

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

MINUTES OF  
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

May 23, 2012

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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 6:31 p.m. to discuss: A. Conference with District Labor Negotiator Constance Hubbard Regarding Negotiations with Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT) (Government Code Section 54956.6) B. Conference with District Labor Negotiator Constance Hubbard Regarding Negotiations with California State Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 60 (Government Code Section 54956.6)
Others Present in Closed Session	Superintendent Constance Hubbard Michael Brady, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Randall Booker, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Reconvene to Regular Session	President Tolles called the Regular Session of the Board of Education to order at 7:10 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 Randall Booker, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Report of Action Taken in Closed Session	President Tolles reported that no action was taken in closed session.
Agenda Adjustments	Superintendent Hubbard said that Item D on the Consent Calendar was removed because of some changes. The Presentation of Check from Beach Parents Organization (Item VI. A. 1.) is being moved to the top of the agenda due to a time conflict with a student event beginning at 7:30 p.m.
VI. REVIEW & ACTION ITEMS Presentation of Check from Beach Parents Organization (BPO) for Beach Project	Superintendent Brady introduced Tina Coleman, President of BPO, and Laura Katter, who ran the capital campaign that raised money for the Beach theatre, site work and gardens. Ms. Coleman and Ms. Potter presented a check in the amount of \$192,500. John Gibbs, the landscape architect who designed the Beach garden addition, spoke about his vision for a garden design that respects the historic nature of the facility, builds on the garden program and looks ahead for the next 80 years, building sustainability and creative arts into the plans. It includes plans for edible and rain gardens. Principal Julie Valdez, who is currently on leave, thanked Assistant Superintendent Brady for his support throughout the project. President Tolles thanked Ms. Coleman and Ms. Katter and the Beach Parents Organization for their hard work and their contribution.

## COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT)

APT President Harlan Mohagen recognized PHS seniors attending the meeting to fulfill a Civics requirement. She recognized Diana Feiger, who served on the Evaluation Committee, and thanked Piedmont Educational Foundation for their support of the work on the evaluation document. In a recent faculty meeting, several teachers working on National Board Certification presented their action-research projects. Susan Simonds, ceramics teacher, created a digital portfolio for each student that will grow as they move forward with their work. Mark Cowherd and Ken Brown, World History, used Data Director to do a pretest before the study unit, compared results with standards, and fine-tuned their instruction to focus on weak areas. Doing a post-test using the same test allowed them to assess areas of strength and weakness. Doyle O'Regan, math teacher, used parent-student surveys to restructure his teaching.

Ms. Mohagen met with Loni Hancock's office yesterday to discuss the school budget. The Senator is aware that PUSD is underfunded because State funding is not done in a balanced way.

Teacher John White is going to the National Assembly of the National Education Association (NEA) as a representative of APT in order to present our evaluation process at the national level.

### CSEA

None

### Parent Clubs

None

### Student Representative to Board

Karina Chan, Student Representative, reported the prom was a lot of fun, and that winners of the Bird Calling Contest will be on the Letterman show this evening. ASB had a constitutional convention last week and passed some changes in the ASB Constitution: rules are moving into the amendments section so they cannot be changed without a vote by students, and the way officers are voted on will change so that the top vote-getter will be ASB President and the runner-up, will be Vice President. The softball and baseball teams are playing today in the first round of the NCS.

### Persons Wishing to Speak to Any Item Not Listed on the Agenda

President Tolles explained that the Board cannot discuss or take action on any item that is not on the agenda. He further emphasized that it is not the role of the Board to be involved in personnel policy, and personnel matters are never discussed in Board meetings.

Forrest Yeh, PHS Senior; Ellen Davis, PHS Senior and lead sports medicine trainer; Lauren Remer, Junior at PHS; David Hosler, PHS Senior; Sean Cooper, PHS Senior; Aiden Retherford, PHS Senior; Nate Mamuyac, PHS Senior; Storm Brandenburg; Julie Abrahamson; Nathan Wong; Patrick Pasters, PHS Senior; Michael Garrett, 2011 graduate of PHS; Stephen Turney, PHS Senior; Katrina Cooper, 2008 PHS Graduate and Edna Cooper, parent, expressed their concerns about Stan Nakahara resigning and no longer being the ROP Sports Medicine teacher and sports trainer for the District. Each speaker expressed their appreciation for Mr. Nakahara's work and involvement with our athletics programs.

Marshall Wentworth, PHS Senior, expressed his concern about the limited number of advanced classes and he would like to see more Honors classes without the AP requirement, particularly Honors Pre-Calculus.

Superintendent Announcements

The Baseball and Boy's La Crosse teams are in the NCS playoffs, and the ROP program in Sports Med will continue next year. Parents should look in school newsletters for a link to a calendar survey for the 2013-14 academic year.

