

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
September 10, 2008**

- CALL TO ORDER: The open session was called to order by Mr. Widman at 6:31 p.m.
- MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Linda Beck, Mrs. Lisa Claypoole, Mr. Gregory Breen, Mr. Lance Widman, and Mrs. Barbara Zondiros
- STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Sharon McClain, Superintendent; Mrs. Angela Jones, Business Manager, and Ms. Michelle Meraz, Executive Assistant.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Michael DiVirgilio, Hermosa Beach City Councilman
- Mr. Widman thanked the Hermosa Beach City Council for the use of their meeting room and the ready-made visibility to the community of Hermosa Beach. Thanks were given to Mr. DiVirgilio and the Mayor Revizcky.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Mrs. Claypoole, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the agenda as presented. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.
- INTERVIEW SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH FIRMS:
- Four Executive Search firms: 1. The Cosca Group, 2. Education Support Services, LLC, 3. Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates, Ltd, and 4. Leadership Associates, were contacted to give proposals to conduct a superintendent search. These four firms made presentations to the Board based on their proposals. The Board interviewed them and would make a selection on the company they would like to hire during the Board Action portion of the meeting. Each firm went over the following: their experience in superintendent searches, the number of employees involved in the search, the process of performing the search, confidentiality and background checks of the candidates, available services during and after the search, and the cost.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS/BOARD REPORTS:
- The presentation of check from Northrup Grumman was deferred to the October school board meeting.
- Dr. Beck stated the City/School Compact meeting on August 20, 2008 was full of cooperation and a fruitful collaboration.
- COMMUNICATIONS: Audience Oral Communications:
None
- Written Communications:
Mr. Breen received an email communication concerning the middle school locker issue, and a communication was received from parent Mrs. Kristie Keegan.

Dr. Beck received a communication regarding a student classroom placement. The Board responded that classroom placement is an administrative responsibility.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. McClain began by thanking the Board for supporting her in the superintendency and for supporting the students. She reported on the following:

- Mandarin-English Dual Language Program – Dr. McClain introduced Mrs. Katherine Chang and Mrs. SanSan Kwan. Mrs. Chang and Mrs. Kwan gave an update since the last presentation to the school board.
 - Met with parents who spearheaded the El Marino School Mandarin-English Dual Language Program;
 - Met with a publisher for curricula called Better Chinese;
 - Established a Hermosa Beach community group of friends and advocates for the Mandarin-English Dual Language Program;
 - Started an online petition;
 - Met with Manhattan Beach Unified School District administration to initiate Mandarin Language Program at Mira Costa High School. Redondo Beach Unified School District, Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District and Chadwick School all currently offer a Mandarin education program that the Hermosa students can easily transition into;
 - A letter will go out to all current Kindergarten parents to find out interest in a Mandarin-English Dual Language Program;
 - If the program is approved, a Foreign Language Assistance Program grant will be completed and applied. Culver City Unified School District was awarded \$4 million in Foreign Language Assistance Program grant money for El Marino Elementary School, which is a Japanese Spanish language school;
 - Investigating what happens in 4th grade once the students complete K-3 Class Size Reduction at 20 students to 1 teacher ratio;
 - Would like to invite Dr. Gay Yuen, who works with the Chinese HanBan at California State University, Long Beach and California State University, Los Angeles, to speak with the Board to give more information and answer questions;
 - Would like to meet with school board members to answer individual questions;
 - Invited school board members on a field trip to City Terrace School to view a Mandarin-English Dual Language Program at work;
 - Would like to have the Board's decision on this program by January 2009.

Mrs. Chang and Mrs. Kwan thanked the Board of Education and the school district. They said that the Mandarin-English Dual Language Program would elevate an already excellent program. They also gave a deep and heartfelt thank you to Dr. McClain for her open-mindedness and her support.

The following parents and community members attended the Board meeting in support of the Mandarin-English Dual Language Program: Jack Burns, Lynn Love, Sarah Chian, Stephanie Dyer, Valerie Xi, Ah-San Wong, Isabie Gombas, Sally Lin and Marilyn Weesit.

Dr. Beck stated that with implementing a Mandarin English Dual Language Program there are implications for staffing, which will bring up seniority issues. She asked how do teachers feel about this issue.

Mrs. Zondiros said the financial implications need to be thought out with hiring one new teacher a year as the program grows. She was also concerned that this program will benefit only 20 students.

- Dr. McClain thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
- Dr. McClain introduced Dr. Bruce Newlin, a prospective interim superintendent. Dr. Newlin was a Superintendent of Schools for 25 years, including in Lancaster, California. Dr. Newlin has trained over 300 principals in the UCLA Principals Leadership Institute. He lives in Palos Verdes, and knows the community. Dr. McClain said that Dr. Newlin has terrific ideas that would be useful, and he would be available during the superintendent search. She informed the Board that Dr. Newlin was introduced to the leadership team.
 - Progress on Middle School Lockers – A committee of parents, staff and administrators met to discuss the concerns about the middle school lockers: 1. safety issues, and 2. the change of south hallway from a previous middle school hallway to a 5th grade and resource classroom hallway, 3 parents and students wanting to continue the use of lockers.

