

**ALBANY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

November 27, 2018

Albany City Hall

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A) CALL TO ORDER

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

B) ROLL CALL

- 1. Board Members Present:** President Black, Vice President Stapleton-Gray, Board Member Blanchard, Board Member Clark, Board Member Trutane
- 2. Staff Members Present:** Superintendent Valerie Williams, Jackie Kim, Chief Business Official, Cheryl Cotton, Director, Human Resources

C) IDENTIFY CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION III BELOW

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Having no one present to address the Board , the Board convened to Closed Session.

III. CLOSED SESSION: With Respect to Every Item of Business to be Discussed in Closed Session:

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

- Philip Shen, et al. v Albany Unified School District

B) PURSUANT TO GOV. CODE SECTION 54957.6: CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Superintendent Valerie Williams, District Representative), REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS AS IT PERTAINS TO:

- Albany Teachers Association (ATA)
- California School Employees Association (CSEA)
- Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

IV. OPEN SESSION

A) CALL TO ORDER (Reconvene to Open Session)

President Black called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

B) ROLL CALL

1. **Board Members Present:** President Black, Vice President Stapleton-Gray, Board Member Blanchard, Board Member Clark, Board Member Trutane, Student Board Member Weinstein, and Student Board Member Mallah
2. **Staff Present:** Superintendent Valerie Williams; Jackie Kim, Chief Business Official; Cheryl Cotton, Director of Human Resources; Marie Williams, Director III, Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Diane Marie, Director III, Special Education; and Dax Kajiwara, Director of Technology;
3. **Staff Excused:** Carrie Nerheim, Director I, Student Services

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D) READING OF THE AUSD MISSION & VISION STATEMENT

Student Board Member Mallah read the AUSD Mission and Vision statement.

E) REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

President Black reported that the Board no action in Closed Session.

F) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Having no changes to the Agenda, President Black requested a motion.

Motion to Approve the Agenda by Board Member Trutane; seconded by Board Vice President Stapleton-Gray and unanimously approved.

G) CONSENT CALENDAR

1) Superintendent

- a) *Minutes of the September 25, 2018 Regular Board Meeting*

2) Human Resources

- a) *Certificated Personnel Assignment Order & Classified Personnel Assignment Order*
- b) *Student Teacher and Intern Placement Agreement*

3) Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

- a) *Independent Contractor Agreement with Berkeley Chess School for Elementary Enrichment: Chess at Ocean View Elementary School*

Motion to Approve the Consent Calendar by Vice President Stapleton-Gray; seconded by Board Member Blanchard and unanimously approved.

H) BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Superintendent Williams reported that on November 17th, the Fundraising Advisory Committee and PTA Presidents met with her and two District Staff members to discuss revenue-generating ideas. They will meet again in December. She encouraged the public to check the AUSD Calendar of Events leading up to the Winter Break for the many concerts at elementary through high school grades.

President Black reported that he attended a gathering of students, along with Kim Trutane and the Student Board Members, to discuss the budget.

Vice-President Stapleton-Gray commented on a situation related to school closures due to air quality and would like to see the Joint AUSD-City Council meeting agendaize an item on how the City of Albany could rely on the school district and use buildings and facilities in times of their need, and how AUSD can rely on the City, as well as our neighboring districts and cities.

Board Member Blanchard: No report

Board Member Clark: No report

Board Member Trutane: No report

I) STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT

Student Board Members Weinstein and Mallah provided the Board with the Student Board Member Report, which highlighted some of the recent and upcoming events in the Albany schools.

Albany High School:

- The Albany High School choir is having their first Annual Dessert Theatre on November 30th and December 1st. Come out to hear music across many different genres while enjoying all-you-can-eat dessert.
- The Jazz Winter concert will be held on Thursday, December 6th, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Albany Middle School:

- Come to Albany Middle School's annual craft fair on December 2nd to shop from local crafters and support the Albany Middle School arts.
- Listen to great music provided by AMS bands, choirs and orchestras, in their concerts that will be happening within the next few weeks. Specific times for each one are on the AMS website.

Ocean View Elementary School:

- Families went out to eat at Chipotle on November 16th, where a portion of profits were donated to Ocean View Elementary.
- Pizza Days, a fundraiser for Ocean View, will be selling Little Star Pizza after school on select days in November and December.
- The PTA met on November 15th.

Marin Elementary School:

- Students will come together in the yard to celebrate Marin Morning on December 5th.
- Well Tek technologies have come to Marin to teach students tech using LEGO's.
- Families are gathering food to contribute to the canned food drive.

Cornell Elementary School:

- The Books Inc. holiday shopping night was held on November 17th, which benefitted Cornell Elementary.
- The Cornell Winter Craft Fair will occur from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on December 1st.

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

No public comment for items not on the agenda.

K) REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

1) Superintendent: *Budget Advisory Committee Mission and Structure*

Superintendent Williams reviewed the background of this item as presented in the agenda packet. Board Members Clark asked for clarification regarding the recommendations that the Budget Advisory Committee made even though they did not have expertise on them. Were these their recommendations, or were they from Superintendent? Superintendent Williams stated that committee asked for a list of potential cuts, she and her staff provided the committee with options and ideas. There were more recommendations that were made that added up to \$3.1M, but some were considered negotiable that could not be talked about.

Board Member Blanchard commented that he attended 4 of the 6 committee meetings. The committee worked hard and they were explicitly charged with the purpose to identify potential expenditure reductions to meet the School Board's goal to balance the budget and evaluate consequences (pros and cons) associated with each. They were not to provide recommendations. He stated that they did what they asked them to do, and he stated that he strongly supports that they have more time.

President Black seconded this, and recommended that the Board make it a standing committee, and expand it to include more expertise, more members of community. Board Member Trutane added that the mission of the committee should also be expanded so that they may be able to look at revenue streams. Superintendent Williams added that she would like to add at least one more teacher, ensure that each school level is represented, and add more classified members.

Budget Advisory Committee Member, Morgan Paschke, stated that she agreed with everything the Board has said. The Board requested Staff to pass this to the new board and make it a standing committee, expand the mission and purpose of the committee to include revenue generating ideas, and add more members. This will be brought back as a Review and Action item in January.

L) REVIEW AND ACTION

1) Human Resources:

a) *Recommendation to Designate Certificated Employees to Permanent Status*

Cheryl Cotton, Director of Human Resources, clarified that this is a standard procedure to move specific employees from their Probationary Status to Permanent Status.

Motion to approve by Board Member Trutane; seconded by Board Member Blanchard, and unanimously approved.

2) Superintendent:

a) *Superintendent's Budget Reduction Plan*

Superintendent Williams reviewed her Budget Reduction Plan based upon Table 1 of the

Reductions, as presented in the agenda packet. She stated that the promotion of the Director III of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment to Assistant Superintendent will include no salary increase. She also stated that to reduce a counselor would have dire consequences, and thus recommends to move this to Table 2. She did not move anything up from Table 2 to Table 1 because she was asked by the Board to bring a reduction plan based on Table 1. The total planned reductions equal \$811,275.

Many members of the community addressed the Board to publicly state their support for Special Education, Mental Health Counselors, and specific requests not cut the Behavior Specialist or Counselor positions. Teachers from the high school (also representatives from the ATA) presented slideshow “ATA’s Response to Budget Cut Proposals” with their proposed recommendations for cutting the budget that included more cuts at the district office and implementing new revenue streams. Counselors at Albany Middle School addressed the Board to support counseling positions and spoke against the reduction of mental health support. Several students stated their support of electives and counselors at the middle school. There was some discussion about revenue-generating ideas such as opening enrollment to allow for more interdistrict transfer students, increasing classroom sizes, and a City soda tax.

The Board discussed the budget plan presented and the ideas that were presented by the community. Board Member Clark stated that he would like the \$500K reduction of the District Office to be higher, and would like to see a different plan that does not take so much from Special Education. President Black stated he is unable to go along with the plan presented because the Board passed a resolution to cut \$2.5M by 1st Interim, not by 3rd interim. Members of the Board stated that the Board would like to vote on a monetary value plan and not specifics, as it is not the Board’s role to micromanage the District. It is the Board’s job to approve a budget. The Board asked Staff to bring a budget back with the target of \$2.5M budget adjustments for them to vote on.

MOTION by Vice President Stapleton-Gray on the *Superintendent’s Budget Reduction Plan*, requesting Staff to come back with an Interim budget of \$2.5M reflecting adjustments to be voted on at the next Board Meeting on December 11, 2018. The motion was **seconded** by President Black.

Roll Call Vote:

- Student Board Member Audrey Mallah: Abstain
- Student Board Member Michaela Weinstein: Abstain
- Board Member Kim Trutane: Aye
- Board Member Jacob Clark: Aye
- Board Member Charlie Blanchard: No
- Board Vice President Ross Stapleton-Gray: Aye
- Board President Paul Black: Aye

Result: The motion passed by a roll call vote of 4 Ayes; 1 No; 2 Abstains.

M) NEED TO EXTEND MEETING

President Black requested to extend the meeting. Board Member Trutane suggested to extend the meeting until 9:30 p.m. and requested to take a five (5) minute break. President Black moved to extend the meeting until 10:00 p.m. with a break. Board Member Trutane seconded it and passed.

N) BREAK AND RECONVENE

The Board took a break at 8:50 p.m. and reconvened at 8:59 p.m.

