

*Subject to Board Approval*  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD  
OF THE HERMOSA BEACH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Hermosa Beach City Council Chambers**  
**1315 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254**  
**March 11, 2009**

- CLOSED SESSION: Dr. Beck reported that the Board of Education took action to release nine temporary and substitute certificated employees.
- CALL TO ORDER: The open session was called to order by Dr. Beck at 7:33 p.m.
- MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Linda Beck, Board President; Mrs. Barbara Zondiros, Board Clerk; Mr. Gregory Breen, Mrs. Lisa Claypoole and Mr. Lance Widman were present.
- STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Bruce Newlin, Superintendent; Mrs. Angela Jones, Business Manager; Mrs. Tiffany Rudek, Valley Principal, Mr. Jason Butcher, Assistant Principal; Mr. David Carver, Maintenance & Operations Worker; Miss Darcy Mellinger, Kindergarten teacher; Mrs. Tracy Robinson, 2nd grade teacher; Mrs. Deborah Stadler, K-5 music teacher, and Ms. Michelle Meraz, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Students from the Hermosa Valley School Science Olympiad Team
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Widman requested that item B-58-08/09, Amended Agreement on School Counseling Services with the South Bay Children's Health Center be moved to Board Action.
- It was moved by Mrs. Claypoole, seconded by Mr. Widman, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the agenda as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.
- APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: It was moved by Mr. Widman, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of February 11, 2009 as presented. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.
- It was moved by Mrs. Zondiros, seconded by Mr. Widman, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the minutes of the Special School Board Meeting of February 25, 2009 as presented. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS/  
BOARD REPORTS: Mrs. Spurrell, middle school science teacher, announced that 2009 was the fourth year that the Hermosa Valley School (HVS) Science Olympiad team participated in the Southern California Regional Science Olympiad Competition. HVS placed 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Overall in the middle school competition. She announced that all of the students on the HVS team earned a medal, and some students earned two medals. Mrs. Spurrell displayed the large trophy that was received for 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. The HVS team will now move onto the State Competition on April 18, 2009. Mrs. Spurrell introduced the HVS Science Olympiad Team members present at the school board meeting: Maggie Hackney, Lisa Lazar, Sarah Ma, Jasmine Mah, Rohan Malpure, Alex Pao, Sylvie Paul, Mac Power, and Francis Ronkowski.

Mrs. Spurrell thanked the parent volunteers whose help was invaluable: Ms. Andrea Lazar, Mr. Gene Mah, Mr. & Mrs. Ronkoski, Mrs. Leyla Woods. She also thanked HVS alumna Erin Weldon who helped to coach the students.

The Board thanked the students on their terrific performance and for representing the school district so well. The students were congratulated on their success.

Mrs. Claypoole reported on the March 2, 2009 the joint Valley & View School Site Council meeting. The main discussion was on Datawise, a computer program that will give the district the ability to measure standardized test scores that aligns with Powerschool. The next School Site Council meetings will be held individually at each school site.

Mrs. Zondiros attended a Project Forward meeting on March 9, 2009. She announced the next Project Forward Town Hall Forum will be on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00a.m. in the Hermosa Beach City Council Chambers. She invited the public to complete a Project Forward Survey. Mrs. Zondiros requested that anyone attending the Town Hall Forum to bring a friend or neighbor. The Project Forward committee has asked what the needs of the school district are, and Mrs. Zondiros has begun compiling a draft of the school district needs.

Mr. Breen attended the Hermosa Beach Education Foundation meeting of March 10, 2009. At this time HBEF is actively searching for board members and reviewing financial transactions. Mr. Breen announced the Annual Hearts of Hermosa Dinner, Dance and Auction on March 21, 2009 at St. Rocke. Volunteers were requested to help with the set-up for the event on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Breen announced that the middle school spring musical, "Wipe Out" begins the weekend of March 20, 2009.

#### COMMUNICATIONS:

##### Audience Oral Communications:

Ms. Darcy Mellinger, Kindergarten teacher, asked for the Board to consider using the National Board Certification as one of the tie-breaker criteria, and/or that this special credential be given some type of importance. Ms. Mellinger stated that the National Board Certificate is valid for ten years, and gives a teacher the ability to teach in all 50 states. She added that some states offer incentives for teachers with this credential to work there.

Mrs. Claypoole requested that staff look into the National Board Certification for future importance.

