

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

MINUTES OF
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

April 9, 2008

CALL TO ORDER	Board President Monach called the Board of Education meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.
ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM	President June Monach, Vice President Ray Gadbois, Board Members Roy Tolles, Martha Jones
ABSENT FOR CLOSED SESSION	Board Member Rick Raushenbush (arrived 7:58 p.m.)
ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION	The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:37 p.m. to discuss: A. Conference with District Representative Constance Hubbard Regarding Negotiations with the Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT) (Government Code Section 54956.6)
OTHERS PRESENT FOR CLOSED SESSION	Constance Hubbard, Superintendent Michael Brady, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services David Roth, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent, Educ. Services Rich Kitchens, Assistant Principal, Piedmont High School
RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION	Board President Monach called the Regular Session of the Board of Education meeting of April 9, 2008 to order at 7:04p.m. and led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
OTHERS PRESENT AT REGULAR SESSION	Constance Hubbard, Superintendent Michael Brady, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services David Roth, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent, Educ. Services
Action Taken In Closed Session	None
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	Due to Student Representative to the Board Riely White making a college visitation, he was unable to attend the Board meeting but provided his report to the Superintendent: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• He congratulated the Piedmont High School Mock Trial Team for placing second in the state competition• The third quarter ended last Friday and grades will be

mailed home on April 10

- A Spring Sports Rally will be held this Friday
- Next week is spring break; the week after is “Spring Fling Week” for high school students, The Spring Fling dance will be on Saturday, April 26.
- He offered congratulations to the Youth Educator Team and wanted to say that they put so much of themselves into the program and had an amazing impact on the students they taught

PERSONS REQUESTING TO SPEAK ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA None

Superintendent Announcements

Superintendent Hubbard reminded parents that next week is Spring Break.

K-5 elementary registration for new students was held last month. For any parents who have not yet enrolled their students, they should contact Sandra Humphries at the District Office, 594-2609.

STAR testing will begin the week of April 21st. She asked parents of secondary students to encourage their students to take the testing seriously, as the results provide an indication to staff as to how the staff is doing and how they (staff) can better deliver program.

The District newsletter can be viewed on our District web site at: www.piedmont.k12.ca.us

Board President Announcements

President Monach invited everyone to attend a presentation about the Piedmont High School Wellness Center tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m., and to a community discussion on “green” efforts at schools on Thursday, May 8, from 7:15 p.m. to 8:45 p.m., at Beach School, sponsored by the Beach Parent Organization.

PRESENTATION
Youth Educator Program

Brooke Zimmerman, Director of Student Support Services, and Randall Simms, Counselor, Piedmont Middle School described the program whereby Piedmont High School students teach and mentor the Piedmont Middle School eighth grade class regarding drinking and drug issues and choices.

Four of the student mentors, Tommy Cornelius, Ben Sadler, Sydney Forrester, and Beatrice Phillips, spoke on behalf of the group. Their comments were as follows:

Many of the 8th graders are stressed out. They feel their stress comes from the community, their parents, the school, their peers and themselves. Some feel if they do not get good grades, their parents’ love would be conditional. Some have already started drinking and smoking marijuana.

It’s completely normal at the high school to hear about binge drinking in Piedmont. Some of the high school students say it is ingrained in Piedmont culture. Yet there are things that can be done to help students learn to deal with their stress in better

ways. Reaching the eighth grade students before they start making unwise choices is the basis for the program.

The Youth Educator Program includes active listening as part of its program, which makes students feel fully comfortable and shows that a student is being listened to completely. The Monday orientation meetings were weekly and two hours long.

One participant stated the Youth Educators started out as stressed out, unsure individuals from all different social groups, and ended up as one group who, although they often disagree, are capable of listening to one another.

All participants in the Youth Educator group felt they made a positive difference in those they mentored, and were proud and honored to have been chosen to be in the program. They all felt the program was one of the best experiences they have had in their high school years and one which they will never forget.

All of the high school mentors were recognized:

Kaya Carr, Tommy Cornelius, Neil Donovan, Sydney Forrester, Anastasia Fullerton, Haley Ireland, Milton Lee, Amy Lucas, Lauren Melia Teevan, Marjorie Molmen, David Monach, Beatrice Phillips, Lily Rapson, Ben Sadler, Rosie Talcott, Karen Wong, James Singer, and Trevor Fleshman.

Parents of the Youth Educators were also recognized.

Piedmont Middle School Counselor Randall Simms said it has been an honor working with the group.

President Monach thanked the Youth Educator group and hoped they realized they have made a difference in the lives of 196 eighth grade students by sharing their high school experiences.

A Second Reading of the proposed new courses of study, "Honors Statistics," Grades 11-12 and "Introduction to Web Design", Grades 9-12 was conducted.

