

**DEL MAR UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Del Mar Hills Academy – Multi-Purpose Room
14085 Mango Drive
Del Mar, CA 92014**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Wednesday, January 14, 2009
2:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Katherine White, President of the Board
Steven McDowell, Clerk of the Board
Annette Easton, Doug Perkins, Comischell Rodriguez

DMUSD Staff: Sharon McClain, Superintendent
Sherry Forte, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Rodger Smith, Director of Human Resources/Facilities Planning
Janet Bernard, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction
Dena Whittington, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Rodger Smith, Director of Human Resources/Facilities Planning
Katie Shanahan, Coordinator of State & Federal Projects
Mike Casey, Director of Technology
Randy Wheaton, Director of Maintenance & Operations
Jonathon Guertin, Student Information/Data Management Coordinator
Todd Boteler, Webmaster
Wendy Wardlow, Principal, Del Mar Heights
Ryan Stanley, Assistant Principal, Sage Canyon
Peg LaRose, Principal, Sage Canyon
Shelley Peterson, Principal, Ashley Falls
Susan Paul, Principal, Torrey Hills
Susan Fitzpatrick, Principal, Del Mar Hills Academy
Emily Disney, Principal, Sycamore Ridge
Gary Wilson, Principal, Ocean Air
Tori Hemerick, 4th Grade Teacher, Del Mar Hills Academy
Jennifer Oliveira, Technology Teacher, Sycamore Ridge
Katrina Graupmann, 6th Grade Teacher, Ocean Air
Janet Orr, 3rd Grade Teacher, Sage Canyon
MaryAnn Loes, 5th Grade Teacher, Ashley Falls
Arah Allard, Music Teacher, Del Mar Hills Academy
Nancy Swanberg, Science Teacher, Del Mar Hills Academy
Nicole Nelson, Art Teacher, Del Mar Hills Academy
Courtney Wildman, 3rd Grade Teacher, Del Mar Heights

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Tanya Lubomudrov, Science Teacher, Ocean Air
Jacqueline Folgner, Art Teacher, Del Mar Heights
Carol Faulkner, 3rd Grade Teacher, Del Mar Heights
Evon Carpenter, 5th Grade Teacher, Carmel Del Mar
Sandra Nelson, 5th Grade Teacher, Carmel Del Mar
Cassandra Hauseur, 5th Grade Teacher, Del Mar Heights
Bill Porter, BTSA Full Time Release Support Provider
Debbie Hanna, 3rd Grade Teacher, Sycamore Ridge
Becky Zebold, Science Teacher, Ashley Falls
Sandy Johnson, 5th Grade Teacher, Ashley Falls
Riann Ballenger, 5th Grade Teacher, Ashley Falls
Andrea Sleet, 4th Grade Teacher, Del Mar Hills Academy
Cinda Peck, Music Teacher, Carmel Del Mar
Jodi Neilson, Music Teacher, Ocean Air
Michelle Beeson, Music Teacher, Del Mar Heights
Marnie White, 2nd Grade Teacher, Ashley Falls

Others: Kerry Traylor, Mike Chapin and other members of the community.

BUSINESS TRANSACTED WAS LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

Board President, Katherine White, called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

President White presented former Board President, Annette Easton, with a floral arrangement and expressed the Board's appreciation for her service as Board President in 2007 and 2008.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion by Member Easton, seconded by Member McDowell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Agenda.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Mike Chapin, 5082 Seachase Street, San Diego 92130, CEO of Geocon, Inc. and Chair of the San Diego Regional EDC, Workforce Development Committee, spoke of the importance of retaining the ESC science program in the DMUSD.

3. APPROVAL OF PERFORMANCE AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE TRAINING FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT ON JANUARY 14, 26 & 27, 2009:

On motion by Member Easton, seconded by Member Perkins, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following Performance Agreements for Staff Development on

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January 14, 26 and 27, 2009.

*Mollie Tower, Music Consultant
Sandra Dodd, Art Consultant
Lori Lillo, Autism Specialist
Jennifer Mays, Applied Behavioral Analysis Supervisor
Gail Nugent, MSW (Master's in Social Work)
Quantum Learning Network (providing research on multiple brain functions)*

4. BOARD APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN COMPREHENSIVE AUTISM SERVICES (CASE) AND THE DEL MAR UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Director of Pupil Services, Sheila Weinberg, requested approval of an Agreement with Comprehensive Autism Services to provide services as identified in the IEPs of special needs students.

