

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of the Board of Trustees' Meeting of October 11, 2012

OPEN SESSION

A. CALL TO ORDER – 6:08 pm

B. ROLL CALL

Board Members: Ms. Judith Bush - Present
Mr. Maurice Goodman – Present
Mrs. Shirlee Hoch - Absent
Mrs. Liza Normandy - Present
Mr. Philip Weise - Present
Alex Moreno – Student Board Member - Excused

Cabinet Members: Mr. Alejandro Hogan, Superintendent - Present
Ms. Patricia Ernsberger, Assistant
Superintendent, Business Services - Present
Dr. Jacqueline McEvoy, Assistant
Superintendent, Human Resources and
Student Services - Present
Dr. Shawnterra Moore, Assistant
Superintendent, Educational Services and
Categorical Programs – Present

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

D. COMMUNITY FORUM – DEDICATED TO MEASURE J PHASE II MATER PLAN

President Judy Bush told the audience the meeting is not tied to the agenda and she encouraged dialogue and comments. She reminded everyone that the Board cannot take action on any items at this meeting.

Superintendent Alejandro Hogan said the Community Forum is an opportunity for the public to hear four presentations on Measure J Bond issues. The Board will receive recommendations on these items at the next meeting, on October 25. At that time the Trustees may or may not approve these recommendations.

a. Cash flow Timeline

Superintendent Hogan introduced Tony Hsieh of Keygent Inc., the District's financial advisors, to review the cash flow situation as we move into Phase II of Measure J.

Mr. Hsieh provided the following information:

Measure J overview:

- \$162 million Bond passed on November 2, 2010
- Maximum estimated tax rate of \$33 per \$100,000 of assessed value
- District issued \$33 million of Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) on June 3, 2011, which matured on June 1, 2012
- District issued \$7 million of general obligation bonds (GO Bonds) on May 23, 2012 and proceeds were used to repay a portion of the 2011 BANs
- District issued \$56 million of BANs on May 23, 2012
 - \$25,999,340 to extend the maturity on a portion of the 2011 BANs and due to mature on June 1, 2016
 - \$30,002 to be used for new money projects and due to mature on May 15, 2017

Current projected plan:

- Using the permitted maximum financing term of 40 years per series of bonds, the District's construction cash flow schedule can be met.

Negative press:

- Mr. Hsieh reviewed recent negative press on CABs and said that the San Diego County treasurer is proposing legislation to limit California school GO Bond financing to a maximum of 25 years. If this legislation passes, the District will not be able to meet the current construction cash flow schedule.

Modification to Tax Rate:

- By modifying the District's tax rate target to an aggregate \$51 per \$100,000 of assessed value, the District would be able to meet the construction cash flow schedule while utilizing bond financings with 25-year terms. This would mean an average increase to property owners of \$56 per year.

In response to Trustee Phil Weise's question, Mr. Hsieh confirmed that the proposed legislature only affects school districts. Mr. Weise said any future tax rate increase should be discussed with the SSF community for their feedback and support.

Superintendent Hogan said the Board will receive recommendations on current Bond projects at the present rate with current cash flow at the October 25 meeting.

b. Right-sizing of District schools

Superintendent Hogan presented this item to the Board and audience. He began by stating that the title of the presentation was changed to "Improving

Schools” due to parent concerns in the District. The recommendation to the Board on October 25 will have nothing to do with changing school parameters. He said that as the Superintendent, it is his responsibility to show options which the Board has the prerogative to implement six to ten years down the road.

Mr. Hogan highlighted three recommendations:

1. Remove 104 portable units throughout the District and install 75 new classrooms.
 - a. The capacity at each site will not change.
 - b. The first three sites which were selected based on the largest number of units to be removed and summer availability are:
 - 1) Skyline Elementary School
 - 2) Monte Verde Elementary School
 - 3) Alta Loma Middle School
2. Install Playground Structures
 - a. Staff is evaluating proposals of two vendors, Miracle Playsystems and Game Time.
3. ADA and Seismic update
 - a. The District will comply with any and all regulations from the State.

Trustee Weise asked if any site would have a net loss of classrooms with portable replacements. Mr. Hogan said there will not be any difference in the capacity at sites and there will not be any changes with grades or teachers.

Mr. Weise asked about not implementing the right-sizing program for six to ten years. Superintendent Hogan said it is an option and the Board can decide when to put it into effect.

Trustee Liza Normandy said money was spent on right-sizing and enrollment projections. She asked how to explain the shift to not proceed to the community. Mr. Hogan replied that the money was well spent on the study and the amount is not as much as might be expected. He will provide this information to the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS

Christina Arce, a teacher at Martin Elementary School, spoke in support of improvements at her school with Measure J. She asked that faculty be part of the planning process at the site. President Bush said Superintendent Hogan would be developing site committees for this issue.

Juliana Salfiti, a Monte Verde parent, asked for data and information on how Measure J money is to be spent. She said the intention of right-sizing is unclear and asked that Monte Verde students not be moved to correct under-enrollment at other sites. In response to her question on displacing students during portable replacement, Bob Collins, of Swinerton, said most work will be done during the summer. Otherwise swing

space will be used while the new classrooms are being built. Trustee Weise reiterated that all portables will be replaced with modulars. Unsafe portables, not being used as classrooms, will be removed.