No public comments were received on this item.

It was moved by Vice President Gadbois, and seconded by Board Member Tolles to adopt the proposed new courses. The motion passed as follows:

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

REVIEW & ACTION ITEMS

Conduct Second Reading and Adopt Proposed New Courses of Study, Piedmont High School

Conduct Review of Proposed New Middle School Textbooks

Proposed new textbooks are being considered for adoption:

- "Math", Course 1" (Grade 6)"
- "California Pre-Algebra" (Grades 6-7)
- "California Algebra" (Grades 7-8)

Jamie Adams, Director of Curriculum, stated that the process and criteria teachers used in selecting textbooks were discussed at the last Board meeting.

She also explained the reasons for new textbooks and the reasons for selecting the particular textbooks. A 30-day review period of the textbooks will take place from April 10-May 22 and action to adopt the textbooks will return at the May 28, 2008 Board meeting.

A question arose by Vice President Gadbois as to when the Board would receive comments from the public on the textbooks and how would the Board review them before their vote?

Ms. Adams said past practice was that the comments would go to the teachers for review and the comments from the public are presented at the Board meeting prior to Board approval. She added that the aspect of bringing comments to the Board as soon as they are made is being looked at would need to be discussed with the Superintendent.

Superintendent Hubbard added that her experience has also been that any comments received go back to the teachers. Most comments usually had to do with a particular like or dislike expressed. More often than not, the comments were issues that the teachers had already talked about and considered, but still felt the textbook should be brought back for adoption.

Vice President Gadbois talked about textbooks being useful as an at-home learning tool in order for parents to be able to help their students with homework.

Board Member Jones requested clarification on the Algebra I textbook and requested that, in the future, public comments on textbooks are provided to the Board as soon as they are submitted, rather than having the Board receives the comments with so little time to review prior to a Board meeting.

It was moved by Vice President Gadbois and seconded by Board Member Tolles to adopt the proposed courses of study.

The motion passed as follows:

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

Review Contract Opener Proposals for 2008-09 Negotiations Between the District and Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT)

Salary and health/dental benefits improvements as part of a total compensation package for the 2008-09 school years are included in the current contract which expires on June 30, 2009. Also, as part of the agreement, the Instructional Calendar will continue to be negotiated separately and the Association and the District have the option to open two articles of choice that have non-compensation-related implications.

The following two articles are opened on behalf of the Association of Piedmont Teachers:

Article XVI – Fringe Benefits

The interest is to include language that allows the option for surviving spouse/partner/families of a member or retiree after death to continue participation in the District medical/dental plan.

Article XV – Retirement/Disability Benefits

The interest is to clarify the requirements for qualifying for medical benefits after retirement (being covered by the District at the time of retirement).

The following two articles are opened on behalf of the District:

Article VI – Hours and Professional Responsibility

The interest is to explore options for school site schedules that will provide time for professional development and collaboration of staff and to clarify the expectations/definition of the teacher professional day.

Article XIX – Employee Evaluation

The interest is to align the evaluation format to more clearly reflect the California Standards for the Teaching Profession.

The contract proposals will return for action at the April 30, 2008 Board meeting.

Measure E Bond Program:

1. Approve Proposal Between the District and Geomatrix Consultants, Inc. for Geotechnical Investigation for the Havens Elementary School Replacement Project

In the process of keeping the projects moving forward, this proposal is identified as work that needs to be done no matter what the next phase of work would be at Havens. The work will take 4-6 weeks and will not interrupt the school program.

Arrival of Board Member Raushenbush

Board Member Raushenbush arrived at 7:58 p.m.

Board Member Raushenbush stated that regarding the General Charge of 15% for outside services in the Geomatrix contract, he knows the company will reduce that charge to 10% if it is requested.

There was no one from the public requesting to speak.

It was moved by Board Member Tolles, seconded by Board Member Raushenbush, and passed unanimously to approve the proposal between the District and Geomatrix Consultants, Inc. for geotechnical investigation for the Havens Elementary School Replacement Project.

2. a. Discussion of Measure E Bond Program (Becker Design)

Superintendent Hubbard reviewed a PowerPoint presentation of the overall bond program. All District schools would be affected in the event of a major earthquake. The District has already taken mitigated risks by vacating the Havens classrooms wings, removing the tile roof from the high school Quad building, and limiting the use of the Student Center. A qualified team of professionals was assembled; the first series of bonds to fund

the work was issued; and engineering studies and structural peer review was completed. Additionally, structural seismic and safety risks were prioritized (red tagged / yellow tagged / green tagged) by an experienced structural engineering firm. Concept design and cost estimates for accessibility and fire/life safety were developed. Applications for State funding were submitted; the community was provided information on the bond projects, not only at Board meetings, but at school site meetings, via the District web site, through newsletters and local press coverage. Community meetings to discuss the projects were also held.

