

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

MINUTES OF
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

March 28, 2012

CALL TO ORDER	Board President Roy Tolles called the meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 p.m.
ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM	President Roy Tolles; Vice President Rick Raushenbush; Board Members Ray Gadbois, Sarah Pearson and Andrea Swenson were present.
Adjourn to Closed Session	The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss: A. Conference with District Labor Negotiator Constance Hubbard Regarding Negotiations with the Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT) (Government Code Section 54956.6)
Others Present in Closed Session	Superintendent Constance Hubbard, Assistant Superintendent Brady and Assistant Superintendent Booker
Reconvene to Regular Session	President Tolles called the Regular Session of the Board of Education to order at 7:08 p.m. and led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
Others Present at Regular Session	Superintendent Constance Hubbard Michael Brady, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Randy Booker, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Report of Action Taken in Closed Session	No action was taken in the Closed Session.
Agenda Adjustments	There were no adjustments to the agenda.
COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT)	APT President Harlan Mohagen introduced Diane Bomberg, a third-grade teacher from Beach, who is attending the meeting. Ms. Mohagen attended the WASC readout and found the process detailed and interesting. It was particularly useful to hear about the strengths and the areas where growth is needed. She attended a presentation made by Dana Cope, a resource coordinator from Napa Unified School District, on Monday night at the GATE Committee meeting. Ms. Mohagen would like Board members to understand that many students are twice exceptional – they may be resource students and also be advanced learners in some subject areas.
CSEA	None
Parent Clubs	None
Student Representative to Board	Karina Chan, Student Representative, reported this is the last week of the third quarter and grades are due next Monday. There will be no ASB Spring Rally this year, and she welcomed Board members to attend the Spring Dance beginning 7:30 p.m. on March 31. WASC has been visiting the high school this week.

In lacrosse the Men's Team beat Marin Academy and tomorrow the Women's team meets O'Dowd and the Swim Team meets St. Patrick and Holy Names.

Persons Wishing to Speak to Any Item Not Listed on the Agenda No one wished to speak to any item not on the agenda.

Superintendent Announcements The Superintendent had no announcements.

Board President Announcements President Tolles had no announcements.

PRESENTATION

Educational Services Report:
Spotlight on Student Learning

A. Piedmont High School WASC Report
(Assistant Superintendent Booker)

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) completed their evaluation of Piedmont High School and presented their readout. The WASC committee found that PHS is a great school; students were friendly, welcoming and articulate. They recognized the large investment in the school by all stakeholders. The areas of improvement they highlighted were areas we are already working on - the need for technology infrastructure and staff development in technology, and collaboration with staff regarding goal-orientation and accountability. WASC provides accreditation for a specific period of time – usually six years with a three-year follow up. We will not receive their final report for several weeks. This visit is the culmination of an 18-month process that began with our staff developing a WASC document. Principal Rich Kitchens and teacher Dave Keller in particular put a lot of work into the report.

Board members commented on how useful the process is and that the report demonstrates how well the District is doing.

Comments were made by several students from Mr. Keller's Civics class. Lily Backer said that although teenagers like to complain about the bad, the self-reflection helped them reflect on what is good. Daniel Cooper presented the process from the student's side: it has always bugged him when visitors come into the classes to observe, so it was good for him to learn what the process really is. He thinks it would be good for other students to understand this. Marguerite Cauchois said that WASC was good for students since we tend to reflect on what we don't like. She is on the newspaper and has been following the process for the past year. She was amazed to see how much work went into it, especially by Mr. Keller. Aubrey Douglass said the students rallied together to show WASC how much we love and appreciate our school and WASC got it. Sheli Schacker said the process showed the honesty and natural greatness of the school; the teachers taught like they do every day even when they were being observed.