##### Written Communications:

Mrs. Zondiros received electronic mail from neighbors at Hermosa View School requesting the school district open the Golden Street gate before school, after school and on the weekends. Emails came from: Mrs. Diana Allen, Mr. Mike Butler, Ms. Bryn Dessint, Ms. Annette Gustafson, Mr & Mrs. Chris and Karen Hood, Ms. Lisa Jones, Ms. Wendy Keeler, Ms. Angie Kinel, Mr. Trent Larson, Mrs. Mandi Leonard, Ms. Lili McLean, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew and Nicole McGuinness, Ms. Cindy Midden, Ms. Susan Moore, Mrs. Lisa Pederson, Mr. & Mrs. Keith and Terrie Sanchez, Ms. Lori Sandler Rash, Ms. Chris Scandura, Mrs. Dina Stern, Mr. Mike Stern, Mrs. Bonnie Vogel, Mr. Gary Wigodsky and Ms. Nicole Newman.

Dr. Beck received letter from the Rancho Cucamonga regarding the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly nominations.

Superintendent Report:

Dr. Newlin reported on the following topics:

- Information on Resolution #10:08/09 Reduction or Discontinuance of Particular Kinds of Services for competency criteria – Seniority is an important consideration, but the teacher must be qualified to teach the subject. To “qualify” means experience in the area and a credential to teach in the subject matter. The decision to select five years of recent experience was based on the seven year state cycle of newly adopted frameworks and standards for each subject, and very likely a new instructional materials adoption. If a teacher has not taught in a particular subject area for five years then 72% of the content area, framework and standards will have changed, and in seven years 100% of the content area, framework and standards will have changed. Dr. Newlin stated that there is some generalizability in certain grade levels for example 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades.

Mr. Widman stated that his concern was with losing talented teachers, because they may have not been teaching in a subject for the past five years.

Mrs. Stadler, music teacher, thanked the Board for listening and caring. She hopes that the competency criteria will be brought to the Board again as an action item, and that the Board reconsiders their decision.

Mr. Widman suggested an option of noticing staff that the competency criteria will be included in the 2009-2010 resolution and drop it for this school year, because it was unexpected. Mr. Widman requested that Resolution #10:08/09 be placed on the April board agenda.

Mrs. Zondiros asked if the Hermosa Beach Educators Association (HBEA) been surveyed as a whole. Mr. David Carver, HBEA President, said no, the membership was not surveyed..

Mrs. Claypoole asked if HBEA feels that the competency criteria are important or does Mrs. Stadler feel it is important. Mr. Carver said that seniority is the priority. Mr. Carver said that if a teacher has a credential to teach a subject matter that it is assumed the teacher is qualified

Mrs. Tracy Robinson, second grade teacher, stated that the competency criteria were discussed at length at the most recent HBEA meeting. She said that the only teacher affected by the criteria is Mrs. Stadler. Mrs. Robinson continued to say that Mrs. Stadler was advised by the prior superintendent, Dr. McClain, to obtain a multiple subject credential for flexibility, which cost Mrs. Stadler \$4,000.00. Mrs. Robinson requested that the district remove the competency criteria.

Mrs. Claypoole asked Mrs. Robinson if other teachers will be affected by the competency criteria. Mrs. Robinson said the information she has that only Mrs. Stadler will be affected. Dr. Beck stated it was her understanding that more than one teacher would be impacted by the competency criteria.

Mr. Widman stated that seniority is an important factor, but not the only factor. He would like to hear the thoughts from the teachers on how to accommodate the difficult balance between recency of experience and seniority.

Dr. Newlin concurred with Mr. Widman, but his question is how can you have seniority for a position that has never been held.

Dr. Beck encouraged teachers to email Dr. Newlin with specific language that the Board could consider.

REPORT:

Enrollment Report: Dr. Newlin reported a loss of four students in the past month.

CONSENT CALENDAR: It was moved by Mr. Widman, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the Consent Calendar items as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

Superintendent

Acceptance of Gifts Acceptance of the following donated gifts: Mrs. Carol Caballero donated a check for \$250.00 to be used toward the purchase of new books for the Hermosa View library; Mr. John Kirchner donated two JVS digital cameras with accessories, one Minolta 35mm SLR still camera with accessories and fifteen mini video tapes valued at \$1,000.00; and Ms. Eleanor Weaver donated a 2005 HP Laser Printer 1510, 17" HP monitor and accessories valued at \$100.00. Direction was given to staff to send thank you letters.

Business:

Purchase Orders Approval was given on the purchase orders issued since the last Board approval in the total amount of \$40,664.54.