Progress to date on the prioritized buildings is as follows:

Group 1 (red) Buildings were identified as:

- High School Quad Design, Project Plan, Budget
- High School Student Center Design, Project Plan
- Maintenance Facility Design, Project Plan
- Havens: Explore "Becker Design" Rebuild

Group 2 (yellow) Buildings were identified as:

- Complete Wildwood Design, Project Plan
- Complete Beach Design, Project Plan,

Other safety issues at all sites to be addressed:

- Non-structural seismic hazards
- Upgraded fire alarm systems

Defer work at other sites:

- Piedmont Middle School
- Alan Harvey Theater

A quick summary of Measure E Funds available is as follows:

Measure E Bond: \$56.0 million
Committed Expenditures to 1-31-08: -\$ 5.4 million

Remaining Measure E Funds: \$50.6 million

Less High School Maintenance, -\$26.5 million
Wildwood and Beach

Total Measure E Funds Available: \$24.1 million

Estimated Construction Costs for the red-tagged and yellow-tagged buildings are as follows:

PHS	\$9 M	(red tagged)
Maintenance Bldg.	\$2 M	(red tagged)
Wildwood Elementary	\$9 M	(yellow tagged)
Beach Elementary	\$12.3M	(yellow tagged)

Evaluation of costs for the Havens replacement was as follows:

Estimated cost of Havens Replacement \$20.5 M
(Becker Design) – includes SchoolMates
and turf field

Cost of replacing Building D and Multi-Purpose Building	\$2.5 M
Additional Interim Housing (for 2009-10)	\$1.0 M
Ellen Driscoll Theater	\$2.5 M
Demolition/Abatement	\$1.0 M
Estimated District-Funded Havens Construction Cost	\$27.5 M
State Modernization Funding + Deferred Maintenance	-\$3.5 M
City Contribution (SchoolMates & turf field)	-\$1.2 M
Measure E Funding	\$22.8 M

Havens Retrofit, Hybrid, Replacement Costs

<u>Project Components</u>	<u>Retrofit</u>	<u>Hybrid/ Hybrid 2</u>	<u>Replacement</u>
Project Costs	\$13.6M	\$15M	\$37.5M
Ellen Driscoll	*	\$2.5M	*
Escalation	\$2.5M	\$2.8M	\$9.0M
Interim Housing	<u>\$.7M</u>	<u>\$.7M</u>	<u>\$.9M</u>
Total Conceptual Project Cost in Millions	\$16.8M	\$21M	
State Modernization Funding	<u>-\$3M</u>	<u>-\$3M</u>	<u>-\$3M</u>
Measure E Funding	\$13.8M	\$18M	\$44.4M

*Ellen Driscoll not included

Summary of Measure E Funds Available:

Measure E Bond:	\$56 M
Committed Expenditures to 1-31-08	<u>\$ 5.4 M</u>
Remaining Measure E Funds	\$50.6 M
Less High School, Maintenance, Wildwood & Beach	<u>-\$26.5 M</u>
Total Measure E Funds Available	\$24.1 M
Funds Required for Havens (Becker Design)	<u>\$22.8 M</u>
Measure E Fund Balance	\$1.3 M

Additional State Modernization \$1.0 M
(Beach)

Net Available Funds \$2.3 M

2. b. Discussion of Measure E Bond Program (Becker Design)

Vice President Gadbois, as part of the Public Engagement Subcommittee, shared the discussions and concerns voiced at the community meeting held on March 29, 2008. The purpose of the meeting was to assess the level of community support for the Havens rebuilding project (Becker Design). Workshop participants overwhelmingly supported moving forward with the Havens rebuild project. Although there was widespread support of the project, the two basic concerns expressed were that the rebuild project may supplant work that needs to be completed for the other schools under Measure E, and that keeping the tight schedule might prove too challenging and lead to cost escalation.

President Monach advised that one of the Board members had requested a Special Board meeting to be held between now and April 30th, to provide additional opportunity for the Board to continue deliberations and for the community to comment one more time prior to the Board making its decision at the regular April 30th Board meeting.

Individual Board members gave their individual comments regarding the Havens rebuild project:

President Monach said that a key question the community has asked is: what is the spirit with which Measure E was brought before voters? She quoted verbiage from the Board Policies on facilities.

She said if one looks at the history of how District facilities have changed, when you go back to November 2005, some of the District buildings did not offer an adequate level of safety. From preliminary studies, she felt it was imperative to move ahead and be guided by safety first and associated accessibility levels next. As a community / school investment, there were two bottom lines for her: public safety and sound and sensible cost benefit analyses.

