#### LOS ALTOS SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes Los Altos School District Board Room 201 Covington Road, Los Altos October 25, 2010

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Harrigan at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT Mrs. Margot Harrigan, President: Mr. Bill Cooper, Vice-President: Mr. Mark Goines, Clerk:

Ms. Tamara Logan, Member; Mr. Doug Smith, Member

ABSENT None

ADMINISTRATION Mr. Jeffrey Baier, Superintendent; Mrs. Alyssa Gallagher, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum

and Instruction

STAFF Marcy Birnie, Jim Grijalva, Katie Campodonico, Ellen Kraska, Beth Rubinstein, Pam Loebner,

Kimberly Attell, Jill Croft, Doug Core, Megan Sterngold, Jennifer Van Dyken, Judi Hultberg

PRESS Traci Newell

OTHERS Tom Campbell, Sandy Kandel, Steve Taglio, Margaret Brooks, S. Barnett-Brook,

Audrey Crowley, Jennifer Carlstrom

CLOSED SESSION The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 6:31 p.m. for anticipated litigation pursuant to

Government Code §54957.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvened at 7:14 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mrs. Harrigan asked the public to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Mrs. Harrigan reported no action was taken in Closed Session.

AGENDA APPROVAL Mr. Baier requested to move Item 4.2, Parcel Tax Feasibility and Planning Update after Item 4.5, Curriculum Update as the district's attorney, Mr. Hartenstein, is at another meeting and may be late.

MSC: Mr. Cooper, Mr. Goines to approve the agenda of the meeting with the noted revisions.

AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 0

SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Mrs. Attell, Loyola Principal, and Ellen Kraska, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Loyola, shared how the Gradual Release of Responsibility (GRR) is being incorporated into Loyola School. The majority of the Loyola staff is trained in this instructional model and their focus this year is to provide professional development at their staff meetings. Mrs. Attell shared a video of Mrs. Kraska's class using GRR.

Mrs. Kraska shared a component of GRR is to state the purpose of the lesson at the beginning of the lesson. This has resulted in her students being more focused, engaged and accountable as they know what they will be learning. During the collaborative piece, students are coming to a deeper understanding through negotiation and discussion.

# SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Mr. Baier reported on the following items:

- On October 21 all schools and the District Office participated in an earthquake drill. The drill was a coordinated effort to practice emergency preparedness.
- Mr. Baier met with 20-30 volunteer tutors from Partners for New Generations. The volunteers
  target struggling students within our district and in the Mountain View Whisman School
  District. Mr. Baier reported it was inspiring to see so many community members who are making
  a difference in the lives of our students.

#### **CONSENT ITEMS**

MSC: Mr. Goines, Ms. Logan to approve Consent Items 1.1 through 1.4, with noted changes to the minutes of the October 11, 2010 meeting:

- 1.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, October 11, 2010
- 1.2 Purchase Orders
- 1.3 BP 2122, Superintendent of Schools: Responsibilities and Duties
- 1.4 Personnel Actions

### Classified

- 1. Employment
  - Whitney Jagunich, Instructional Assistant Special Education Effective: October 11, 2010
  - 1.2 Michele Lagorio, Noon Duty Assistant, Loyola School Effective: October 18, 2010
  - 1.3 Carol Love, Program Specialist Library, Egan School Effective: October 25, 2010
  - 1.4 Anila Mittal, Instructional Assistant Special Education Effective: October 18, 2010
  - 1.5 Sharareh Saedi, Noon Duty Assistant, Covington School Effective: August 24, 2010
  - 1.6 Rachell Spencer, Instructional Assistant Special Education Effective: October 11, 2010
- 2. Request for leave of absence without pay
  - 2.1 Nanette Bajka, Art Docent Coordinator Effective: January 1, 2011
- 3. Resignation
  - 3.1 Beverly Turnbaugh, Program Specialist Library, Egan School Effective: October 21, 2010
- 4. Termination
  - Julianne Daniell, Instructional Assistant Special Education Effective: October 11, 2010

AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 0

EMPLOYEE REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD Jim Grijalva, LATA President, reported there was a good turnout for the TGIF held on October 22. As the district works on the best use of the federal stimulus funds, Mr. Grijalva reminded the board that one employee is still at 4/6 time and would hope to have that alleviated at the semester break. Mr. Grijalva also noted there is still need a need for a pianist at Egan and the fourth grade teachers are underserved with the FAB program in comparison to the fifth and sixth grade teachers. Mr. Grijalva is scheduling lunch meetings with the teachers at each school.

Kris Swenson, CSEA President, was unable to attend the meeting.

## COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Tom Campbell provided public comment on "Waiting for Superman" and the status of the real estate market in 2010 compared to 2009.