On motion by Member Rodriguez, seconded by Member Perkins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Agreement between Comprehensive Autism Services (CASE) and the Del Mar Union School District.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DATES FOR SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS

The following dates were established for Special Board Meetings to begin at 6:00 p.m. at Del Mar Hills Academy: Wednesday, February 4, 2009 and Wednesday, February 11, 2009.

6. BOARD DISCUSSION, FINANCIAL REPORT BY CAROLINE LARSON, PARTNER, VAVRINEK, TRINE, DAY & CO., LLP, CPA'S

Caroline Larson, partner with Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co. presented an overview of the District's financial status and several major areas that have a significant impact on the DMUSD budget. The Board joined the audience for the PowerPoint presentation by Ms. Larson. The report presented will be available on the District website at www.dmusd.org. The purpose of the report was to gain an understanding of the DMUSD finances, to date, and to determine areas in the budget subject to modification.

Ms. Larson's report included the following:

- Ms. Larson's conclusion is that the DMUSD Core Believes are supported
 - Small elementary K-6 schools
 - Small class sizes
 - Offering more than the core curriculum
- Composition of the DMUSD Budget
 - Employee compensation
 - Insurance, utilities, communication costs

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- Contracts to serve student needs
- Discretionary funds: Site Budgets, Travel, Conference, Mileage, Dues
- Construction of the Report
 - 10 factors that make the DMUSD unique
 - Exhibits showing the cost of certificated & classified staff, comparison with other Basic Aid neighboring districts, comparison with two Revenue Limit districts, investment in small sites and the investment in small class sizes
- Goals of the Report
 - Validate the current priorities
 - Tools to evaluate future strategies
- Factors that make the DMUSD a unique financial entity
 - Basic Aid status
 - Uncertain revenue stream
 - Basic Aid affected in current year
 - Demographics
 - Two decades of economic prosperity
 - Student enrollment growth
 - Construction of facilities
 - Contractual obligations
 - Community involvement
 - Enrichment Program (Extended Studies Curriculum)
 - Change in District leadership
 - Small class sizes
 - Small school sites

Supt. McClain and the Leadership Team are in the process of reviewing the report and preparing recommendations for the Board.

On motion by Member Rodriguez, seconded by Member Easton, the Board voted unanimously to allow 20 minutes for questions from the audience.

The Board heard comments and questions on the following and Supt. McClain responded with information available, to date:

- Projected future enrollment
- Cost savings of creating K-3 school and 4-6 schools at Del Mar Hills Academy and Del Mar Heights.
- Improving fundraising – Increase revenue
- Consideration of a parcel tax
- Actual ESC salaries and the savings if ESC were to be eliminated.
- True savings of veteran teachers replacing newer teachers if veteran ESC teachers were to return to the classroom
- Look at other struggling districts in a similar situations to determine what they are doing to balance their budget

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The Board asked clarifying questions on the content of the report presented by Ms. Larson.

The Administrative Team, consisting of school Principals and Directors, are reviewing the financial analysis to determine what areas, if any, may be subject to reduction. Superintendent McClain will bring the Team's recommendations to the Board on January 21, 2009 at the Regular Board Meeting. Information from parents and staff is being solicited through the use of surveys. Meetings with the staff, PTA, DMSEF and community are planned at all school sites to share the report and give those in attendance an opportunity to ask clarifying questions.

Public Input:

- MaryAnn Loes, DMCTA Representative, spoke about the importance of carefully examining the budget before giving a lay-off notice, this being a very emotional time for teachers and the DMCTA, and to notify teachers as soon as possible.

Member Easton confirmed and acknowledged the seriousness and importance in scrutinizing the budget before lay-off decisions are made. The DMUSD and the DMCTA are working together to come to the best possible outcome.

7. ADJOURNMENT OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY, 14, 2009

On motion by Member Rodriguez, seconded by Member Easton, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Special Board Meeting of January 14, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

Steven McDowell, Clerk

Sharon L. McClain, Superintendent

Date

Date

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