If she answered the same question today, she would still stand with her decision. She has confidence in the project management team (Webcor Builders and ATI Architects & Engineers).

Vice President Gadbois: the bottom line for him is that he believes the District is at a critical turning point in the project. He is in total support of the Havens rebuild project and the total program. Two years ago, the bond measure passed and it was controversial. Some people felt the District was rushing through the project and needed more quantitative analysis. The District followed a very thorough, complete, transparent process. All the detailed and quantitative analyses were done, along with peer review, and confirmed all of the seismic issues and safety risks,

and took action to mitigate the risks as much as possible. The District has communicated with the public as much as possible. He believes the Board has done everything it has promised to do and more. Now is the time for the Board to implement and move expeditiously with the program to include: the repair and all of the issues associated with the High School Quad building, and Student Center, the Maintenance building, Wildwood, Beach, including the rebuilding at Havens, and to complete all nonstructural and fire alarm work proposed. This will provide improved safety and accessibility to students and staff, our schools and the community and a Maintenance building that will be ready to support our needs and be first responders after an earthquake and buildings that we can use after an earthquake. The District will also have additional playfields, a new school building, and a more attractive city center. There are risks and issues to face. The Measure E work has only been possible because of the hard work of District staff and consultants and the Haven rebuild because of the creativity of Mark Becker and the commitment of Andy Ball and Webcor. Vice President Gadbois is committed to seeing that work on all of the schools is done. Possible disruptions will have to be dealt with, along with interim housing. There are risks but he believes in the long run, it will all be worthwhile.

Board Member Tolles: two years ago, the Board needed to figure out how to make the right decisions for the District to include equity for all schools and adequate public support. A point he wanted to make is that Board meetings are the only time when Board members have the opportunity to discuss an item together. The Board is prohibited legally from talking about Board subject matter unless it is being conducted in front of the public.

His fundamental concern on expenditures of funding is that the District make the appropriate capital management planning investment decisions. With our limited resources, we need to make sure those things we invest in improve our educational program whenever possible.

Regarding the repair of the red-tagged vs. yellow-tagged buildings, there are fundamental safety issues in the red tagged group that do not exist in the yellow-tagged group.

It is important to him that community support is strong.

He has no problem with the safety issues at the High School and Havens. His support was not for fixing the wood frame buildings. His concern with the investments on the yellow-tagged buildings is that we have very limited resources in the District and where should we put those resources? He is in favor of the Havens rebuild project, but he also wants to advocate for having public support of it. We need to address being able to have equity amongst all the needs of the schools. He is not in favor of replacing the portable at Beach; rather he would like to review each building to see what could be improved. For instance, he is not in favor of replacing the portable at Beach. Why not look at Beach to see if there is any

way we can improve the building at the same time? At Wildwood, the multi-purpose room is used for a classroom; this should be looked at. Mini-master plans need to be provided so we can make sure all work is equitable.

He is concerned that the District does not have an earthquake recovery plan. What specifically are we going to do after an earthquake? He also thinks that even after we fix the buildings, we may still have problems. An earthquake recovery plan would help him provide a backdrop for understanding the benefit of about whether to do the yellow-tagged buildings or not. He wished a better job had been done on documentation of the yellow-tagged building question – whether or not to retrofit. A mini master plan should include a list of possible capital projects at each of the sites and a comparison of the facilities at the three elementary schools.

Regarding Havens, we need to keep open the full range of options:

1. continue to consider doing high-end reconstruction
2. choose Becker Plan
3. choose hybrid
4. retrofit only the two classroom wings at Havens and nothing else

He wants to make sure that all the issues at Wildwood and Beach can be done, also.

He wants to make a decision to move ahead with a contract with ATI, but wants to make sure the contract contains “checkpoints” so that if for some reason our finances don’t work out, we don’t have public support, or we can’t do different pieces of the projects, the contract can be halted.

He would like to get an “honest measurement” of public opinion on what we are proposing.

He would like to see some design alternates as a contingency in case funding runs out.

Given current economic conditions, he would like to see some constant discussion on capital improvement projects as an ongoing process in order to rank projects within the District.

Board Member Raushenbush: he feels there are two purposes: 1) our children and staff have to be safe in the schools; and 2) to provide an educational program. The experts have looked at the buildings and he will rely on what he has been told. If buildings are a threat to safety, they have to be fixed and be the first priority, while the District continues to provide an educational program to the students. He gives his strong support and feels it is a prudent investment decision to proceed with Becker Design at Havens. He commends Mark Becker for presenting the concept to the public, and to Andy Ball for committing his company behind this project. He likes knowing the project will be completed in the fall of 2010.

