anyone interested. He will also attend the Middle School Parents' Club meeting on Friday.

Vice President Monach attended the High School Parents' Club meeting. Principal Booker shared an enhancement of the California Scholastic Federation as an honor society; he is also forming a Piedmont High School Honor Society to couple academic achievement with community service. Principal Booker also reiterated and assured parents that the High School is increasing its efforts with respect to security and safety measures on the campus. She attended the Alameda County School Boards Association workshop regarding a Board's role in promoting academic achievement and having the public hold Boards accountable. There are other school districts in our county who have experience with this and could assist us.

President Lindenmayer attended a Measure E Steering Committee meeting, and a parent meeting aimed at new parents in the District, which was heavily attended by parents of elementary-aged children, in order to explain to them what's involved in the fundraising program in Piedmont. He also attended a Millennium High School Parents Club meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR:
ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Board Member Geddeis, seconded by Vice President Monach, and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Items approved on the Consent Calendar were as follows:

1. Adopt Board Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 27, 2006
2. Approve Monthly Financial Report of the District for September
3. Approve Warrant List Dated October 6, 2006
(list of payments for good and services)
4. Approve Personnel Action Report
5. Approve 2006-07 CalWorks County Joint Application for Adult Schools and Regional Occupational Centers and Programs
Adult schools and ROCPs apply annually for this funding to provide educational training to eligible recipients for entry-level employment; assist employed recipients receiving subsidies or supportive services to advance toward higher employment and self-sufficiency; and divert eligible recipients into short-term education and training programs leading to employment.
6. Approve Quarterly Report (July 1, 2006-September 30, 2006) of Complaints Received Under the Williams Settlement Agreement
7. Approve one Consultant Services contract with **Maria Antoneidis and Jennifer Selke** to provide social skills therapy for an elementary student, effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, at a total cost not to exceed \$3,900.00. Funding Source: Special Education
8. Approve one Consultant Services Contract with **Elizabeth B. Isono** to provide occupational therapy for one elementary student, effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, at a total cost not to

- exceed \$3,487.50. Funding Source: Special Education
9. Approve one Consultant Services contract with **Maria Antoneidis and Jennifer Selke** to provide therapy for one elementary student, effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, at a total cost not to exceed \$5,000.00. Funding Source: Special Education
 10. Approve one Consultant Services Contract with **Durham School Services** to provide transportation for one middle school student, effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, at a total cost not to exceed \$10,988.00. Funding Source: Special Education
 11. Approve one Consultant Services Contract with **Doug Meek** to provide transportation for one high school student, effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, at a total cost not to exceed \$13,500.00. Funding: Special Education
 12. Approve one Consultant Services Contract with **Welcome Transport Group** to provide Transportation for one high school student, effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, at a total cost not to exceed \$10,080.00. Funding Special Education
 13. Approve Services of **R.C. Knapp, Inc.**, to load and remove dirt, old asphalt paving and concrete from Havens Elementary School site, effective July 19, 2006 through July 31, 2006, for a total amount not to exceed \$12,108. Funding Source: Measure E Bond

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and with no objections by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

WARD LINDENMAYER, Board President
Piedmont Unified School District
Board of Education

CONSTANCE HUBBARD, Superintendent
Secretary, Piedmont Unified School District
Board of Education