Personnel:

Certificated Employment Transactions

Approval given for the following certificated employment transaction:

Holly Corman, 50% Leave of Absence request for a job share assignment in Kindergarten effective September 1, 2009-June 30, 2010, Reason – child-rearing  
Lori Koch, 50% Leave of Absence request for a job share assignment in Kindergarten effective September 1, 2009-June 30, 2010, Reason – child-rearing  
Amanda Johnson, 100% Leave of Absence request, first grade teacher effective September 1, 2009-June 30, 2010; Reason – child-rearing  
Karen Maguy, 50% Leave of Absence request for a job share assignment in second grade effective September 1, 2009-June 30, 2010, Reason – child-rearing  
Lisa Trevino, 50% Leave of Absence request for a job share assignment in second grade effective September 1, 2009-June 30, 2010, Reason – child-rearing

Classified Employment Transactions

Approval given for the following classified employment transaction:

Angie Burris, Employment, Noon Duty Aide, Hermosa Valley School, effective March 2, 2009  
Judith Rhoads, Resignation, Noon Duty Aide, Hermosa Valley School, effective February 10, 2009.  
Tara Stewart, Termination, Instructional Aide, Hermosa View School, effective February 13, 2009.

BOARD ACTION:

Superintendent:

Discussion/Recommendation of the Hermosa Valley & Hermosa View Schools Security Audits

Dr. Newlin made several recommendations based on the security audits that were performed at Hermosa Valley and Hermosa View Schools.

- No cost to the district:
  1. School volunteers should be screened by comparing them against the Megan's Law database.
  2. School staff members and volunteers should wear identification badges while on campus.
  3. Update and review with teachers security procedures on locking classroom doors and on entering alarmed areas after hours.
  4. Trim bushes below window line outside of the View School offices.
  5. Maintain only two ingress and egress points of entry into and out of View School.
  6. Conduct a check of the intrusion alarm system to verify that all sensors are functional at View School.
  7. North gate entry at Valley School should be locked at all times unless personnel can provide supervision at the beginning and the end of the school day.
  
- Cost to the district:
  1. Security lock and tracking devices should be installed in all new computers that the school receives.
  2. Teachers and staff members should be trained in CPR and first aid.
  3. A fence should be installed on each end of Building E to block access to the rear of the building at View. (noted as a priority)
  4. Purchase six additional hand-held radios at View School. (noted as a priority)
  5. Install security screens on the computer room (Rm. 18) and adjoining room (Rm. 17) windows at View School. (noted as a priority)
  6. Install pick plates to View classroom doors that do not currently have them. (noted as a priority)
  7. Install additional fencing in front of View classrooms 1-4. (noted as a priority)
  8. Install exterior lighting in the View parking lot area. (noted as a priority)
  9. Install a combination of fencing and landscaping near Valley classrooms 1-4. (noted as a priority)
  10. Install fencing along the walkway from the district office to the north edge of the basketball courts. This action implies a relocation of the current district office to allow visitors access to the school office. (noted as a priority)
  11. Install new locks and springs to the north gate. (noted as a priority)
  12. Install fencing along physical education field at the front of Valley School, if resources become available.
  
- Items not recommended at this time:
  1. Issuance of separate alarm codes to each employee
  2. Hire one to two security guards.

- Golden Street gate access at Hermosa View School Recommendations:
  1. No entry/exit point before and after school
  2. After students leave campus, open Golden Street gate and secure when last Maintenance & Operations Worker leaves.
  3. Open the Golden Street gate during daylight weekend hours.
  4. Monitoring of dogs on campus, request help from the City of Hermosa Beach.

The Board discussed various recommendations.

Dr. Beck, Mr. Breen and Mrs. Claypoole agreed that multiple access points were beneficial to parents. Mr. Breen elaborated by saying that multiple access points help prevent traffic problems, and encourage walking.

Dr. Beck said that locking the Golden Street gate did not prevent people from entering the campus. She suggested that the problems with dogs on campus might be curbed by dog owners receiving trespassing tickets by the city police.

Mr. Breen stated the Board that Hermosa Beach is park “poor,” and that the schools have always been considered community parks. He said if the schools have limited access and are fenced in, then the school “parks” are removed for the community.

The following neighbors of Hermosa View School spoke in support of re-opening the Golden Street gate before and after school and on the weekends: Mr. Matt McGuinness, Ms. Angie Kinel, Mrs. Terrie Sanchez, Mrs. Heather Schneider, Mr. Craig Schneider, Mrs. Gloria Vialpando, Mrs. Mandi Leonard and Ms. Lili McLean. Many of the neighbors stated they would be willing to work in cooperation with the school to keep View campus safe and clean.

It was agreed that if there was a change to the status of the Golden Street gate access, then the Neighborhood Watch captains, Mrs. Sanchez and Mrs. Vialpando would be contacted, and they would communicate the information with their fellow neighbors near View School.