Regarding the yellow tagged buildings, although these are considered to be buildings that are not known to be a threat to life/safety, it would be a threat not to be able to send our children to school after an earthquake, therefore, he feels the work should be done now. The remaining monies on Beach and Wildwood will be done if the District can. Do the High School and Havens now and then the yellow-tagged buildings. He would like to see the Maintenance building done this summer. He agrees with Board Member Tolles about the need for an earthquake recovery plan.

Board Member Jones: she voted against Measure E at the time. She felt the measure was very confusing and there had not been enough research done. She strongly opposed the measure in the beginning because she thought a smaller planning bond should be brought before voters, before a larger one to address the work that needed to be done. At the present time, starting last fall, she looked into the issue, attended numerous meetings, and learned about the need for repair of the red-tagged buildings. Repair of the yellow-tagged buildings was much less clear to her. She felt the engineers and architects disagreed. Now she feels that the large majority of the community want the seismic work done on all schools and she would support going forward on work on all the schools. She is also in favor of the Becker Design.

President Monach encouraged everyone to look at the Webcor Builders web site and their mission statement to see the component to their core value of social responsibility.

David Hollander, Havens parent, said he is very proud of the community and Board. He submitted another petition of 114 signatures in favor of the Havens rebuild project (Becker Design). The petitions say the community wants this and most of the petition signers do not have children attending Havens School. He thanked Superintendent Hubbard for her PowerPoint cost projections. He believes in Webcor's commitment. He agrees that an emergency recovery plan is a good idea. He also believes it is a wise investment of money to do the Becker Design.

Superintendent Hubbard wanted to clarify that county-wide emergency evacuation drills are done every year and District-wide drills are done twice a year in addition to monthly fire drills. Each school site has a supply of food, water, and emergency backpacks with supplies. The District does have emergency procedures and the Comprehensive School Safety Plan is being updating at this time. First Aid and CPR training for employees is also taking place.

Sue Lin, Beach School parent, said she supported Measure E and agrees with the goals expressed by the Board. Her concern would be the \$2.3 million remaining - what about the contingency plans for cost overruns? Is Webcor planning on extending their philanthropy to the Beach and Wildwood projects, also? The parents at Beach have formed a Beach

Advisory Committee to keep their parents informed.

Superintendent Hubbard stated that contingencies have been built into each project's budget projections.

Yvonne Gonzales Rogers, Wildwood parent, stated some of the older members of the community expressed concern about Wildwood and Beach. There is a general feeling that people are supportive but they want more concrete information. A survey was conducted and she will compile the information for the Board. In general, all of the responses were positive for the Havens rebuild. Yet, it is Ms. Gonzalez Rogers' personal belief that the Board should make a public commitment by resolution not to tap into the money designated for Beach and Wildwood, just to give those parents additional assurance.

President Monach noted that one of the signatures on the petition presented by Mr. Hollander is from the President of the Wildwood Dads' Club. Also, President Monach was going to mention under the "Correspondence" portion of the agenda that ten emails had been received supporting the Havens project, and that a petition with ten signatures had been received and out of the ten emails, seven of them were from the Wildwood community supporting the Havens rebuild opportunity. One email was recommending the school be LEEDS certified ("green school") and another email asked about alternative funding sources for the Havens playground space.

Parent Joe Loduca said there are a lot of people outside of Havens that support the Becker Plan. The Becker Plan is so cost effective that it is the best plan to utilize. It is a good design use of property, along with the proposed playfield.

Resident George Childs seconded Ms. Gonzalez Rogers' recommendation regarding a resolution to ensure that monies designated for Beach and Wildwood will not be used for Havens. The cost analyses presented have somewhat alleviated his concerns about the financial solutions. He reiterated that the Becker Design will call for the removal of three good facilities: Building D, the multipurpose building and the SchoolMates building which belongs to the City. None of these buildings would require seismic upgrade so taking out those facilities is taking away something that are usable facilities. The notion that they would try to deconstruct and use elsewhere does not seem like a viable expectation. At the City Council meeting on Monday evening, the City indicated that they would bring up the SchoolMates project for discussion but it will not be until June. The \$1.2 million funding requires a public hearing prior to their decision. The Board can't authorize the monies out of the \$56 million of Measure E funds to replace the SchoolMates facility because it is not a school facility. If the City will not be holding public hearings until June, that will be after the Board has already made their decision. He would like to know how this is going to be handled.

Michael Perkocha, Havens parent, said his student is happy in the portables. Mr. Perkocha thanked the Board and Superintendent because it seems that, in the last 2-3 months, the level of information has increased a thousand-fold and the clarity has been impressive. He is an architect and commends them for being on the cutting edge of a lease/lease-back agreement. He supports the Becker design.

Regarding SchoolMates: the people who operate it do a fabulous job, but the facilities are appalling – the plumbing, the kitchen facilities - nothing meets ADA. The facility needs to be replaced, whether or not a new school is built, which would be the City's responsibility.