Board President Announcements

None.

## REVIEW & ACTION ITEMS

Seismic Safety Bond Program Budget Update

David Burke, Program Manager for the Seismic Safety Bond Program (SSBP), reported on the budget. Seismic strengthening and modernization of Beach Elementary School remains on budget and on schedule for completion before the 2012-13 school year. The overall budget for the SSBP remains unchanged at the original level of \$69.1 million. There is currently \$70.8M in funds received for the SSBP, with total funding is anticipated to be \$73.8M.

The Seismic Safety Bond Program is funded with \$56 million in general obligation bonds approved by Piedmont voters; State matching funds for seismic strengthening and modernization (\$16.1M); contributions from the City of Piedmont (\$1.2 million for Havens Schoolmates and playfield) and donations of more than \$458k. The increase in overall funding comes from PUSD's successful applications for additional funds from a variety of State sources, including Proposition 1D funds, and nearly \$500,000 in community donations.

Although the *timing* of State matching funds has been slowed by the State fiscal crisis, the *amount* of State funding exceeded original estimates by more than \$4 million. PUSD has received approximately \$13.1M in modernization funds, including \$1.1M in new construction funding and \$1.1M in seismic safety funds under Prop 1D. The District has utilized modernization funds for seismic projects at all school sites, and awaits \$3M in additional State-approved funding for new construction and modernization at Beach Elementary.

PUSD's contract with Cahill Contractors, Inc. for the Beach project is for \$8.16 million. Although Cahill is expected to submit roughly \$250,000 in change order requests, these can be paid with funds remaining in the Beach construction budget (including project contingency of \$344,594), as well as contributions raised by the Beach community (\$192,615).

Sara Valkonen, incoming President of the Havens Parents Club, spoke about efforts at Havens to create a sustainable, edible school garden. Parents are in the process of creating a master plan that will include a teaching garden and play spaces. Phase I plans include the garden and a retaining wall, with other items to come later. Science teacher Terry Smith is working with the Site Council to update the 2012-13 Single Plan for Student Achievement to reflect the use of the garden.

Review of Concept for Alan Harvey Theatre

Mark Becker, Volunteer Designer, spoke about the Alan Harvey Theatre (AHT). While the theatre presents seismic and accessibility issues, the seismic concerns were not severe. At this point, the roof needs replacement, the bathrooms are inadequate and there is limited accessibility within the theatre. In redesigning the space, Mr. Becker took into consideration the needs of the Theatre Depart-

Review of Project/Program Priorities for Seismic Safety Bond Program Funds; Recommendation for Allocation of Funds for High Priority, Time-Sensitive Projects

ment for a teaching space and storage space for props. Mr. Becker presented preliminary drawings for a plan that would add a wing of about 3,500 sq. ft. toward Magnolia. The new wing would encompass a classroom, a small 64-seat theatre and new bathrooms. It would create a ticket booth and a presence on Magnolia Avenue, along with an elevator that would come to mid-level within the theatre, which would be reconfigured to contain 350 seats.

David Hosler, PHS Senior, asked the board to consider sound and audio needs and said the ASB has had to provide its own sound system as the wireless mics do not work.

Superintendent Hubbard thanks Mr. Becker and his family for again working to improve things for the district. It is a big deal to have a preliminary plan done and helps move the process forward.

Superintendent Hubbard reviewed the Seismic Safety Bond Program (SSBP) priorities for funding. As PUSD nears completion of the SSBP on time and within budget, the Board will need to consider whether, how and when to spend any remaining funds, which may be used for the following purposes: seismic strengthening, improving accessibility and/or modernization of facilities; early repayment of Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) to save taxpayers money; or the creation of an earthquake emergency fund.

The SSBP Steering Committee has developed a list of possible uses for remaining funds, and recommends that PUSD approve the following projects, some of which is work already identified by the Board as both high-priority and time-sensitive. Approval in June would allow for some of the work to begin or even be completed during this summer, though it is anticipated that the roofing/HVAC work would be done during summer 2013. The Steering Committee recommends that all other decisions about use of the funds be deferred until the fall, when more information will be available about the final budget for the Beach project and the schedule for receipt of remaining State funding.

Based on necessity, fiscal efficiency, safety and timeliness, the SSBP Steering Committee recommends approval of the following projects:

- replacement of deficient roofs and HVAC equipment
- install shade trellises at elementary school sites
- review of accessibility and safety of Alan Harvey Theatre

Work on the roofs at Beach, AHT and Wildwood and HVAC systems at Beach, Wildwood, AHT and PMS would be performed in the summer of 2013. The estimated cost, not including AHT, is close to \$200k. It is expected that AHT roof work would be done in conjunction with other AHT work. The shade trellises for Havens and Wildwood would be installed this summer at an estimated cost of \$60,000. The Committee is recommending beginning to address AHT issues by allocating \$100,000 for conceptual design and planning of a range of safety and accessibility improvements for AHT.