The resolution was to keep the lockers in use, but to move the majority of them into the open breezeway between the north and south hallways near the lunch area. Next, students will be polled for their desire to use a locker and if they would like to share a locker.

Dr. McClain thanked Mr. Casillas, Interim Assistant Principal, for facilitating and keeping everyone at the meeting on task.

Concern about the weight of student backpacks was discussed. Students are carrying consumable workbooks for many classes, notebooks and binders for each class, as well as, other supplies that are required for classroom work

- Dr. McClain informed the Board the new principal interviews will take place on September 15th. Dr. Beck and Mrs. Zondiros will sit on the interview panel. At least six candidates will be interviewed and at least two will be interviewed by Dr. McClain for a final interview.

REPORT:

Hermosa Valley School New Construction Project Update

Mrs. Jones reported that the new building at Hermosa Valley School is magnificent. No cracks appeared in the stucco when the Chino Hills earthquake occurred this summer. Mrs. Jones stated that the building project is just about ready to close-out.

Dr. McClain noted that the Citizens' Oversight Committee will meet one more time to make a final report.

Mrs. Jones informed the Board that we are looking into leasing portable classrooms. She said that we are trying to find other school districts to piggyback on a purchase. Mrs. Jones said that we are looking at leasing relocatables similar to classrooms that we were unable to build. The Board was also notified that the fire alarm was signed off during the week of August 25th.

2007-2008 Unaudited Actuals

Mrs. Jones reported that there were two fair hearings this summer were budgeted for in the worst case scenario, but we do not know the cost. It will be brought to the Board in 2008-2009. She said that spending was frozen in March 2008. Mrs. Jones said that this summer school districts have not received any state funding. She said that school districts are using their reserves. Special education is considered a categorical program. Mrs. Jones said that the school district will use the reserve fund to pay for all programs where we have not yet received the money. Presently, the school district has a 15% reserve fund. Mrs. Jones said that the school district is grateful to the community for the significant fundraising they donated to the budget. Fund #21, Measure J funds, will be exhausted. Therefore, the

school district will use some money from Developers' Fees fund to pay the last vendors. The state does not have the money to match Deferred Maintenance Fund in 2008-09.

It was moved by Dr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District receive and file the 2007-2008 Unaudited Actuals. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

Enrollment Report

Dr. McClain reported that the enrollment has increased over the enrollment of last school year. However, the current numbers are still fluctuating daily. Dr. McClain said that there may be classroom changes at Hermosa View School in grades Kindergarten and 1st. She said that there was enough classroom space for all students on both campuses, but middle school classes are full.

RECESS:

A recess was called at 9:24 p.m. The Board reconvened at 9:42 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

It was moved by Mrs. Zondiros, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the Consent Calendar items as presented. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

Business:

Nonpublic, Nonsectarian
School Agencies

Ratification was given for the following Master Contracts for nonpublic, nonsectarian school services with:

Devereaux Texas Treatment Network: Addendum A to provide Employee Fingerprint Clearance;

JBA Institute: Behavior Intervention BII @ \$75.00 per hour and Behavior Intervention BID (Supervision) @ \$75.00 per hour;

Resources in Autism Education: Behavior Intervention BII @ \$52.55 per hour and Behavior Intervention BID (Supervision) @ \$52.55 per hour;

Sivas & Associates: Occupational Therapy – Individual @ \$90.00 per hour, Occupational Therapy – IEP Attendance @ \$90.00 per hour and Occupational Therapy – Assessment @ \$600.00 per assessment.

The term of all of the above Master Contracts are from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

District Appropriations Limit

Approval was given for the 2007-2008 Appropriations Limit of \$5,349,152.32 and the 2008-2009 budgeted amount of \$5,557,432.18.

Consultant Contract Agreement –
Interim Assistant Principal

Approval was given for the contract with Mr. Goy Casillas to perform Assistant Principal duties on an interim basis effective September 2, 2008 for a duration of thirty to sixty days at a pay rate of \$475.51 per day.