Resident William Blackwell stated he likes the Mark Becker design plan and feels it is a good fit for the community and a rare opportunity. He went through the Havens facility two years ago and thought it was a matter of a few shear walls and a summer's work to retrofit the two wings of Havens. He still feels that way and is concerned that more years have passed and it is time to do something. He made his own analysis which he thought was very objective. He felt it was worth mentioning that Mark Becker said he was replacing the school to bring it to the standards of Wildwood and Beach and by essence, replicating the same places as in the existing Havens school. Yet, in a past Havens meeting which discussed reconfiguration, Principal Tery Susman said she needed two additional classrooms. If you are going to spend \$23-\$28 million for replacing Havens, why isn't it better to spend \$25-30 million and have 24 classrooms instead of 22 classrooms? This leads to the largest question of: complete modernization of the school: can you get the two additional classrooms without having an identical one-for-one for the other two elementary schools?

He also differs with the cost projections presented and is not satisfied with the extent to which Measure E funds can be used for Havens replacement on legal and ethical grounds if not necessary to totally replace Havens. He is not sure where the Board stands on this.

Resident Ken Jensen was never excited about the replacement of Havens and he voted no on Measure E. Over the past couple of years, he has come to the conclusion that there is a desperate need at Havens to do something, but wants some mechanism to ensure that the retrofit at Beach and Wildwood goes forward. He would prefer a separate bond issue for the Becker design. The \$2.3 million cushion remaining is "really dicey".

Mark Aikawa, Beach parent, went on the recent tour of Havens and believes it should be rebuilt. He also believes the intent for Measure E was to make sure that all schools were retrofitted and brought up to code. He thinks there needs to be a written agreement about this. He is very tainted on retrofits. Regarding the fixed price, he doesn't believe it can be done.

It scares him. He believes a lot of Beach parents are watching. The meeting on March 29 seemed mostly about Havens. There are other people out in the community with different views.

John Creighton, Beach parent, would like to echo what Mr. Aikawa said. He commends Andy Ball for making this offer and Mark Becker for the design, but cost overruns occur and the offer seems too good to be true. There are a lot of people watching to make sure that there is money set aside and made available for the other schools.

President Monach asked the Superintendent to respond regarding the City's public hearing in June on the SchoolMates funding. Superintendent Hubbard stated that the April 30 Board decision is to enter into a master agreement for the design process. The preliminary design process does include moving SchoolMates. If the District finds out in June that the City does not support this, the District would have to figure out a different way of addressing this. It is the Superintendent's understanding that out of the City's \$1.2 million, \$.2 is from a fund set aside to address the SchoolMates facilities at the three sites. The District would also then have to look at the field turf portion of the program and the District would know that before entering into the lease/lease-back agreement which would be brought for approval the following year. The idea would be that the City would commit the funds in payments over three years.

The other point the Superintendent wanted to clarify was that, in terms of Webcor's offer being "too good to be true", Webcor has been in on looking at all the cost estimates, looking at the preliminary designs, doing their own cost estimates from their firm (that builds skyscrapers). Webcor is realistic in what they are entering into in terms of their risk. The risk to them is loss of profit and they are willing to risk that as part of their whole commitment to the community in general. Also, the way that the budget was looked at was that it was built "backwards" in that the area that we have more of a guarantee on is the Havens project. For instance, we can say we will set aside \$9 million to retrofit Beach, but what we can't say is that we will only be spending \$9 million to retrofit Beach. So the bigger risk factors in cost overruns are in costs other than Havens. Another example: we have set aside \$9 million to fix the High School, but that's the one thing we are not necessarily able to enter into with a lease/lease-back agreement. The commitment would be to the Board that no more than \$22.8 from Measure E would be set aside for Havens. The rest would be allocated hoping that as we go through the process, there is enough money in the budgets to do the work we expect to do. One reason for getting the design team going now is to look at cost savings now. If the architect and builder are working together now, issues can be looked at in a more economic way, thus being more cost-effective.

President Monach stated that some Board meetings ago, the Board received information at a Special Board meeting on contracting and the various options and the lease/lease-back, design and design-build option were all reviewed by the Board.

The Board knows that contingency planning can be structured in such a way through the contractual agreement that we reach on a particular project. This is another way we can work to mitigate the financial risks.

Ms. Gonzalez Rogers asked for clarification on costs: she noticed that the \$22.8 includes \$2.5 for Ellen Driscoll. She thought Ellen Driscoll was put on hold until the yellow-tagged buildings were completed. Superintendent Hubbard responded that the Ellen Driscoll Theater is also a yellow-tagged building, and there has been some discussion about whether or not the Ellen Driscoll Theater can be taken out and dealt with separately. The design team hasn't gotten far enough on the design. This would be another line item that could be looked at.

