

PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Council Chambers, City Hall

120 Vista Avenue

Piedmont, California 94611

MINUTES OF

Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

April 22, 2015

CALL TO ORDER	President Andrea Swenson called the meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 p.m.
ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM	President Andrea Swenson, Vice President Sarah Pearson and Board Members Amal Smith, Doug Ireland and Rick Raushenbush were present.
Adjourn to Closed Session	The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:31 p.m. to discuss: Conference with District Labor Negotiator Constance Hubbard Regarding Negotiations with Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT) (Government Code Section 54956.6)
Others Present in Closed Session	Constance Hubbard, Superintendent
Reconvene to Regular Session	President Swenson called the Regular Session of the Board of Education to order at 7:05 p.m. and led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
Others Present at Regular Session	Constance Hubbard, Superintendent Randall Booker, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Michael Brady, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Report of Action Taken in Closed Session	The Board met in closed session and no action was taken
Agenda Adjustments	No action was taken in closed session.
COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT)	None
CSEA	None
Parent Clubs	None
Student Representative to Board	Claire O'Connor, PHS senior, reported that students enjoyed their spring break with many of them going on the trip to Mexico or touring colleges. The Bird Calling Contest was a huge success. The AP Art Show opened last week and tomorrow night there will be an art show in the PHS Library of the work of all art students. The Senior Ball and Prom will be held May 9, and Day on the Green at Witter Field will be May 22. The spring sports teams are doing well.
Persons Requesting to Speak on Items Not on the Agenda	Arthur Weil, Piedmont resident, spoke about being part of the Kinder Transport program that saved the lives of 1200 children during World War II. He was a history teacher and has spoken to many classes at many schools. He would like to speak at PHS and would appreciate better communication with the high school. Luke Smith, PHS senior, would like the high school to consider having a master assignment schedule in google docs so that teachers can coordinate the larger assignments. He feels this would reduce student stress and improve the quality of student work. Sophia Mills, PHS senior, brought up the issue of water usage. She suggested the District reallocate our water usage and not sell bottled

water, much of which comes from California aquifers. Mr. Brady said that after the Governor's announcement of a water emergency, he met with maintenance and ground crews to discuss this issue. Irrigation water to beds has been turned off and only the learnscapes will be irrigated. Bare spots are being mulched and this project will be completed by autumn. Baseball fields are being manually watered and The District is looking into bottle-filling stations

Apryl Hsu, PHS Senior, says that street parking has gotten worse over the years. She knows of some school districts that issue permits and would like to see if PUSD could issue permits and control parking around the schools.

Abby Hansen, PHS senior, would like there to be more trash cans. She believes that it would be easier to recycle and the campus would be cleaner if there were more cans. Mr. Booker said he can meet with the school to determine some good locations for additional recycling stations.

Superintendent Announcements

An information night for parents of incoming Kindergarteners will be held on Tuesday, April 28 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Beach Auditorium.

President Announcements

The Piedmont Fire Department is holding an open house on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to demonstrate their new fire engine and provide information on fire prevention. East Bay MUD will be there with information about water conservation.

REVIEW AND ACTION ITEMS

Announcement of Available Funds for the Piedmont Educational Foundation Endowment Fund for 2015-16. Hold Public Hearing as to Use of Funds

Superintendent Hubbard explained that the annual Piedmont Educational Foundation Endowment contribution provides a stable source of funds for the District. The process is that the foundation announces the amount and the Board hold a public hearing to discuss the amount to accept and the use of the funds. The superintendent then drafts a letter to the PEF describing the amount the Board is accepting and the use of the funds.

Update of Proposal to Combine the Fundraising Functions of Piedmont Educational Foundation (PEF) and the Association of Piedmont Parent Clubs (APCP)

Mary Ireland, President of the PED, announced that the endowment amount for this year is \$275K, which represents 5% of the total of the endowment fund, which is at almost \$6M. Last year the endowment amount was \$250k. Every year's endowment contribution becomes the floor for the subsequent year's endowment amount. Ms. Hubbard recommended that the money be used to support the K-12 Counseling and Library programs and electives at the secondary level. The additional \$25k will be used to support computer science education. The Board directed the superintendent to submit a letter requesting the funds and explaining their use.

Ms. Ireland described work on the merger between the PEF and the APCP, which has been in process for almost a year. The committee has synthesized a formal agreement, which was approved by the PEF at their meeting last week. APCP is expected to approve the agreement at their next meeting.

First Reading of New Piedmont High School Course: *Weight Training and Fitness*

Piedmont High School proposed a course in *Weight Training and Fitness*. PHS Principal Brent Daniels said this course will provide an opportunity for students who are not inclined toward competitive sports, and will allow the school to offer a second semester of upper division PE. The course will be brought back at the next meeting for adoption on the consent calendar.

