

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

***Minutes of Special Board Meeting***

January 13, 2010  
6:00 p.m.

Sage Canyon School MUR  
5290 Harvest Run  
San Diego, CA 92130

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- Members Present (5): Comischell Rodriguez, President of the Board  
Steven McDowell, Clerk of the Board  
Annette Easton  
Doug Perkins  
Katherine White
- Administrators Present: Dr. Sharon McClain, Superintendent  
Holly McClurg, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services  
Randy Wheaton, Director of Maintenance and Operations  
Darlene Nadlonek, Human Resources Technician
- DMUSD Staff Present: Susan Fitzpatrick, Principal, Del Mar Hills Academy  
Peg LaRose, Principal, Sage Canyon  
Bill Porter, Becky Ross, Cinda Peck, Mary Zobell, Sandy Johnson,  
Robin Gordon, Genna Chapluk
- Others Present: Approximately 60+ community members
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**BUSINESS TRANSACTED WAS LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:**

Board President Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Amendments to the Agenda:

Member White requested that the Board Adjourn into Closed Session no later than 9:45 p.m.

Motion to Approve Agenda, as amended.

**Motion** White

**Second** Easton

**Unanimous**

Superintendent McClain led the audience in the flag salute.

## 2. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

## 3. DISCUSSION/DIRECTION, STRATEGIC PLAN FINANCIAL TASK FORCE

Superintendent McClain presented an overview of Options A & B outlining the formation of a Strategic Plan Financial Task Force, which was formulated through input from staff members and other school districts. Staff recommended Option A, and presented Option B for Board consideration.

Member Perkins presented an overview of an option he authored (Option C), which includes more community members and Board Members than A and B. The option was modeled after the City of San Diego Select Committee on Government Efficiency and Fiscal Reform.

### Public Input

- *Becky Deller*, DMUSD parent, read a statement from Susan Miller, DMUSD parent, in support of the formation of a Financial Task Force including community involvement.
- *Beth Westburg*, DMUSD parent, spoke in support of the formation of a Financial Task Force including community involvement.
- *Vanessa Black*, DMUSD parent, spoke in support of the formation of a Financial Task Force including community involvement.
- *Juli Oh*, DMUSD parent, spoke in support of the formation of a Financial Task Force including community involvement.
- *Heidi Niehart*, DMUSD parent, spoke in support of the formation of a Financial Task Force.
- *Vanessa Black*, DMUSD parent, spoke in support of the formation of a Financial Task Force.
- *Janet Handzel*, DMUSD parent, spoke in support of the formation of a Financial Task Force.

### Board Discussion

The Board discussed the composition of the committee, the possible use of an outside facilitator, the selection process and a timeline for the task force. The task force is envisioned to have a timeline of 3-4 months with recommendations being presented to the Board in April or May. The Board directed staff to form a Superintendent's committee with agendas and minutes posted to the website and meetings open to the public.

Motion to approve the formation of a Strategic Plan Financial Task Force, a Superintendent's Committee, using Option C as the base with the following considerations:

- Each Board member will appoint one community member
- "Identify and recommend guidelines" to be added to Task Force Actions

- Examine revenue enhancement opportunities
- The use of a facilitator to be decided by the task force and not to exceed \$3,000.
- Task Force update to be presented in February with a final report within a 3-4 month period.

**Motion**    White  
**Second**   Perkins  
**Unanimous**

**4. PRESENTATION, 7/11 DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S FINAL REPORT**

On behalf of the entire Board, President Rodriguez thanked the 7/11 District Advisory Committee for their service and presented each with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Janet Handzell, 7/11 District Advisory Committee member, presented the final report of the 7/11 DAC's examination of potential surplus property within the DMUSD.

The DAC could not reach a consensus on one proposal, however, the report has a vast amount of information for the Board to consider in order to make a decision. The committee felt successful in engaging the community and gathering their input. The proposals presented were meant to serve as a starting point for the Board. The committee shared that the operating cost may not be a true reflection of the actual operating costs in the report. The committee focused on the fixed costs and administrative costs. The committee recommended the Board look at the comments from the community, the legal regulations, etc. The committee urged the Board to review the enrollment trends in the DMUSD and that the committee was able to arrive only at general trends in enrollment.

The Board asked clarifying questions of the committee re CEQA, preschool rooms, etc. The committee shared the numerous factors taken into consideration when analyzing the data and formulating a recommendation.

Motion to extend the time for speakers to address the Board on Item #4 to 9:30 p.m.

**Motion**    White  
**Second**    Easton  
**Unanimous**

**Public Input**

- *Liz Shopes*, DMUSD parent, spoke against closing any school.
- *Diane Jacobs Baizer*, DMUSD parent, spoke against closing Del Mar Hills Academy.
- *Ruthie Kaminskas*, DMUSD parent, spoke against closing Del Mar Hills Academy.
- *Pete Reese*, DMUSD parent, spoke against closing any school.
- *Karen Aiken*, DMUSD parent, spoke against closing Del Mar Hills Academy.
- *Amy Hellenkamp*, DMUSD parent, spoke against relocating SDC classes.
- *Chris Lien*, DMUSD parent, asked the Board to look at all the factors and make the best decision for the district.
- *Karen Coleman*, DMUSD parent, spoke in favor of closing Del Mar Hills.
- *Lesley Ballard*, DMUSD parent, spoke in favor of closing a small school.

- *Juli Oh*, DMUSD parent, spoke in favor of fiscal responsibility.
- *Vicki Hutchison*, DMUSD parent, spoke against closing a school.
- *Kim Dort*, DMUSD parent, spoke in favor of fiscal responsibility.
- *Beth Westburg*, DMUSD parent, spoke against closing Del Mar Hills Academy.
- *Estella de Llanos*, DMUSD parent, spoke against closing Del Mar Hills Academy.
- *Bill Morris*, DMUSD parent, spoke against closing Del Mar Hills Academy.

Superintendent McClain assured that the staff will review the final report and make a recommendation to the Board. Supt. McClain clarified the need for the Board to present a formal proposal to the Del Mar City Council for an extension of the lease at 225 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Del Mar CA.

**ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 10:00 p.m. to discuss the following:

- 1.1 **Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation** (Government Code section 54956.9(b); Name of Case: Two cases
- 1.2 **Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation** (Government Code Section 54956.9(c); Name of Case: One case

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 12:05 a.m.

**5. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

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

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

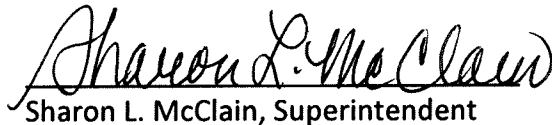
There being no further business to come before the Board, there was a Motion to Adjourn at 12:07 a.m.

**Motion** Easton

**Second** McDowell

**Unanimous**

  
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 Steven McDowell, Clerk

  
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 Sharon L. McClain, Superintendent

3/15/2010  
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 Date

3/15/10  
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