Claudia Harrison, Havens parent, stated that the Board has heard from many parents and community members and the response has been overwhelmingly positive for the Mark Becker proposal. She would hate to see the Board not move forward out of fear of the silent parents. The Board has heard from a large portion of people who support the design.

Vice President Gadbois wanted to comment that it is his intent to do Wildwood and Beach, also, and it is his commitment not to jeopardize those projects. The Board voted not too long ago to set aside monies for the Havens project. If the Havens project requires more than the \$23 million, the District will need to look for other solutions, either by raising additional money, asking the community for additional bond approval, or reducing the scope of work, which could include the Ellen Driscoll auditorium. More will be known in the next year. On the question of: is it legal to use Measure E funds to tear down some of the buildings at Havens, we have received a legal opinion on this and State funding will be used for those parts of the project.

Board Member Jones was unclear about the after school uses of the Havens library. Superintendent Hubbard explained that the rebuilt Havens library would be separated from the main building. A meeting could be held there and the whole school would not have to be open. The location of the restrooms would also be accessible without having to have the whole school open.

Board Member Raushenbush stated that regarding Webcor's offer being "too good to be true", the Board cannot yet firm up the not to exceed price. Should the Board get to the point where the contract is to be signed and the guaranteed maximum price is increased, the Board would then have to take another look. For the time being, and based on the information the Board presently has, the Board needs to move forward. The Board cannot freeze themselves into inaction. To the issue of those who want to know that Wildwood and Beach will not be neglected, it is not his intention to neglect the work at those schools.

President Monach stated that Board business is not exclusively the Measure E Bond Program. There will not be a 100%

consensus and 100% certainty with the assumptions and cost estimates. Measure E is only a part of our District's goal setting. Our primary priority is to the students and the educational program. We need to be time efficient.

The Board declined to schedule a Special Board meeting for April 28 or 29th to discuss Measure E only.

Superintendent Hubbard stated that at the April 30th Board meeting, the Board will be asked to vote on a major investment in Measure E funds. There will be two agreements, one for a preliminary services agreement with Webcor Builders to cover the costs only of what they may have to lay out, and the ATI Contract.

Community members were encouraged to give any other feedback they have to input@pusdbond.org.

Conduct Public Hearing Regarding Use of Funding Allocation by the Piedmont Educational Foundation Endowment Fund for the 2008-09 School Year

The Piedmont Educational Foundation Endowment Fund will be donating \$158,684 to the school district for the 2008-09 school year.

District staff is recommending that the full amount be requested, to be used to continue with the Grades K-12 student support services, e.g., Counseling; Grades 6-12 elective programs at the Middle School and High School; and continuation of the elementary library program. A final public hearing will be held at the April 30 Board meeting and the Board will vote on the recommendations. Following the Board meeting, a formal letter will be sent to the Piedmont Educational Foundation requesting the funds and stating the proposed uses.

There was no one from the public requesting to speak.

Conduct Public Hearing on the Proposed Levy of the Current 2007-08 Parcel Tax, to be Levied in 2008-09; and Adopt Resolution 17- 2007-08, "Resolution Establishing the Amount of **Measure B** Tax to be Raised and the Levy Rate Per Parcel for Fiscal Year 2008-09, to be Assessed as of July 1, 2008"; and Resolution 18-2007-08, "Resolution Establishing the Amount of **Measure C** Tax to be Raised and the Levy Rate Per Parcel for Fiscal Year 2008-09, to be Assessed as of July 1, 2008"

This item was discussed at the Board meetings of March 12 and March 26, 2008.

Superintendent Hubbard said it is important for the public to understand that while we are talking about \$56 million for the Measure E budget, the annual operating budget for the District is in the \$30 million range and we depend on more than \$7 million of the parcel tax for ongoing annual support of *program*. This is a vital part of our ability to maintain class size reduction, instructional aides, paraprofessionals and reading resource specialists in the classrooms; a seven-period day at the Middle School and High School; advanced placement courses; and library services and counseling services. These are the kinds of things taken for granted as part of our core program. Without these parcel taxes, the District would not be able to have all of this. Although the District has tried not to raise the parcel tax, it is recommended this year that the levy be raised by 5%. The District will be looking at renewing the parcel tax in March 2009. It is a vital part of the District's operating budget. Without it, significant programmatic reductions would be necessary beyond what people would realize.

Resident George Childs asked the Board to take a close look and if the State budget cuts are not made, he requested that the Board go back and take a look at possibly reducing the parcel tax. The Superintendent advised that once a parcel tax levy is enacted, it could not be changed for that year, but the levy could be looked at for the next year for reduction, in this case 2009-10.