Robbie Diaz, PHS senior, supports the course and likes the idea of offering this class in the junior or senior year when students are

Conduct Public Hearing on the Proposed Levy of the Current School Support Tax, Measure A, To Be Levied in 2015-16

becoming more sedentary as they spend more time studying.

As required by Measure A, which was passed by Piedmont voters on March 5, 2013, the Board held a public hearing to consider the amount of the tax levy for 2015-16. Measure A provided for a subcommittee of voters to review District expenditures and recommend to the Board a tax levy amount for the subsequent year.

Tamra Hege presented the recommendation of the School Support Tax Subcommittee. The recommendation was to raise the levy by 2% and place the money in a parcel tax reserve fund. The committee members were Tamra Hege, Gautam Wadhvani, Susan Miller-Davis, Vicky O'Bresly and Andy Hempeck. Gautam Wadhvani spoke in support of the recommendation.

The Board received one email from a community member requesting no increase in the amount.

Bill Blackwell spoke about the structure of Measure A. He believes the Board has a moral imperative to replace the current tax structure with a more equitable tax. It is his opinion that the law and the courts will allow for different tax rates based on size of the buildings.

Board President Swenson responded to Mr. Blackwell's suggestion, explaining that the Board has retained a legal opinion on this matter. Mr. Raushenbush said the court decision clearly states that all parcels must pay the same exact tax. To adopt a new measure that would expose the District to a lawsuit is not consistent with the fiduciary responsibility of the board.

Board members discussed the levy of the tax and were in agreement to increase the levy to the statutory level of \$2,503 per parcel from the current rate of \$2,4554 per parcel and to put the additional 2% into a reserve fund. They agreed to include discussion on the structure of the tax during the annual public hearing in subsequent years.

Amal Smith moved and Doug Ireland seconded a motion to increase the parcel tax levy by the allowable 2% and to place the 2% increase in a parcel tax reserve fund. The Board voted to approve the motion by a vote of 5-0.

Approve Publication of Request for Proposals (RFP) Regarding Facilities Master Planning Services

Mr. Brady explained that the Board has directed staff to set aside modernization funds to be used in the development of a Facilities Master Plan to assess facilities needs and prioritize needed improvements. The District would like to publish a Request for Proposals (RFP) Regarding Facilities Master Planning Services. The RFP would seek architectural firms to partner with the district to provide complete master planning services. The scope of services includes: an evaluation of District facilities; developing future facilities needs and alternatives; focusing on educational goals and maintenance standards; preparation of a digital Facilities Master Plan; facilitation and presentation of the Facilities Master Plan to the community and Governing Board.

Mr. Raushenbush moved and Ms. Pearson seconded a motion to Approve Publication of Request for Proposals Regarding Facilities Master Planning Services. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

Every year, the District is required to adopt a Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators, which would allow the District to hire a teacher who is in an internship program or scheduled to complete the initial preparation requirements toward a credential. The District has not needed to do this and has 100% fully qualified teachers.

Ms. Pearson moved and Mr. Raushenbush seconded a motion to Approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators. The motion passed on a vote of 5-0.

INFORMATIONDISCUSSION

Report on Bond Refunding

As reported by KNN Public Finance, the Bond sale went well. The proceeds will be used to repay the District's outstanding 2006 Measure E Series A and Series B Bonds. As a result of the refunding, taxpayers will save \$3.4M over the next 17 years. The District's Standard and Poor's rating increased from AA to AA+, our highest rating.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Hubbard announced that Jenn Fox was unanimously chosen as the Art Hecht Volunteer of the Year. She is known by all for her wonderful photography but many do not know that she actively participates in all types of school committees and events. At the May 13th Board meeting, Ms. Fox will be honored and will receive a work of art of her choice from the PHS AP Art Show. The student artist will be honored and given an honorarium. The son of Art Hecht, Seven Hecht, and his family will attend this meeting and the District is inviting previous winners.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Smith received a couple of emails about an article by a Palo Alto student on student stress and an NPR story on South Korean education and levels of stress. She received several comments on David Brook's op-ed piece in the *New York Times* on the moral bucket list. A PHS student asked about how decisions are made about internet restrictions on District-owned chromebooks. One email asked for information on how the parcel tax is assessed and another email provided information on the ALPS spring event. She also received a series of emails about the bird calling contest.

BOARD REPORTS

Mr. Raushenbush attended a Beach Parents Organization meeting on elementary math and technology. He and President Swenson met with Tony Thurmond, our legislative representative, to discuss our concerns about the reserve cap and the pension obligations.