**Resolution #14:08/09 – Behavioral Intervention Plans (Hughes Bill)  
Mandated Cost Claim Settlement and Agreement to Waive Future Claims**

It was moved by Mrs. Zondiros, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve Resolution #14:08/09 on Behavioral Intervention Plans (Hughes Bill) Mandated Cost Claim Settlement and waive rights to file any claim regarding the Hughes Bill statute and regulations in the future. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

**Business:**

Amended Agreement – School Counseling  
Services with the South Bay Children’s  
Health Center

Mr. Widman thanked the Beach Cities Health District and the City of Hermosa Beach with the grant funds that provide counselors for the students.

It was moved by Mr. Widman, seconded by Mrs. Claypoole, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the amended Agreement for additional hours of consultant services with the South Bay Children’s Center. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

RECESS: From 9:38 p.m. to 9:47 p.m. the Board took a recess.

2008-2009 Second Interim Report

Mrs. Jones gave an overview of the 2008-2009 Second Interim Report. Mrs. Jones went over district student enrollment, revenue, expenditures, other funds, other items that will affect the budget, and flexibility options for categorical programs.

It was noted that staff is working with the District's Budget Committee on the 2009-2010 budget in order to make recommendations to the Board. Flexibility of using the categorical program funds will be discussed with the Budget Committee. She noted that flexible spending is an important opportunity for school districts. A public hearing on the flexible spending of categorical funds will come to the Board in May.

Mrs. Jones commented that the special election on May 19<sup>th</sup> will be very important to school districts. If the propositions on the ballot do not pass, then the budget will be scratched, and we will need to begin again. The upcoming year will be one of the most difficult budgets to adopt. Mrs. Jones said that cash flow is very important to the school district as program apportionments from the state are coming to the school district later than the usual timeframes.

It was moved by Mr. Breen, seconded by Mrs. Zondiros, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the Second Interim Report for 2008-2009 and certify that the district will be able to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of this fiscal year, 2009-2010 fiscal year and 2010-2011 fiscal year. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

ROUNDTABLE: It was announced that parent, Mrs. Elizabeth Riley was the school district representative on the City of Hermosa Beach Green Task Force.

RECONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION AT 10:37 P.M.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:

Dr. Beck reported that no action was taken during closed session.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:40 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Widman, seconded by Mrs. Claypoole, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District adjourn the meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS/ EVENTS:

**February**

- |                   |                                                                                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 02/04-06          | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Astro Camp                                                      |
| 02/09             | Lincoln's Birthday, No Classes                                                        |
| <b>02/11</b>      | <b>School Board Meeting, HB City Council Chambers 7:30pm</b>                          |
| 02/12             | Valley Parent & Community Meeting on Campus Safety & Security; Valley Tech Lab 6:30pm |
| 02/16             | President's Day, No Classes                                                           |
| 02/18             | 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Malibu Camp Parent/Student Meeting, Valley MPR 7:00pm           |
| 02/20             | Middle School Dance, Valley MPR 6:30pm                                                |
| 02/23             | PTO Meeting, Valley MPR 3:30pm                                                        |
| <b>02/25</b>      | <b>Special School Board Meeting, HB City Council Chambers 7:30pm</b>                  |
| 02/27, 28 & 03/01 | HB Rotary Club Renaissance Faire, View School                                         |

**March**

03-02 School Site Council Meetings, Valley and View Schools  
03/10 HBEF Meeting, Valley MPR 7:30pm  
03/11 Parent/Teacher Conferences, Minimum Day for both school sites  
**03/11 School Board Meeting, HB City Council Chambers, 7:30pm**  
03/16 PTO Meeting, Valley Library 3:30pm  
03/19 Kindergarten Round-Up, View 12:45pm  
03/20 Kindergarten Registration Begins  
03/20-22 & 03/27-29 Spring Musical "Wipe Out", Valley MPR  
03/21 HBEF Annual Heart of Hermosa Dinner, Dance & Auction, St. Rocke  
03/23-27 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Outdoor Education Malibu Camp

**April**

04/01 Flag Ceremony, View  
04/03 Flag Ceremony, Valley  
**04/15 School Board Meeting, Valley MPR, 7:30pm**  
04/17 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Colonial Day  
04/22 Middle School Honor Roll Breakfast  
04/27 PTO Meeting, Valley MPR 3:30pm

**May**

05/04 School Site Council, Valley & View  
05/04-08 Staff Appreciation Week  
05/04-15 STAR Testing  
05/14-22 Book Fair, Valley Library  
**05/13 School Board Meeting, HB City Council Chambers, 7:30pm**  
05/22 Flag Ceremony, Valley  
05/22 Middle School Dance, Valley MPR  
05/25 Memorial Day Observed, NO CLASSES  
05/27 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition to Middle School Parent & Student Meeting  
05/27-28 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Walk through Revolution  
05/29-06/05 Book Fair, View Library

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President

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Clerk