

ALBANY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Board of Education Meeting Highlights 3/13/2018

The Spotlight was on MacGregor High School, Albany's excellent continuation high school. A continuation high school serves students who are at least sixteen years old and at risk of not graduating on schedule. MacGregor is co-located with Albany High School and students take classes from both Mac and AHS. The idea was mentioned that if MacGregor became an alternative as well as a continuation school, it could also serve ninth and tenth grade students who may need services.

Albany High School's National Ocean Science Bowl Team is one of 23 winning teams to advance to the 2018 Finals, to be held at the University of Colorado in Boulder Colorado. Five students from Albany High School will compete.

The Board passed three resolutions: 1) supporting school safety and gun control; 2) supporting a long-range plan to bring California's school funding up to the average for the nation, and then into the top ten; and 3) supporting a specific school funding bill stating those same goals which is now in committee. Assembly Bill 2808 (AB2808) needs grassroots support. Please consider sending an email or letter in support of increased funding. A sample letter is posted here: <https://www.ausdk12.org/apps/news/article/844898>.

The Superintendent and myself reported that we had spent the day at the State Capitol in Sacramento, advocating for adequate education funding statewide.

In the Special Education Update, a more detailed report on absenteeism among paraprofessionals was presented. This discussion will continue, as the issue needs to be fully explored and will likely be addressed in multiple ways.

Elementary Teachers On Special Assignment presented instructional materials they have selected as part of a comprehensive K-5 literacy program. The Elementary Curriculum Council did not think that a single package of instructional materials was superior, their preference is to assemble several outstanding components to create a unique program. Phonemic awareness and decoding for very early learners were discussed. The Teachers On Special Assignment will return later this spring to discuss other components.

An Memorandum of Understanding between Peralta Community College and Albany Unified was presented. This program would allow high school students to be simultaneously enrolled and earn college credit while taking a pair of classes to be taught on Albany High campus. This exciting new program will come back to the Board later this spring for approval. Classes would start next fall.

The second interim budget report was accepted. The Governor's current budget proposal includes additional one-time funding for the next school year. Because of this, Albany Unified is able to receive positive certification from the county, indicating AUSD is able to meet its financial

obligations. However, AUSD is still spending approximately \$2 million more annually than our standard revenue stream can support. Unless a dependable revenue stream emerges, we will still be planning deep cuts for the future.

These are my personal notes, any mistakes are my own. Trustee Kim Trutane