Mr. Ireland attended a well attended college chat for parents at the high school. He recently participated in Adult Ed and was pleased to discover a vibrant community of adult learners. He participated in the Mexico trip.

Ms. Smith also participated in the Mexico trip, attended a presentation by the Wellness Center on "Helping Kids Navigate Social Pressures" and a tour of the Wellness Center. She went with the PHS Baseball Team to a Cal baseball game. She attended the Wildwood Parents Club and the Tri-School Site Council, and heard a speaker on "Access, Equity and Standards for Math Practice" at the UC Office of the President.

Ms. Pearson attended a Green Committee meeting, the ALPS Board meeting and heard a holocaust speaker at PHS. She attended an evening for PHS parents that included an update on the schedule and a teacher panel on social-emotional learning opportunities at PHS; she learned more about Camp Everytown, and other opportunities such as Open Session discussions in PE classes, Ground Crew, service learning and mindfulness training, which is being implemented in more classes. She heard an excellent presentation for teachers done by Corey Booker on the topic "Facing History and Ourselves." She urged people to attend the PADC fundraiser at Yoshi's on April 30.

Ms. Swenson attended a Public Safety Committee meeting, the PMS

Site council, the PHS Parent Club, a PEF meeting and a meeting of Board members and CSBA reps at the Alameda County Office of Education. She also participated in the meeting with Assemblymember Thurmond.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Ms. Swenson thanked a number of contributors for their donation of \$500 to support the PHS Baseball program..

Ms. Smith moved and Ms. Pearson seconded the motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

- A. Approve Minutes of Board of Education Meeting for March 11, 2015
- B. Approve Minutes of Board of Education Meeting for March 25, 2015
- C. Approve Financial Report for March 2015
- D. Approve Personnel Action Report
- E. Approve Williams Report for the First Quarter of 2015
- F. Accept contributions of \$500 from each of the following contributors to support the Piedmont High School Baseball program: Roy Tolles; Natalie Williamson; Billie Joe & Adrienne Armstrong; Virginia & Douglas Paton; Tibor Laczay & Julia Zhen; Clarence Mamuyac; Dave Larson; and Debbie DeMaggio for uniform and equipment purchases for the three PHS baseball teams and a new scoreboard for Humphries Field, and shall be deposited in the Capital Facilities Fund (Fund 40).
- G. Approve Field Trip for 9 PHS/MHS Students Representing the three Top Teams in the Bird Calling Contest to Appear on the Late Show in New York City from April 20-22, 2015.
- H. Approve Field Trip for 10 PHS Students to Participate in the Junior State of America Spring State Program in Santa Clara from April 24-26, 2015.
- I. Approve School Accountability Report Card (SARC), 2012-13, for all Piedmont Schools: Beach Elementary, Havens Elementary, Wildwood Elementary, Piedmont Middle School, Piedmont High School, Millennium High School.
SARCs will be posted to the District website and the California Department of Education website once approved by the Board.
- J. Approve Updated Medical Clearance & Emergency Contact Form for PHS Department of Athletics.
- K. Approve contract for "ACOENet" for the connection to the statewide K-20 network (K12 high speed network) and related maintenance and support. Amount: \$28,500.00. Funding Source: General Fund.
- L. Approve Proposal between Piedmont USD and Total Compensation Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$4,900 for the purpose of an actuarial evaluation to satisfy Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 45 requirements. Funding Source: General Fund
- M. Approve Contract between Piedmont USD and Arbitrage Compliance Specialists, Inc. in the amount of \$2,900, to review arbitrage compliance on General Obligation Bonds, Election of 2006, Series C, and 2009 General Obligation Refunding Bonds. Funding Source: Bond Fund

