

**ALBANY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Closed Session: 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Open Session: 7:00 p.m. - 9:20 p.m.

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A) CALL TO ORDER

President Black called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B) ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: President Black, Vice President Stapleton-Gray, Board Member Blanchard, Board Member Clark, and Board Member Trutane

Staff Present: Superintendent Valerie Williams and Allan Garde, Chief Business Official

C) IDENTIFY CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION III BELOW

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

No one addressed the Board.

III. CLOSED SESSION

A) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - Existing Litigation (Gov. Code section 54956.9):

- Philip Shen, et al. v Albany Unified School District
- Doe, et al. v Albany Unified School District
- John Doe v Albany Unified School District
- C.E. v Albany Unified School District et. al.
- Kaidong Chen v Albany Unified School District

B) WITH RESPECT TO EVERY ITEM OF BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957: Personnel

C) CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54956.8):

Property: 819 Bancroft way, Berkeley, California 94710, Agency Negotiator: Allan Garde, Chief Business Official. Negotiating Parties: Albany Unified School District and Bancroft Center, Inc. Under Negotiation: Price

IV. OPENING BUSINESS

A) CALL TO ORDER (Reconvene to Open Session)

President Black called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B) ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: President Black, Vice President Stapleton-Gray, Board Member Blanchard, Board Member Clark, Board Member Trutane, Student Board Member Attanayake, and Student Board Member Silwal

Staff Present: Superintendent Valerie Williams; Allan Garde, Chief Business Official; Marie Williams, Director III, Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Carrie Nerheim, Director I, Student Services; and Cynthia Attiyeh, Director III, Human Resources

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and members of the public who wished to participate recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

D) READING OF THE AUSD MISSION & VISION STATEMENT

Student Board Member Attanayake read the AUSD Mission & Vision Statement.

E) REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

President Black reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

F) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Black requested a motion to Approve: Albany Unified School District Board of Education Agenda for the February 27, 2018 Regular Meeting. Motion by Board Member Trutane, seconded by Board Member Blanchard. The motion passed unanimously.

G) APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Board of Education

a) Minutes of the January 23, 2018 Board of Education Meeting

President Black mentioned that there have been some corrections to the minutes that the Board has already seen and these corrections will be incorporated. Requested revisions included the following:

D) Reading of the AUSD Mission & Vision Statement

Student Board Members-Attanayake read the AUSD Mission & Vision Statement.

I) PERSONS TO ADDRESS ~~TO ADDRESS~~ THE BOARD ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

J) STAFF REPORT

1. Promoting Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative Environments for All Students and Staff

~~District staff highlighted some of the proactive steps students, staff, and community members are initiating in order to improve the culture and climate of our school community.~~

L) REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

2. Budget Committee

Addition: Member Blanchard expressed concern over the proposed makeup of the committee because 19 of 24 members are AUSD staff and only 5 out of 19 voting members are not staff.

O) REVIEW AND DISCUSSION(continued)

1. Special Education

~~Director Marie stated that Program Specialists met with paraeducators at all sites and with Special Education teachers to discuss staffing concerns and potential solutions.~~ Superintendent Williams held meetings with various Special Education staff. Diane Marie held separate meetings with various staff as well, and some meetings were held with Diane Marie and the Program Specialists.

Karen Bonini, AUSD teacher, addressed the Board and shared the following.

Granted my students have ~~me~~ met their mental disabilities, however it takes a strong willed person who is dedicated and committed to changing their lives to tolerate this abuse and continue to work hard towards improving my students' lives and that is what I do when I wake up every morning to help my students.

2. Human Resources

a) Certificated Personnel Assignment Order & Classified Personnel Assignment Order

3. Business Services

a) January 2018 Warrant Report

b) January 2018 Donation Report

c) Independent Contractor Agreement with Christy White & Associates for External Auditing Services for the 2017/2018 through 2019/2020 Fiscal Years

4. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

a) Overnight Field Trip: Albany High School to Next Generation Jazz Festival in Monterey, California

b) Overnight Field Trip: Albany High School to Davis Model United Nations Conference at Davis, California

President Black requested a motion to Approve: Consent Calendar. Motion by Vice President Stapleton-Gray, seconded by Board Member Trutane. The motion passed unanimously.

H) BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Williams gave her time for the Superintendent's Report to Director Carrie Nerheim for her Staff Report because it is on their recent trip to the Museum of Tolerance, which Superintendent Williams attended as well.

Board Member Trutane stated that she and Superintendent Williams, along with an Albany High student, traveled to Sacramento to meet with State Assembly member Tony Thurmond and the staff of Senator Nancy Skinner to advocate for improved school funding. Superintendent Williams added that she would be in

Sacramento on Feb. 28th to speak before a Joint Committee for Special Education funding, and she encouraged parents to write letters to legislators.

Vice President Stapleton-Gray mentioned that the Albany Library, in addition to having a kiosk for laptop check-out, now also loans Wifi hotspots at no cost for up to three weeks.