B. PUSD Evaluation Committee Progress Briefing
(Assistant Superintendent Booker, Carol Boyd, Harlan Mohagen)

Assistant Superintendent Booker, Carol Boyd and Harlan Møhagen presented a slide show to explain the work of the evaluation committee: where we have been, where we are now and next steps. This year every teacher does one component from the components and documents developed last year, the committee has been gathering feedback both formally and informally, and administrators met last week to review the pilot and offer feedback to the committee. Committee subgroups are working on three new components: develop a support system for teachers needing assistance, clarify what constitutes good professional practice at each level, and develop a plan for using assessment results to understand student outcomes and improve teaching practice.

In April the committee is meeting to revise pilot processes and documents and create a final evaluation document and a packet including all documents. In May the committee will prepare for a presentation to the Board to be made in June.

REVIEW & ACTION ITEMS

- A. * Conduct Public Hearing on the Proposed Levy of the Current 2011-12 Parcel Tax, to be Levied in 2012-13 (public hearing only; no action)

Superintendent Hubbard stated that the full language of the ballot measure creating Measure B is included in the Board packet. One part of the language created an advisory committee to the Parcel Tax, whose purpose is to review the money and ensure it is spend according to the language in the parcel measure and to recommend the amount of the levy. The advisory committee has presented their recommendation for 2012-13, and this is the opportunity for public comment. At the next meeting, the Board will take action. Board members have indicated their support for the recommendations of the Parcel Tax Advisory Committee.

Citizen George Childs spoke and indicated his support for the schools but urged limiting the increase to 2% as that is what we are accustomed to, and the schools should learn to live within this amount. He suggested that there should be a waiver or cap for low-income households with a 50% reduction for households with income under \$50,000 and a 100% reduction for households under \$25,000. He will work to have such language incorporated into future parcel tax measures.

President Tolles explained that Measure B has represented tremendous support for the schools and that Board members have indicated support for the recommendation of the committee. He asked Board Members to express their opinions at this time.

Every Board Member continued to support the recommendation for a 5% increase in the parcel tax. Several members indicated they would be open to exploring income exemptions in future ballot measures. President Tolles explained that the Board will vote on the increase at the April 17 Board Meeting. He encouraged the public to send their comments to the Board.

There was no further public comment.

- B. * Authorize Increase in the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the Beach Elementary School Seismic Safety Bond Program Renovation Project to Cahill

Assistant Superintendent Brady presented a request to increase the guaranteed maximum price for the Beach Seismic Safety Bond Program (SSBP) Renovation Project. The contract with Cahill was approved at the June 8, 2011, meeting in the amount of \$7,258,865, which included \$737K in potential finance payments

Construction, Inc. in the Amount of \$36,311

and \$270K in allowances for unforeseen conditions. At that time it was not clear when the District would receive State Modernization funds so the project was divided into two phases: Phase I consisted of \$6.5 million; \$600,000 of work was pulled out and reserved for Phase II. Now that the District has received modernization funds, the Phase II work is being added back. As anticipated, there is an increase in the cost, which was provided for by "allowances" in the contract and by setting aside project contingency funds. The additional work reflects more than \$1 million in scope changes but will increase the GMP only by \$36,311 because the balance will be paid from contract allowance for unforeseen conditions (\$270,000) and recouped finance charges (\$737,757), which are already part of the GMP.

Detail of the change orders was presented to the Board. At \$559,429, the big ticket item is the Linda Avenue retaining wall, which includes fencing, demolition, and extensive drain work. Overall the changes fall into the following categories: unforeseen conditions, existing conditions not on the plans but required by field conditions, value-added scope and value engineering (scope we removed).

The SSBP Steering Committee, the District's construction manager and the Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) are recommending that the District increase the contract with Cahill by \$36,311 to a new total of \$7,295,176. This is in line with the total construction budget for Beach approved by the Board on December 14, 2011 for \$8,174,588.

President Tolles explained the importance of keeping construction on the fast track so it can be completed on time. The COC has been meeting weekly to provide oversight, and our construction manager, Pete Palmer, has been tough but fair in negotiations with Cahill.