Pat Rosenthal, a parent, spoke about reduced school sizes, when the public will be made aware of changes, reasons for realignment and having the same curriculum at each site. Trustee Weise said students will not be transferred against parental wishes.

Trustee Maurice Goodman said he does not plan on approving re-alignment in the District and the Board was not aware of information or dialogue at Community Workshops on this topic. Trustee Weise said a Board presentation was made to match the size of a school to the property where it is located, but no decision was made. He told the audience that right-sizing would be addressed with community support.

Karina Ayala, an 8th grader at Parkway Heights Middle School, spoke in support of improving her school. She said those students need a “new, presentable” school to be proud of.

Estreya Gonzales, a Parkway Heights Middle School, spoke of the block schedule with an elective and an advisory period. She asked the Board to improve facilities and the appearance of her school.

Melissa Yoshida, a parent, said she attended the Ponderosa Community Workshop, where downsizing was discussed. She questioned why this information has changed tonight. Superintendent Hogan said it has simply been a change of direction and a proposal was never made to the Board. Trustee Goodman reiterated that the Board has not given direction to downsize schools. Trustee Weise said the Board is keeping its Measure J promises to improve schools.

Maria Lopez, a Monte Verde parent, asked about inter-district transfers and keeping her child in a school which is the right fit. Trustee Weise confirmed that right-sizing was not being put into effect.

Maria Gonzales, a Parkway Heights Middle School parent, spoke in support of a new school. Superintendent Hogan described the Green Schoolhouse which focuses on science studies and community involvement and is planned to be built on the Parkway Heights campus by 2014.

c. Educational Specifications for Elementary and Middle Schools

Master Architect Wally Gordon, of DLM Architects, reviewed the Educational Specifications for middle schools in the District. This is an outline of basic spaces with flexibility for current and future classroom uses. It is used as a guide for construction of new schools and also for modernization of existing sites. Ed Specs are considered as blueprints for architects to design schools.

Mr. Gordon said the model used is based on 80 square feet per student in middle schools. He reviewed a site functional diagram with public and private

sides, a central student commons for leadership classes and clubs, and the adjacency of science classes which is different than the elementary school Ed Specs. Mr. Gordon spoke about the security concerns which have evolved over the past ten years. He also reviewed detailed diagrams for:

- Classrooms
- Multi-purpose/media center and library – true learning center with student collaboration rooms, parent volunteer workspace, etc.
- Science – for prep and four classrooms
- Student services/administration – to fill the need for more counseling based services in middle school

COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

David Grandon, a Martin Elementary School parent, spoke about the need for a new school at that site.

Laurie Dolly, a SSFUSD employee, spoke about right-sizing and asked the Board to consider the effects of moving students between schools.

Lana (no surname), a Monte Verde parent, spoke in support of that school's staff and said each parent has a reason for keeping students in place.

d. High School Athletic Fields

Chris Chisam of Beals Alliance presented their master plan for the District's high school athletic fields.

He congratulated the Board on their foresight in improving the fields, which are considered "outdoor classrooms".

The steering committee met, walked the sites and used an interactive environment to access the fields. Mr. Chisam provided detailed schematics as well as "before" and "after" images for the proposed Phase I and Phase II field improvements at both ECHS and SSFHS.

Mr. Chisam gave the costs on Phase I as \$4.2 million for SSFHS and \$3.7 million for ECHS.

COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

Jeff Cosico, a teacher and Athletic Director at El Camino High School, said student safety on athletic fields is the focus of improvements. He thanked the Board for their foresight with approving future improvements as funds become available.

Jake Jacobson, a SSF resident, said voters approved Measure J so funds could be used to improve athletic fields. He urged improvements be made to El Camino High School to move the site into the 21st century.

Eric Jacobson, an El Camino High School teacher/coach, spoke in support of athletic

field improvements at that site. He asked the Board to “do the right thing” on October 25 and approve Phase I and Phase II.

Matt Schaukowitz, a teacher and Athletic Director at SSFHS, spoke in support of improving athletic fields to promote a positive learning environment. He said ECHS and SSFHS are the last high schools on the peninsula to upgrade fields.

John Ruiz, a parent, said students are getting hurt and are unable to enjoy sports at District high schools. He asked that athletic field improvements be a higher Measure J priority.

Patty Nicholls, a SSFHS parent, told the Board her son’s life improved with football and encouraged the Board to support a safe athletic facility.

Robert Bernardo, a SSF resident, acknowledged National Coming Out Day today and urged the District to keep the anti-bullying conversation moving forward to provide a safe student environment. Trustee Weise said the Board believes there is no tolerance for hatred in the District.

Mr. Weise commented on the Pakistani female student who was recently shot for supporting girls’ education in her country. He suggested the District have a volunteer organization to collect and send textbooks to students in Pakistan.

Trustee Normandy asked the Board to consider a workshop prior to the October 25 meeting. She introduced the new Bond Program Director, Larry Scott, who partners with Swinerton on Measure J projects, to the audience. Mrs. Normandy asked about the cost to remove portables and replace them with new classrooms. Superintendent Hogan said the removal of 104 portables and installation of 75 classrooms will cost \$26.5 million. Trustee Normandy said she is vested in the community and committed to making the best decisions at the October 25 meeting.

President Bush thanked the community for attending tonight’s meeting and providing their input. She said the Board receives information from Cabinet and staff and also from community feedback to make their decisions. Ms. Bush supported a workshop to understand and prioritize the recommendations at the October 25 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:21 pm