Vice President Stapleton-Gray also spoke briefly about the Parkland, Florida shooting and “The Overton Window,” and hopes that we, as a community, can focus on education and information regarding gun violence and how to actually do something about it, rather than on avoiding the discussion or the research altogether.

President Black added that a Resolution will be brought to the Board in early March regarding gun violence.

I) STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS’ REPORT

Student Board Members Attanayake and Silwal provided the Board with the Student Board Member Report, which announced some of the recent and upcoming events in various AUSD schools.

Recent events included:

On Saturday, February 10th, Berkeley Chess School held an *Elementary K-5 School Championship*. Twenty-four schools participated in the tournament and Marin school students did an amazing job, winning a 1st place trophy for the school.

The *3rd Annual Black History Month Celebration* was on Thursday, February 15th, in the Ocean View Multi-use room. It was a great chance to celebrate black history in Albany.

A huge congratulations to all of *Albany High School’s Speech and Debate team* for a stellar performance at the *annual Stanford University Invitational, February 10-12, 2018*. Special shout out to Ruby T., Maria F., Milo K., Nathan S., Samantha S., Yunfan Z., and Jorjie K., for succeeding in early rounds of debate and advancing in competition to the semi-final rounds in their respective events.

Upcoming events include:

Parent Education Night: "Imagine a World Without Hate- An Anti-Defamation League Event," hosted by the Cornell, Ocean View, and Marin PTA's on Wednesday, March 7th from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Cornell. This event will focus discussions on how to disrupt bigotry, bullying, and hate crimes in our community, and how to help ourselves and our children be strong allies.

Family Math Night at Cornell on Friday March 13th in the Cornell Multipurpose Room.

Albany High’s Spring Fling Dance, the social event of the year, *#Flashback Friday*, will be Friday March 16th at Memorial Hall.

The Marin Moonlight Auction will be on Saturday, March 24th, 6:00 -10:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale now and donations are welcome.

Vice President Stapleton-Gray commented that the Berkeley Chess School does an amazing job making chess accessible, and we are lucky to have them nearby.

J) PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

No one addressed the Board.

K) STAFF REPORT

1. Promoting Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative Environments for All Students

Carrie Nerheim, Director of Student Services, presented a slideshow on a recent trip to the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles, California. Over 40 staff members from elementary schools attended this trip along with herself and Superintendent Williams. The trip was funded by a grant from the Museum of Tolerance. They learned about difficult and challenging events that occurred during the Holocaust, the Civil Rights Movement, the Japanese Internment, and the Cesar Chavez Movement. It was a very emotional learning experience, and some who attended are still trying to process everything that they saw there. The Museum of Tolerance provided *Tools for Tolerance for Professionals*, all free, and everything on their website is absolutely free. They have designed curriculum that is aligned with the Common Core State Standards.

Board members and staff added briefly to the conversation. One paraeducator, Athena Craig, commented on how touching the trip to the Museum was, and she was very appreciative to have been part of it. Board Member Blanchard stated that he looks forward to hearing what comes back into the classrooms later on. Board Member Trutane was excited that so many elementary teachers attended to bring these practices into the lives of younger students. Director Nerheim added that not only teachers who attended but paraeducators and office staff were included so that ‘we could all have a common language.’ Please view the [February 27, 2018 BOE video](#) to see the complete presentation.

2. Special Education Update

Diane Marie, Director of Special Education, is out of state. Superintendent Williams presented a report on paraeducators attendance rates. Public discussion identified issues surrounding the availability of substitute paraeducators to ensure full coverage. Requests were made for clarification on attendance rates (with or without sub coverage) and that data be delineated by Special Day Class and Resource Paraprofessional Specialists. Further discussion focused on Resource Paraprofessionals, the lack of funding for Special Education, the need to make more parents aware of the lack of funding, and the value of parents advocating for additional state funding. Superintendent Williams emphasized that Albany Unified School District is not fully funded by the state or federal government to meet the needs and mandates put upon the District, which is why she is advocating in Sacramento for additional funding and urging parents to write legislators.

3. Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Update

Marie Williams, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, stated that we are in our fifth year of developing a Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and provided a general overview and orientation for those who are new to the LCAP process. An important change to note is that California Education Code 52060 now specifies that the LCAP shall be effective for three (3) years and shall be updated on or before July 1st of each year. Stakeholder involvement and community input is really important in the process of updating information, and everyone in the community can be involved. Another noteworthy change this year is that the District is inviting input electronically and will provide an input Form Link on the AUSD main website by

Monday, March 5th. Additional updates will be provided throughout the spring. Please view the [February 27, 2018 BOE video](#) to see the complete presentation.

Before proceeding to the next item, Superintendent Williams recommended to move items on the Agenda: REVIEW AND ACTION Item #5: Resolution 2017-18-14: Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bonds in an Aggregate Principal Amount Not to Exceed \$34 Million (Measure B) Bonds and \$10 Million (Measure E) Bonds Pending State Board of Education Approval of the District's Waiver Application to REVIEW AND ACTION #3.