It was moved by Vice President Gadbois, and seconded by Board Member Jones to adopt Resolution 17-2007-08, "Resolution Establishing the Amount of **Measure B** Tax to be Raised and the Levy Rate Per Parcel for Fiscal Year 2008-09, to be Assessed as of July 1, 2008". The Board was polled and the motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Board Member Tolles and seconded by Board Member Raushenbush to adopt Resolution 18-2007-08, "Resolution Establishing the Amount of **Measure C** Tax to be Raised and the Levy Rate Per Parcel for Fiscal Year 2008-09, to be Assessed as of July 1, 2008". The Board was polled and the motion passed unanimously.

Review and Approve Board Committee Assignments for March-June 30, 2008

The assignments for Board Liaison to Wildwood and the Middle School should be Board Member Jones rather than Board Member Raushenbush.

It was moved by Board Member Jones, seconded by Board Member Raushenbush, and passed unanimously to approve the amended Board Committee Assignments for the period March 2008 through June 30, 2008.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ITEM
Continuation of Discussion of Goals for 2008-09

Since this has been an ongoing item and due to the late hour, the President obtained Board consensus to hold this item to the following Board meeting.

INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS
Announcement of 2008 Arthur Hecht Volunteer of the Year Award Recipient

Superintendent Hubbard announced that community member Maude Pervere was selected by the committee. She will be honored at the May 14th Board meeting. She will be selecting a piece of student artwork as her gift.

Announcement of Availability of Noda Memorial Grants

Grant applications for the visual arts program at the middle and high school are now available. The amount available is \$3,500.

Due to Spring Recess, Second Board Meeting will be the fifth Wednesday of the Month, April 30, 2008

Board President Monach announced that the second Board meeting in April will be on the fifth Wednesday of the month due to Spring Recess.

CORRESPONDENCE

President Monach advised that a number of emails were received regarding Measure E; two emails were also received on the math textbook adoption; one email about the opportunity to enhance the PMS science curriculum; two emails about parent input on the GATE Advisory Committee work; one email from a High School student about the anatomy class dissection unit, which is being addressed by the high school staff; and one email asking questions about the high school's policy on physical education participation requirements.

BOARD REPORTS

Board Member Tolles attended the Beach Parent Organization meeting on Monday night. Food samples from Beach School's new Food Services program were provided.

CONSENT CALENDAR

President Monach acknowledged the donation by the Middle School PASS organization (Parents Actively Supporting Sports) in the amount of \$500 for the Piedmont High School Track and Field Program for the new high jump landing pad at Witter Field (used also by middle school students).

It was moved by Vice President Gadbois, seconded by Board Member Jones, and passed unanimously to accept the Consent Calendar as presented, to include:

- A. Accept Donation (as noted above)
- B. Adopt Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2008
- C. Approve Personnel Action Report
- D. Ratify Grant Application to "Kaiser Permanente East Bay Area 2008 Community Benefit"
- E. Approve Proposal Between the District and Robbins Sport Floors/California Inc. to furnish and install materials for the Piedmont Middle School multipurpose gymnasium, effective April 10, 2008 through August 15, 2008, at a total cost not to exceed \$60,000. Funding Source: Deferred Maintenance / Piedmont Basketball Foundation / City of Piedmont
- F. Approve Quarterly Report (January 1, 2008-March 31, 2008) of Complaints Received Under the Williams Settlement Agreement
- G. Approve Monthly Financial Report of the District for March 2008

FUTURE REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

- Budget Update (Apr)
- Discussion of District Goals for 2008-09 (Apr 9)
- Acceptance of Student Accountability Report Cards 2006-07 (Apr/May)
- Approve Preliminary Services Agreement Between District and Webcor (Apr 30)
- Approve Master Agreement Between District and ATI Architects and Engineers (Apr 30)
- Certification of Athletic Coaches (Apr 30)
- Approve 2007-08 *Single Plan for Student Achievement* for all Schools (Apr 30)
- Approve Comprehensive School Safety Plans for all schools (overview) (Apr 30)
- Student Athletic Participation Fees / Coaching Stipends (May)
- Recognition of 2008 Arthur Hecht Volunteer of the Year (May 14)
- Designate League Representative to California Interscholastic Federation (May 14)
- Public Hearing and Adopt Proposed New High School Textbooks (May 14)
- Review of Tentative Schedule for 2008-09 Regular Board of Education Meetings (May 14)
- Public Hearing and Adopt Proposed New Middle School Textbooks (May 28)
- Review of Board Bylaws (Section 9000) (TBD)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and with no objections by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

JUNE MONACH, Board President
Piedmont Unified School District
Board of Education

CONSTANCE HUBBARD
Secretary, Piedmont Unified School District
Board of Education