

**DEL MAR UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Minutes of Special Board Meeting

December 2, 2009
2:00 p.m.

Del Mar Hills Academy
14085 Mango Drive, Del Mar, CA 92014

Members Present (5): Katherine White, President of the Board
Steven McDowell, Clerk of the Board
Annette Easton
Doug Perkins
Comischell Rodriguez

Administrators Present: Dr. Sharon McClain, Superintendent

DMUSD Staff Present: Katherine Weidmann, Karen Holty, Carol Sharpe, Danielle Roche,
Debbie Hanna, Eric Bell, Cinda Peck

Others Present: Approximately 17 community members.

BUSINESS TRANSACTED WAS LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

Board President White called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

1. Motion to Approve the Agenda

Motion White

Second Perkins

Unanimous

2. PUBLIC INPUT CONCERNING ITEMS ON THE CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

There was no input from the public.

Motion to adjourn to Closed Session:

Motion Easton

Second McDowell

Unanimous

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 2:02 p.m. to discuss the following:

- 1.1 Consider Personnel Issues**, (Government Code Sections 11126 and 54957); limited to consideration of the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline /release, dismissal of a public employee or to hear complaints or charges brought against such employee by another person or employee unless the employee requests a public session.

1.2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(c); Name of Case: One case

Motion to adjourn Closed Session:

Motion Easton
Second Rodriguez
 Unanimous

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 3:35 p.m.

3. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Board President White reported that there was no action taken in Closed Session.

4. BOARD DISCUSSION REGARDING ATTENDANCE OF ANY BOARD MEMBERS AT 7/11 DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Superintendent McClain reported that in previous meetings the Board accepted the recommendation of staff that they not attend the meetings and public hearings of the 7/11 Committee but that recently Board members expressed an interest in attending.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Heidi Niehart, DMUSD parent, spoke against Board members attending the meetings of the 7/11 Committee.

Kelli Politoske, DMUSD parent, spoke against Board members attending the meetings of the 7/11 Committee.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

The Board thanked public for their input and discussed whether or not Board members should attend the meetings and the impact, if any, their attendance may have on the process. The discussion concluded with the Board agreeing that they do not want to influence the process or outcome of the committee's proposals and to continue with the practice of not attending the meetings and public hearings of the 7/11 Committee.

5. DISCUSSION REGARDING STATE OF THE DISTRICT AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY TO AVOID PERCEIVED LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN CURRENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE DISTRICT

PUBLIC INPUT:

- *Amy Caterina*, DMUSD parent, spoke to the Board about the lack of confidence that exists in the DMUSD.
- *Anita Frazier*, DMUSD parent, spoke in support of the new principal at Ocean Air to be someone familiar with the DMUSD.

- *Karen Holty*, DMUSD Administrative Assistant, spoke regarding the lack of Goals and Objectives of the DMUSD.
- *Liz Shopes*, DMUSD parent, spoke regarding misinformation provided to the 7/11 Committee and discontent in the community.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

The Board discussed concerns expressed by the public and how to ensure the information in the community is accurate. Board discussed topics of concern, including the following:

- School Improvement Program funds and their approval for the 2009/2010 school year.
- The perceived lack of textbooks.
- Concern about the effectiveness of the Strategic Planning Communication Plan.
- The lack of Goals and Objectives for the DMUSD.
- The Strategic Planning process.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Beth Westburg, DMUSD parent, spoke about an increase in expenses and the lack of a plan.

Heidi Niehart, DMUSD parent, expected to hear answers about rumors in the community.

Kelli Politoske, DMUSD parent, addressed the Board regarding the approval of the SIP funds.

Charles Thorpe, DMUSD parent, expressed his concern that how an agenda item is framed contributes to misconceptions in the community.

Karen Holty, DMUSD Administrative Assistant, addressed the Board regarding the process for ordering the new math adoption textbooks.

Katrina Graupmann, DMUSD teacher, spoke in support of Board members responding to the questions and comments from the public.

Liz Shopes, DMUSD parent, spoke about the wealth of knowledgeable people in the district and having the means to avoid closing a school.

Board President White itemized some topics for the December Agenda, which will address comments made by the public, i.e. solar energy, Strategic Planning Financial Planning Task Force and the use of the proceeds from the sale of the Shores property.

Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services, Holly McClurg, explained the challenges districts experience with a new textbook adoption. She clarified that the problems the district experienced were followed up on promptly and resolved.

The Board suggested the Superintendent revisit the Communication Plan and the Strategic Planning process. The Board requested staff to discuss and present a method by which the Board could have a question and answer period with members of the community.


6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, there was a Motion to Adjourn at 5:12 p.m.

Motion Easton

Second Perkins


Unanimous



Steven McDowell, Clerk

2/12/2010

Date



Sharon L. McClain, Superintendent

2/10/10

Date