Vice President Raushenbush explained that a lot of the changes are extras not originally on the plans. With Vila Construction working for us and getting additional bids from subcontractors, he is confident we are paying only what is required and reasonable.

Board Member Pearson asked about the cost of the retaining wall and Mr. Brady explained that the wall was leaning, so we had to address the underlying causes, which required additional drainage work, shoring up the embankment and providing traffic mitigation during construction.

Board Member Swenson asked if scope added by parents was fully funded. Mr. Brady explained that we have incorporated some of the requests, such as GSA-approved trellises.

A second and final change order will be brought to the Board at the April 17th meeting. Mr. Brady assured the Board that we have the money for the changes but it is important the Board approve them and the public be aware of this.

There was no public comment.

The motion to authorize the increase in the GMP for the Beach SSB Program Renovation to \$36,311 for a total price of \$7,295,176 was made by Board Member Pearson and seconded by Board

Member Ray Gadbois. It was approved unanimously.

INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement of Regular Board Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2012

The regular Board meeting in April will be held on TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2012. This will be the only Board Meeting in April, and the next Board meeting will be held May 9, 2012.

CORRESPONDENCE

Board Member Gadbois reported that the Board received the following:

- Several emails offering input on the search process for the Havens principal. The Superintendent responded to these emails.
- An invitation from the Piedmont Language School inviting Board participation in presentations on World Language
- Four separate emails expressing disagreement with replacing the Headlands field trip. Board Member Gadbois let them know there will be a discussion on this subject at the Tri-School Site Council on Monday, April 2 at 3:30 p.m.

BOARD REPORTS

Board Member Swenson attended a Piedmont Educational Foundation meeting, several WASC meetings and will attend the CHIME Gala on Saturday night.

Board Member Pearson attended the GATE presentation and stated that the GATE Parent Support Group will submit a letter reporting back to Assistant Superintendent Booker.

Board Member Gadbois attended several WASC meetings.

Vice President Raushenbush attended several Bond Steering Committee meetings.

President Tolles attended WASC meetings, Bond Steering Committee meetings, and a Curriculum Forum meeting on World Language that discussed the use of technology in teaching world languages.

Board Member Pearson announced that the Spring Fling will be held on May 5 and tickets go on sale tomorrow. There is an active auction site online and people are encouraged to bid on items now.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Vice President Raushenbush, seconded by Board Member Gadbois and passed unanimously to approve all items on the Consent Calendar as presented:

- A. Approve one Individual Service Agreement with Speech, Inc., to provide services for one student, effective March 12, 2012 through June 30, 2012, at a total cost not to exceed \$ 3060.00. Funding: Special Education
- B. Approve one Independent Contractor Agreement with Melissa Wenters, Au.D, to provide an evaluation and written report, effective March 23, 2012 through March 30, 2012, at a cost not to exceed \$800.00. Funding: Special Education
- C. Approve one reimbursement to parents for non public school costs from Orion Academy, effective March 20, 2012 through June 30, 2012 at a total cost not to exceed \$7,500.00. Funding: Special Education

FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

D. Approve CIF Multi-District Application for 2012-13

E. Approve Personnel Action Report

→ **SUBJECT TO CHANGE** ←

- Mid-Year Update on Action Plan (April)
- Discuss Items for 2012-13 Contract Reopeners Between the District and the California School Employees Association, Chapter 60 (CSEA), Public Hearing #1 (March-April)
- Use of Athletic Facilities (TBD)
- Review and Approve Facilities Funding Agreement for Upkeep of City and School District Athletic Facilities ("Preservation 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 Ed Board Policies (TBD)
- Review of Board Bylaws (Section 9000) (TBD)
- Technology Infrastructure and Bandwidth (TBD)

There being no further business, and with no objection by the Board, President Tolles adjourned the meeting at 9:48 p.m.

Adjournment



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



CONSTANCE HUBBARD
Secretary, Piedmont Unified School District
Board of Education