President Tolles explained the importance of moving forward with these critical projects. We have nearly \$2M and want to spend \$1M now; we will probably have a total of \$3 - \$4M. Much of the money

for AHT would have to come from private donations.

Vice President Tolles reminded everyone that modernization money may only be used for capital projects and cannot be used to pay for teachers or operating expenses.

Superintendent Hubbard said a number of parents and community members are very interested in supporting the theatre as a community resource.

The Board discussed the merits of approving all or some of the projects tonight versus waiting for the next Board meeting to allow additional time for public comment. The advantage to moving forward tonight is that some of the approval processes are time-consuming and people are available now to do the work; postponing now would mean putting it off until August. Also there is not much likelihood that the proposal would change.

Community member George Childs congratulated the Board and staff for their success on the projects and solving mind-boggling problems. As "the guy who says don't spend money," he concurs with quite a few of the recommendations. He would like to see some of the money go into early repayment of bond funds to save taxpayers money and to the establishment of an earthquake emergency fund.

Brad Mitchell, Beach parent and member of the BPO Fundraising Committee, brought up the questions of shade structures at Beach and why they were not mentioned in the plans. His concern is that until the trees grow, there is no shade near play areas.

Assistant Superintendent Brady explained that it is best to wait until Beach is completed and then see how the site is utilized by students. At this point, any modifications to the plans prior to completion would require special approval from DSA.

The motion was made by Vice President Raushenbush to approve the recommendation for allocation of funds as presented, seconded by Board Member Swenson and unanimously approved.

Superintendent Hubbard presented the schedule for Board meetings, which generally fall on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. This item is being brought back for a second time after checking possible meeting conflicts.

The motion was made by Ray Gadbois to approve the Board Meeting schedule as presented, seconded by Sarah Pearson and unanimously approved.

Adopt Schedule of Regular Board Meetings for 2012-13

## REVIEW & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Educational Services Report:  
Spotlight on Student Learning

A. 47th Annual Bird Calling Contest

Assistant Superintendent Booker announced that the winners of the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Bird Calling Contest are performing tonight on the CBS Late Show with David Letterman. This has happened for a number of years, but is not automatic; every year we wait for their invitation. This year the contest focused much more on the bird call itself and the authenticity of the performance. The winners were as follows:

1st Place - Greater Prairie Chicken  
Cameron Anderson, Tlalli Moya Smith, Sheli Schacker

2nd Place - Green Heron

Fenua Ibabao

3rd Place - California Quail

Wes Dunlap, Lawrence Ma, William Meredith

Patrick Pastors, PHS graduate, performed in the contest his junior and senior years and said it was an amazing experience.

B. Report on Governor's May Budget  
Revise

Assistant Superintendent Brady explained what was learned at the recent School Services workshop on the Governor's May Budget revise. The news was not good: If neither initiative passes in November, the per pupil loss would be \$441; with approximately 2,500 students, we stand to lose about \$1.1M. The budget may not be settled until after school starts. As it is there has been no new state funding since 2007-8. We receive 78 cents of every dollar the State owes us, which represents a 22.1% deficit factor. It has not been like this since the 2004-5 school year.

When times are poor, the State promises more money based on Prop 98 guarantees. The State average is \$8,800 per child. If the measures pass in the fall, we will be at \$5,255, a difference of about \$600 below what we received in 2007-08. If both measure fail, we will be at \$4,814 per student, which does not include categorical funding (e.g., GATE, class-size reduction funds) that has also been cut by 22%.

As a whole, State spending per student is \$2,700 below the national average of \$11,000 per year. Piedmont spends \$11,000 per year per pupil, which is the national average and suggests District expenses per pupil are not excessive.

The new budget could take PUSD below the worst year since the economic crisis began, and as of June 30 there is no emergency parcel tax to support current programs.

President Tolles said that Measure E was based on a fiscal recovery in several years and it does not look like this is happening. It is clear that spending makes a difference, and numbers show that schools in top-funded states have the highest student performances. Piedmont's experience reflects this and our student scores are second and third in the State for unified school districts. It is disgusting that California is near the bottom in school spending.

Assistant Superintendent Brady stated that the final budget to be presented in June for adoption will use a figure of \$441 in additional cuts per pupil. The next budget will be similar to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim Budget and, with the expected trigger cuts, will show a minimum \$1.2M shortfall in 2013-14.

Superintendent Hubbard explained that in August our budget will show three-year projections. The County Office of Education will look to legally identify shortfalls, and our multi-year projections will never be positively certified. By December, when we need to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Budget, we will know about state funding. If there are additional cuts, more than half the school districts in the state will have qualified or negatively certified budgets.