O) REVIEW AND ACTION

b) Plan for Temporary Housing for Elementary Students

President Black introduced this item and reported that a Special Session was held on Thursday, November 15, 2018 on this item, at which time many members of the community showed up to provide input. He stated that a lot of emails were also received by the Board and Superintendent Williams, and thanked the community for their input. Superintendent Williams reviewed the questions that were asked of her at the November 15th meeting, as presented in the slideshow and included in the board agenda packet. President Black requested to review the different options that were presented at the November 15, 2018 meeting, which can be viewed in the [November 15, 2018 Board Agenda Packet](#).

Clarification was asked regarding the details in the board agenda packet list that the Ocean View construction is projected to begin in January 2020. Juan Barroso, Project Manager for the construction, was present to elaborate on this and stated that the plan has always been to begin groundbreaking in January 2020.

The Board and Staff discussed the optimal time to move students and staff, the use of portables, and if all viable solutions have been considered. Board Member Clark reviewed Option 3 that was presented in the Board Packet on November 15, 2018, which included the use of portables.

Board Member Clark reviewed **Option 3 - Portables at Ocean View** that was presented in the Board Packet on Nov. 15, 2018 and presented some data for this as a rough draft. He stated that the 5th graders would be in 5th grade wing; 4th graders would be in 2 portables that they are currently using and 2 rooms attached to the MPR; 3rd graders would be in 4 portables currently on basketball courts; 2nd graders would go into 4 portables (4 that are at the middle school would move to Ocean View to use); 1st graders would use 4 portables; and Kindergarteners would use 4 portables. The district would need a total of 8 new portables. As presented in the November 15, 2018 Board Agenda Packet, the total cost of 4 portables = \$969,432 (rounded to \$1M), so 8 portables would cost \$2M. The district could recoup some of this cost by selling the portables later.

Deborah Brill, Principal of Albany Middle School, stated that we need a solution that meets the needs of all of our students, both at Ocean View and at Albany Middle School.

O) NEED TO EXTEND MEETING

President Black moved to extend the meeting until 11:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Board Member Trutane and passed.

P) REVIEW AND ACTION (continued)

b) Plan for Temporary Housing for Elementary Students (continued)

The Board and Staff continued to discuss and listen to community input on the Plans for Temporary Housing for Elementary Students. Student Board Member Mallah stated that she would like to hear community input and come up with a different solution that does not pit Ocean View and Albany Middle School against one another. David Haupert, Vice Principal of Albany Middle School, asked the School Board and community to reach out to the new Governor for more funds, and requested swift action on the budget reductions and the rehousing/construction timeline.

Many members of the community were in attendance to express their support for Option 1 or 1A. Many spoke to state their concerns or support for Early Bird/Late Bird or AM/PM schedules, school safety, the use of portables, child-care, before and after-school care, and the overcrowding of the Albany Middle School.

Board Member Blanchard offered a new solution, and stated that the Board and District needs to think systemically about the two big issues: 1) building new buildings and 2) balancing our general fund budget and how we can do both.

- 1) Through collective bargaining that would establish maximum average class sizes, temporarily allow K-3 class sizes to increase without loss of state K-3 class size funding
- 2) Temporarily allow classes grades 4-5 to increase
- 3) Add paraeducators to larger classes
- 4) Allow parents to opt to attend any elementary school; with that, accommodate up to ½ of Ocean View students at Cornell and Marin without any portables by using existing classrooms
- 5) Temporarily operate ½ size Ocean View using the existing buildings and existing portables
- 6) Move 4 Albany Middle School portables to the Ocean View parking lot

Board Member Blanchard added that this option would alleviate the overcrowding at the middle school and supports the budget reduction process.

Q) NEED TO EXTEND MEETING

President Black stated that the Board needed more time in the meeting. Board Member Trutane moved to extend the meeting until 11:15 p.m. and passed.

R) REVIEW AND ACTION (continued)

b) Plan for Temporary Housing for Elementary Students (continued)

The Board of Education continued to discuss and determine the next steps. The Board asked Staff to consider options for temporary housing for students that allows AMS the ability to use a portion of the AMS Annex and to consider placing at least three grade levels on the Ocean View campus during construction. The Board instructed Staff to bring this back as a Review and Discussion item at the

next Board meeting on December 11th where the new Board can provide input and direction to Staff. **Motion** by Board Member Trutane to Table the Plan for Temporary Housing for Elementary Students. The motion was seconded by Board Member Clark and passed unanimously.

VI. AGENDA ITEMS/MATTERS INTRODUCED BY THE BOARD

- Plan for Temporary Housing for Elementary Students
- Budget Advisory Committee as Review and Action on January 8, 2019

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the meeting at 11:12 p.m.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

Date	Time	Location
December 11, 2018	7:00 - 9:30 p.m.	Albany City Hall