

**ALBANY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Board of Education Meeting Highlights 12/11/2018**

Two issues, the district's budget and temporary housing during construction, drew crowds to this meeting. The Board unanimously rejected the proposed First Interim Budget Report, which included \$2.5 million in cuts to the 2019-20 school year budget. The Board had requested to see a budget with deep cuts because of the district's deficit spending (for years, we have been spending more annually than we bring in) and because the Board passed a resolution last July that was sent to our overseeing agency, the Alameda County Office of Education, stating that we would cut \$2.5 million to address this issue. However, the recommendation of the Budget Advisory Committee, and the opinion of the Board, was that cuts of this magnitude would be devastating to our students. After lengthy deliberation and many speakers from the audience, the Board voted in favor of preparing a new First Interim Budget Report with approximately \$1 million in cuts. The AMS seven-period day was retained (electives are safe!), no counselors will be reduced, and mental health programs will continue. The revised 1st Interim report will be voted on at a Special Board Meeting Monday, Dec. 17th at the Cornell Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room. However, there will be no opportunity to make changes to that report. The Board's desire is to work assiduously beginning in January to reconvene the Budget Advisory Committee and to explore options to increase revenues. Interim budget reports are not binding, although they must be accurate and offered in good faith. The 2019-20 final budget will be adopted in June 2019.

Every Albany school principal and the Albany Children's Center director stood up together for the presentation of the Principals' Plan for Temporary Housing during the upcoming Ocean View rebuild/renovation project. This relocation plan begins next year, the 2019-20 school year.

**All incoming Albany kindergartners** -- at Cornell and Marin in morning and afternoon programs (AM/PM Kindergarten)

**Ocean View 1st and 2nd graders** -- at the new AMS Annex

**Ocean View 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders** -- remain at OV campus in current rooms plus additional portable classrooms

This plan allows AMS, which is severely overcrowded, to use some classrooms at the new Annex, including the large Drama Space. The principals did not recommend an Early Bird/Late Bird (EB/LB) kindergarten program (the district's current model) because the space required to run EB/LB kindergarten is not available on any campus, in their opinion. The principals explained that retaining an EB/LB program would require delaying the reconstruction of Ocean View for a year until the AHS Addition is built, and then would necessitate utilizing three campuses (Temporary OV, AMS Annex, and AHS Addition) and possibly park space. Because estimated costs for this plan were not included, the Board asked the principals to return with the most feasible EB/LB plan and the associated costs. Construction delay would be a significant part of that, as price escalation in construction is extreme now in California.

*These are my personal notes, any mistakes are my own. Board President Kim Trutane*