Elizabeth Haney, Senior at PHS, asked if the State gives us less money because we get so much from fundraising and citizens and keep up standards. Superintendent Hubbard explained that what we receive is based on a formula but we are not punished because of the parcel tax revenue. They do not care that we keep up our

standards.

Ms. Haney understands that the State ADA per student is \$55 on average and that ours is \$35 a day. Superintendent Hubbard said that \$55 is not correct; most are between \$27 and \$35 and ours is now \$29. We also have a low student-teacher ratio. The amount of State funding per district goes back to the 1970s when Prop 13 was passed. To make funding more equitable bands were created to level out quirks in funding.

Patrick Pasters asked how much ADA affects funding overall. Superintendent Hubbard explained that we get 96% of what we are promised. If students attend more, we get more. It makes a difference and also re-benchs what we get the following year. Mr. Brady added that 55% of our funding comes from the State and the rest is made up of contributions (36%), including the parcel tax, parent donations and other categorical and Federal funding (9%).

## INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CORRESPONDENCE

Board Member Gadbois reported that the Board received the following:

- 1 or 2 emails regarding a personnel issue were passed on the staff and full Board
- parent input regarding the SSBP and approving priorities, including support for elementary gardens as a priority
- an email with information on KIP and a suggestion that Piedmont consider a charter school program, plus a link to Linked-In CEO Jeff Weiner's proposal for public education

Board Member Swenson received a phone call about the grandparent issue and if it will be revisited

Vice President Raushenbush received an email about Piedmont offering an International Baccalaureate degree, which he forwarded to Assistant Superintendent Booker. He received an email about Piedmont Language School program benefits for the elementary and middle schools.

### BOARD REPORTS

Board Member Swenson attended numerous meetings including a tech meeting and the Portal Advisory Committee.

Board Member Pearson attended several meetings and events including the Wildwood Science Fair, in which all 5<sup>th</sup> graders participated, and the Appreciating Diversity fundraiser at Yoshi's.

Board Member Gadbois attended a parcel tax planning meeting and is proud to announce that the high school varsity tennis team won the NCS Division 2 championship.

Vice President Raushenbush attended a City-School District Liaison meeting, a parcel tax planning meeting and the Bond Steering committee meeting, as well as several other meetings.

President Tolles attended the steering committee, the fundraiser at Yoshi's, the Havens Book Fair and the School Services conference.

### CONSENT CALENDAR

President Tolles asked for a motion to remove Item D – the agreement for professional services with Dannis Woliver Kelly. He acknowledged a generous donation from James and Sue-Lan Lin. It was moved by Board Member Gadbois, seconded by Board

Member Pearson and passed unanimously to approve all items on the Consent Calendar as presented, with the removal of Item D.

- A. Adopt Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2012
- B. Accept Donation
- C. Approve Personnel Action Report
- E. Approve Student Trip for seven PHS and Millennium students to travel to New York City from May 21 – 23, 2012, to appear on the Late Show with David Letterman
- F. Approve one Individual Service Agreement with Quality Behavioral Outcomes (QBO), to provide therapy for one student, effective May 14, 2012 through September 30, 2012, at a total cost not to exceed \$2,200.00. Funding: Special Education
- G. Approve two Individual Service Agreements with Behavioral Intervention Associates (BIA), to provide behavioral therapy for two students, effective May 9, 2012 through June 30, 2012, at a total cost not to exceed \$18,359.10. Funding: Special Education
- H. Reimburse parents of one student, for four weeks of ESY tuition costs, effective June 18, 2012 through July 13, 2012, at a cost not to exceed \$2,940.00. Funding: Special Education

#### FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

President Tolles said the final or almost final Beach GMP will be brought back later. The final budget will be brought back on June 27<sup>th</sup>, and Ms. Pearson will be unable to attend that meeting.

Harlan Mohagen asked when retirees will be honored. Superintendent Hubbard is doing a survey of the retirees to see which June meeting date is better, since the next Board meeting is also the last day of class for students, the last day of work for teachers and the day of PHS graduation.

- →           SUBJECT TO CHANGE           ←
- Adopt Resolution to "Transfer Categorical Funds to Other District Eligible State Programs"- (June 13)"
- Increase in GMP for Beach Elementary School (June)
- Adopt Final 2012-13 budget (June 27)
- Review of Updated GASB Actuarial Report (June)
- 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 Education Board Policies (TBD)



- Review of Board Bylaws (Section 9000) (TBD)
- Technology Infrastructure and Modernization (TBD)

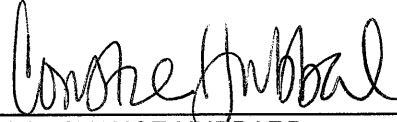
Adjournment

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