#### INFORMATION/ ACTION ITEMS

New Teacher Project Update Mrs. Gallagher introduced Mrs. Carol Raymond, BTSA Induction Advisor. Mrs. Raymond supports first and second year teachers through the Silicon Valley New Teacher Project. This program is required of all new teachers and the goals are to support teacher practice that results in high student achievement, assist new teachers to move from a preliminary teaching credential to a clear teaching credential within two years and to retain high quality teachers. There are currently 6 first year and 6 second year teachers in the program.

Erin Aitken, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Gardner Bullis and a first year teacher shared information on the support she receives as part of this program. Mrs. Raymond guides teachers through the formative assessment, meets with new teachers on a weekly basis to share successes and work through challenges, will assist in the classroom if there are issues with students and is a mentor that new teachers can share things with in a confidential manner.

Doug Core, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Springer and a second year teacher shared the aspects of BTSA that have been meaningful to him: Mrs. Raymond and the support she provides, the collaborative and reflective aspect, training on classroom management and the Gradual Release of Responsibility. Mr. Core shared how he is incorporating GRR into his classroom.

Parcel Tax Feasibility and Planning Update Mrs. Harrigan moved this item back to its original place on the agenda as Mr. Hartenstein arrived in time for his presentation. Mr. Baier reported an additional community survey is needed to gather current information on the responsiveness to a potential parcel tax, the tolerance for an increase and the components of a parcel tax. Mr. Baier would like board direction in hiring EMC Research in Oakland to conduct the survey. Following board discussion, the board directed staff to proceed with a survey using EMC Research. Mr. Baier recommended scheduling a study session on December 13 to review the survey results.

Mr. Hartenstein, the district's parcel tax attorney, presented information on the current parcel tax. In his report he indicated there no longer is a legal requirement that the district seek voter approval every four years in order to spend tax proceeds.

Mr. Baier reported the parcel tax messaging is currently being presented to the internal community and will be moving to the outside community after the November election. The slide presentation was shared with the board. The key points of the presentation are our exceptional schools with great community support, unreliable and shrinking state funding is a threat, opportunity for local control and fiscal accountability and responsibility.

Second Reading of BP 4112.8, Employment of Relatives Mr. Baier reported this board policy was brought back with additional clarification of what constitutes immediate family. There are two companion policies that will need to be updated with the new language. The policy presented is for certificated personnel. The other two policies are for classified and management personnel. All three policies will be brought back at the next meeting under the consent agenda.

Second Reading of BB 9270, Conflict of Interest Mr. Baier reported this board bylaw was brought back with the recommended changes from the board. The language of the bylaw is consistent with the intent of Form 700.

MSC: Mr. Goines, Ms. Logan to approve BB 9270, Conflict of Interest as presented.

AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 0

Curriculum and Instruction Update

Mrs. Gallagher reported kindergarten registration is being moved to mid-January. All elementary schools will hold a parent information meeting on January 13. The registration materials will be available at the meeting and schools will take completed packets from January 14 through February 4. Advertising for the information meeting will begin in December.

Curriculum and Instruction Update (continued)	Mrs. Gallagher shared a tentative summer school timeline with the board. Summer school will be held at Springer School and will focus on students with the greatest academic need and English language learners needing additional support. Parents will be notified by their child's teacher during conferences. The summer school fee will be increasing from \$250 to \$300 for the 19 days of instruction. The location of the special education program is still being worked out.		
Resolution #10/11-08, Support of Measure E	Mr. Baier presented a resolution in support of Measure E, the Foothill-DeAnza Community College District's parcel tax of \$69 per parcel for board approval.		
	MSC: Mr. Cooper, Mr. Smith to approve Resolution #10/11-08, Support of Measure E.		
	AYES: 5	NOES: 0	ABSENT: 0
Educational Blueprint	November 2 at Foothill College	. The input taken from school s	Educational Blueprint meeting on ite visits and electronic surveys will rd members, staff, teachers, parents,

**BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION** COMMENTS, UPDATES, QUESTIONS, ITEMS FOR FUTURE

**AGENDAS** 

The board members used this opportunity to share their participation in district and community events followed by comments and concerns.

community members and representatives from Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View.

Mrs. Gallagher reported Mrs. Raymond will be training teachers new to their grade level on October 28. School principals will be attending the annual ACSA training on November 4 and 5. The training will be focused on Gradual Release of Responsibility, Response to Intervention and being a leader with 21st Century learning. At the next board meeting, Mrs. Stromfeld, Almond Principal, and Mrs. Romem, Oak Principal, will report on their trip to China to visit Yucai School as part of a sister school agreement. The trip was sponsored by Yucai School.

**ADJOURNMENT** Mrs. Harrigan adjourned the meeting at 9:57 p.m. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Jeffrey Baier, Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Mark Goines, Clerk