Personnel:

Certificated Employment Transactions

Approval was given for the following certificated employment transactions:

Kimberly O'Brien, 100% Leave of Absence Request, 3rd Grade Teacher at Hermosa Valley School, effective September 2, 2008 through June 30, 2009

Classified Employment Transactions:

Approval was given for the following classified employment transactions:
Dena Ingram, Employment, Noon Duty Aide, Hermosa View School, effective September 3, 2008;
Jeannine Madden, Employment, Instructional Aide, Hermosa Valley School Effective September 3, 2008;
Hector Murphy, Employment, Noon Duty Aide, Hermosa Valley School Effective September 2, 2008;
Trisha Romero, Employment Instructional Aide, Hermosa Valley School, Effective September 3, 2008;
Tara Stewart, Employment Instructional Aide, Hermosa Valley School, effective September 3, 2008;
Sienna Tucker, Employment, Noon Duty Aide, Hermosa Valley School, effective September 3, 2008;
Kristy Woods, Employment, Instructional Aide, Hermosa Valley School, effective September 3, 2008;
Marja Bullock, Resignation, Extended Day Aide, South Park School, effective August 28, 2008;
Robbi Hufstetler, Resignation, Instructional Aide, Hermosa View School, effective August 27, 2008;
Jeffrey Long, Resignation, Instructional Aide, Hermosa Valley School effective August 25, 2008;
Corinne Ybarra, Resignation, Instructional Aide, Hermosa Valley School, effective August 28, 2008

BOARD ACTION:

Superintendent:

Accept/Deny Interdistrict Permit Requests

It was moved by Dr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve or deny the following 2008-2009 Interdistrict Permit Requests:

Kindergarten - accept 2 permits and deny 4 permits
1st grade – 0 (no interdistrict permit requests on file)
2nd grade – accept 3 permits and deny 1 permit
3rd grade – accept 4 permits and deny 1 permit
4th grade – accept 1 permit and deny 0
5th grade – accept 3 permits and deny 1 permit
6th grade – accept 3 permits and deny 3 permits
7th grade – accept 7 permits and deny 0
8th grade – accept 7 permits and deny 0.

The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

Discussion/Action on Project Forward Proposal

It was moved by Mr. Breen, seconded by Mrs. Zondiros, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the Project Forward proposal. The Board gave direction to work with Mr. Steve Burrell, Hermosa Beach City Manager to schedule meetings. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

Business:

2008-2009 Budget Revisions

It was moved by Mrs. Claypoole, seconded by Mrs. Zondiros, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the 2008-2009 Budget Revisions to adjust prior year ending balances. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

Personnel:

Discussion/Action on the Interim Superintendent Position

It was moved by Dr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Breen, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District approve the appointment of Dr. Bruce Newlin to the Interim Superintendent position effective September 17, 2008. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

Select Superintendent Search Firm

The Board discussed that the cost and services of each Executive Search firm were comparable.

It was moved by Mr. Widman, seconded by Mrs. Zondiros, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District to accept the proposal from The Cosca Group. The vote was 3 ayes by Dr. Beck, Mr. Widman and Mrs. Zondiros, and 2 nays by Mr. Breen and Mrs. Claypoole. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Widman, seconded by Mrs. Zondiros, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District to move forward as a team in the select process and will unify to work with The Cosca Group. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

ROUNDTABLE:

Dr. Beck acknowledged that comments were received by parents that Hermosa Valley School and Mira Costa High School had Back-to-School Night on the same evening. She would like the staff to consider Mira Costa's Back-to-School Night in planning future calendars.

Dr. McClain announced that Yom Kippur falls on the regular October school board meeting, October 8th. Staff was directed to find an open date at the Hermosa Beach City Council Chambers to have the school board meeting, and make a date change.

Mr. Breen stated that there have been several letters of concern about the Hermosa Valley School math program. The Board would like to see a staff report on the math program.

Mrs. Claypoole requested a three year school calendar be created.

Mrs. Claypoole attended the staff meeting for the First Teacher Day on September 2, 2008. She thought the guest speaker and the years of recognition presentations were wonderful. She encouraged all Board members to attend each year for this opening day.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:32 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Zondiros, seconded by Mrs. Claypoole, that the Board of Education of the Hermosa Beach City School District adjourn the school board meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous. Motion carried.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS/ EVENTS:

The following is a schedule of meetings/events for the Hermosa Beach City School District:

September

09/18 Valley Back to School Night, Minimum Day for Valley School only

October

10/06 School Site Council Meeting, Valley MPR 3:30pm

10/09 & 10 Local Release; No School

10/13 PTO Meeting, Valley Library 3:30pm

10/14 View Vision and Hearing Screenings

10/18 & 19 PTO Family Portraits Fundraiser

10/20 School Board Meeting; HB Council Chambers 7:30pm – NOTE DATE CHANGE

10/20 – 10/24 Minimum Days at Both Schools due to Parent Teacher Conferences

Red Ribbon Week

10/29 Valley Vision & Hearing Screenings

November

11/03 School Site Council; Valley MPR 3:30pm

11/07 Flag Ceremony

11/10 & 11 Veteran's Day Holiday, No School

11/12 School Board Meeting, HB Council Chambers 7:30pm

11/13 Holiday Boutique, View MPR

11/17 PTO Meeting, Valley Library 3:30pm

11/24-11/28 Thanksgiving Holiday Break, No School

President

Clerk