Items on the Board Agenda under REVIEW AND ACTION were so reordered:

Item #5 was moved to #3;

Item #3 was moved to #4;

Item #4 moved to #5

M) REVIEW AND ACTION

1. Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and the Albany Unified School District (AUSD) for 2017/18

No questions or comments. President Black requested a motion to Approve: Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and the Albany Unified School District (AUSD) for 2017/18. Motion by Board Member Clark, seconded by Vice President Stapleton-Gray. The motion passed unanimously. Board Member Trutane thanked all of the members of the SEIU for the work they do and how they help keep the District running. President Black agreed.

2. Resolution 2017-18-13: Release/Non-Reelect Temporary Certificated Employees

A brief discussion focused on the notification timeline for bringing back people and what is entailed in that process for determining needs. Director Attiyeh described the difference between a “layoff,” and a “temporary release” and explained that these are releases of temporary employees, not layoffs of permanent employees.

Board Member Clark Motioned to Vote to Adopt: Resolution 2017-18-13: Release/Non-Reelect Temporary Certificated Employees. Motion seconded by Board Member Trutane. The motion passed unanimously.

~~5-3~~ Resolution 2017-18-14: Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bonds in an Aggregate Principal Amount Not to Exceed \$34 Million (Measure B) Bonds and \$10 Million (Measure E) Bonds Pending State Board of Education Approval of the District's Waiver Application

Allan Garde, Chief Business Official, presented a slideshow to provide background information on and importance of this Resolution. Bonds issued would total \$44 million, to be timed to take advantage of historically low bond interest rates. With the approval of this resolution, we would be able to move forward with selecting an elementary school project and proceed with the design and implementation. Board members, staff, several consultants to AUSD including Makiko Sato, Financial Advisor from Isom Advisors, Katherine Perkins, Bond Underwriter from RBC Capital, and John Palmer, Bond Counsel from Orrick, for AUSD discussed the

interest rates, costs of construction and taxes, and the amount of interest AUSD would pay. Please view the [February 27, 2018 BOE video](#) to see the slides presented and hear the full discussion.

President Black requested a motion to approve: Resolution 2017-18-14: Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bonds in an Aggregate Principal Amount Not to Exceed \$34 Million (Measure B) Bonds and \$10 Million (Measure E) Bonds Pending State Board of Education Approval of the District's Waiver Application. Motion by Vice President Stapleton-Gray, seconded by Board Member Blanchard. The motion passed unanimously.

~~3-4.~~ Lease Agreement with Bancroft Center, Inc., for 819 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94710 for Temporary District Office

Chief Business Official Allan Garde stated that this proposal is to split up the District Office, not move it entirely to Berkeley. Some of the direct services such as Enrollment, Student Services, Technology, and Special Education would remain in Albany on District-owned property. Other departments such as Business, Payroll, Human Resources, etc. would move to the new site in Berkeley. It was stressed that meetings will be held at school sites in Albany so that site administrators, parents, and community members do not need to travel outside of Albany. Board members reiterated that while we are developing plans to rebuild our schools, we need to consider this split in the District Office and keep in mind that a long term plan should be to have all AUSD staff in Albany.

President Black requested a motion to approve: Lease Agreement with Bancroft Center, Inc., for 819 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94710 for Temporary District Office. Motion by Board Member Trutane, seconded by Board Member Clark. The motion passed unanimously.

4. 5. Agreement for Design-Build Services with Alten Construction for the Albany High School Addition Project

Allan Garde, Chief Business Official, presented slides and a silent video of the proposed project. Approval of this Agreement for Design-Build Services with Alten Construction would allow us to move forward with the project as approval of the construction company, but this agreement does not commit the Board to a final design. A representative from Alten Construction spoke briefly about the design-build and public bidding process with AUSD, and stressed that they welcomed feedback upon which they may elaborate the details of the design plan in the weeks ahead. Discussion among Board Members, staff, and an AUSD parent centered on the use of space, school security, and enhanced security features. There was a common consensus for the need to include security in the final design plan. Please view the [February 27, 2018 BOE video](#) to see the slides and silent video of the proposed project.

President Black added that he appreciated the level of thought and concern that went into how to do this construction without disturbing classrooms and the rest of the school.

President Black requested Motion to approve: Agreement for Design-Build Services with Alten Construction for the Albany High School Addition Project. Motion by Board Member Blanchard, seconded by Board Member

Trutane. The motion passed unanimously; however, Board Member Jacob Clark approved the vote contingent upon adding security fencing to the project.

6. Vote for Delegates for California School Boards Association 2018 (CSBA) Delegate Assembly Election
Board Members held a brief discussion about the candidates, with four vacancies available. President Black requested a vote for the slate of the four candidates: Valerie Arkin (Pleasanton USD); Amy Miller (Dublin USD); Leo Sheridan (San Leandro USD); and Annette Walker (Hayward USD). The vote was approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INTRODUCED BY THE BOARD

Security at School Sites/School Safety Plans

Report on Final Design for the Albany High School Addition Project (Phase 2)

V. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 9:25 p.m.