- N. Ratify Contract between Piedmont USD and Axiom Analytix in the amount of \$2,000 for the non-block grant mandate reimbursement services. General Fund
- O. Approve 2015-16 Independent Contractor Agreement Between Piedmont USD and Jessica Lahey for services to be provided on November 17, 2015 for the Education Speaker Series in the 2015-16 school year. Amount: \$4,000. Funding Source: Piedmont Adult School. These funds were raised by the Education Speaker Series and deposited with the Adult School.
- P. Approve 2015-16 Independent Contractor Agreement Between Piedmont USD and Shauna Shapiro for services to be provided on September 15, 2015 for the Education Speaker Series in the 2015-16 school year. Amount: \$3,500. Funding source: Adult School. These funds were raised by the Education Speaker Series and deposited with the Adult School.
- Q. Ratify Contract between Piedmont USD and Homestead Design Collective in the amount of \$6,500 for the purpose of landscape design for Havens School. Funding Source: Modernization
- R. Ratify 2014-15 Independent Contractor Agreement between Piedmont USD and Megan Hernandez to serve in the capacity as Piedmont High School Assistant Athletic Director and Water Polo coach. Amount: \$18,304. Funding Source: PHS Athletics
- S. Ratify Independent Contractor Agreement between Piedmont USD and Avi Black to serve as a Contractor for Service Learning Projects at Piedmont High School. Amount: \$4,000. Funding Source: PHS Parents Club
- T. Ratify Independent Contractor Agreement between Piedmont USD and Rich Fongheiser, a Musician, for the Piedmont High School student musical performance, *Footloose*. Amount: \$500. Funding Source: High School Drama Program
- U. Ratify Independent Contractor Agreement between Piedmont USD and Adam Thompson, a Musician for the Piedmont High School student musical performance, *Footloose*. Amount: \$500. Funding Source: High School Drama Program
- V. Ratify Independent Contractor Agreement between Piedmont USD and East Bay Music/Cue Productions to provide Audio Support services for the Piedmont High School student musical performance, *Footloose*. Amount: \$3,510.40. Funding Source: High School Drama Program
- W. Ratify Independent Contractor Agreement Between Piedmont USD and Abby Medcalf for Speaker services provided on March 24, 2015 for the Education Speaker Series. Amount: \$500. Funding source: Adult School.
- X. Ratify Independent Contractor Agreement between Piedmont USD and Virginia Rush Sabistron Frank to serve as an Open Session Trainer at Piedmont High School. Amount: \$750. Funding Source: PHS Parents Club
- Y. Ratify Independent Contractor Agreement between Piedmont USD and Premiere Protective Services to serve as Security for the ASB Student Dance at Piedmont High School on March 27, 2015. Amount: \$650. Funding Source: PHS / ASB
- Z. Ratify Independent Contractor Agreement between Piedmont

USD and Traveling Joe Espresso Catering to serve as a Caterer at Piedmont Middle School on May 4, 2015. Amount: \$511. Funding Source: PMS / PRA

- AA. Ratify Independent Contractor Agreement between Piedmont USD and Jaclynn Davis to serve as a Guest Speaker at Millennium High School on April 1, 2015. Amount: \$100. Funding Source: PUSD Wellness Center
- BB. Ratify Contract between Piedmont USD and Sign Co USA in the amount of \$274.38 for the purpose of producing and installing ADA compliant signage at Piedmont High School. Funding Source: Modernization
- CC. Ratify Contract between Piedmont USD and H.A. Bowen Electric in the amount of \$8,890.00 for the purpose of installation services for ceiling fan project at Wildwood Elementary School. Funding Source: Modernization
- DD. Ratify Contract between Piedmont USD and Pacific Power & Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$22,773 for the purpose of installation services for ceiling fan project at Beach Elementary School. Funding Source: Modernization
- EE. Ratify Contract between Piedmont USD and City Electric Service Inc. in the amount of \$11,675 for the purpose of installation services for ceiling fan project at Havens Elementary School. Funding Source: Modernization
- FF. Approve 18 Independent Contractor Agreements for Piedmont Middle School Diversity Day to cover speakers' fees. Total amount of all Agreements: \$7,150. Funding Source: PMS / ASB
- GG. Approve one amendment to an Independent Service Agreement with Spectrum Center, to provide nonpublic services to one student, effective January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015, at a total cost not to exceed \$3,250.50. Funding: Special Education
- HH. Approve one reimbursement to parent of one student, for nonpublic services to one student, effective January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015, at a total cost not to exceed \$904.59. Funding: Special Education
- II. Approve one reimbursement to parent of one student, for nonpublic services to one student, effective January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015, at a total cost not to exceed \$5,958.15. Funding: Special Education

XI. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Raushenbush would like to get an update on the evaluation process and would like to see an item about a master assignment schedule.

President Swenson announced that there will be no Board of Education meeting in July.

—————> SUBJECT TO CHANGE <—————

- PMS/PHS/MHS Math Courses – First Reading (May 13)
- Elementary Math Curriculum Adoption – First Reading (May 13)
- Elementary Math Curriculum Adoption – Second Reading (May 27)
- LCAP Update (May 27)
- First Reading of 2015-16 Budget (June 10)

- LCAP – First Reading (June 10)
- Adopt 2015-16 Budget (June 24)
- LCAP – Second Reading (June 24)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

andrea swenson

ANDREA SWENSON

Board President, Piedmont Unified School District
Board of Education

Constance Hubbard

CONSTANCE HUBBARD

Secretary, Piedmont Unified School District
Board of Education