

**Albany Unified School District
Board of Education**

**Albany Community Center
1249 Marin Avenue
Albany, California 94706**

MINUTES OF:
Regular Meeting
March 3, 2009

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Member Glasser called the regular meeting of March 3, 2009, to order at 6:54 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Member Glasser, Member Rosenbaum, Member Low

MEMBERS ABSENT: President Calloway (arrived at 8:00pm), Member Walden (arrived at 7:50 pm) Student member Kang and Student Member Mou

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Superintendent Stephenson, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Harden, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Hornada, Director Special Education Diane Marie

MEMBERS ABSENT: none

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR CLOSED SESSION: none

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION: 6:55 pm

RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION: 7:31 pm

ROLL CALL: Member Glasser, Member Rosenbaum, Member Low

MEMBERS PRESENT: Member Glasser, Member Rosenbaum, Member Low

MEMBERS ABSENT: President Calloway (arrived at 8:00pm), Member Walden (arrived at 7:50 pm) Student member Kang and Student Member Mou

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Superintendent Stephenson, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Harden, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Hornada, Director Special Education Diane Marie

STAFF MEMBERS ABSENT: none

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Board of Education & audience joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION: Member Glasser reported that the Board upheld the stipulated expulsion and suspended the expulsion of Student #206256

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

With respect to the Agenda, it was moved by Member Rosenbaum and seconded by Member Low approve the Agenda as presented. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:

Approval of Board Minutes

October 21, 2008

November 5, 2008

Members Glasser, Calloway, and Walden reported areas of inaccuracy in both sets of minutes. Superintendent Stephenson will revise and resubmit the minutes to the Board.

Certificated

1. Teacher

Classified

1. After-School Italian

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS:

Member Glasser questioned the MS Environmental Solutions contract. He asked staff to check the calendar in regards to the disposal of items, frequency of disposal and assurance that disposal is environmentally friendly. Superintendent Stephenson responded chemical items were disposed of annually and the method of disposal described in the contract Member Glasser asked staff to check where exactly do the chemicals go when they are disposed of.

Members Gasser and Rosenbaum had questions regarding the warrants. Assistant Superintendent Harden answered their questions.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:

With respect to the Consent Calendar, it was moved by Member Rosenbaum and seconded by Member Low approve the Agenda as presented absent the minutes of October 21, 2008 and November 5, 2008. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT: none

STAFF REPORTS:

Albany High School WASC Update

Principal Barone; VP Charlip and VP Benau presented an overview of the WASC process. WASC is Western Association for Schools and Colleges and is an accrediting agency. If not accredited, colleges may not accept school's credits. VP Benau provided

explanation of Albany High School's progress on the 8 identified items. Targets are being met.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Persons to Address Board on Matters Not on the Agenda

Loring Barker, ATA president defined trust and respect. ATA is protesting the Board's unilateral decision to increase instructional time in grades 1-3. He stated that teachers are "Working to rule".

Teachers Karen Fox-Reynolds; Ann Griffith; Joan Serin; Linda Bishop; Geri Frasier; Maggie Sheppard; Monica Barry; Meg Nixon; Diana Lamson; Debbie Wanlin; Nancy Marshal-Smith; Toni Constantino; Christine Mularkey; Kim Gray and others spoke about Trust and Respect.

Member Low discussed the importance about being extra kind and extra understanding during hard times. She hopes the Board and teachers can work through this and educate children to best of our ability while maintaining respect.

Member of the Public, Dawn Kawamoto addressed the Board on parcel tax and the two-pool construction. She asked "If construction goes over cost of approved bond, will the money come out of school's budget?" Operational costs are of concern. She does not want tax money covering any overage.

President Calloway said if the matter is not on the agenda, then the Board cannot respond.

Member Glasser said that District has good record of contracting with good contractors that finish on time and within budget.

Member Rosenbaum would like Superintendent Stephenson to review how money in one budget cannot be used for other purposes.

Member Glasser asked Superintendent Stephenson to summarize discussion of pool from last week's board meeting. Superintendent Stephenson summarized.

Julie Tovar, Marin parent, asked the Board to reconsider the resolution to increase instructional minutes.

Christie B, OceanView parent, asked if there had been a community task force regarding the change in instructional minutes. She urged the Board to do outreach to the community so the community understands decision.

Member Low thanked Christy and said there was a Task Force on staggered reading, not so much on instructional minutes. Member Low would like more discussion and is willing to put in time to accomplish a strategic discussion.

Alisha Alonzo, Marin parent, urges the School Board to reconsider the resolution to increase instructional minutes and to listen to teachers.

REVIEW AND ACTION ITEMS:

A. Approve Resolution 2008-09-21 Non-Reelection of Probationary Certificated Employees.

Superintendent Stephenson reported that this is done annually.

Member Walden said it is always painful to approve these. However, we need to respect principals and support their decisions.

Member Rosenbaum agrees with Member Walden but will abstain on two of them as he was the administrator who hired them.

It was moved by Member Walden and seconded by Member Calloway to Approve Resolution 2008-09-21 Non-Reelection of Probationary Certificated. The Board was polled with members Walden, Calloway, Glasser and Low voting Aye. Member Rosenbaum voted Aye but Abstaining on DeGuilio and Chi.

B Approve Resolution 2008-09-22 Intention to Decrease the Number of Certificated Employees Due to a Reduction of particular Kinds of Service.

Superintendent Stephenson explained that this was necessary due to unforeseen dire budget both at the federal and state level. The District had to react to these 2009-10 cuts and to midyear cuts.

Member Rosenbaum said this is the most difficult vote the Board has taken. His platform was maintaining breadth and depth of course offerings.

Member Walden asked for assurance that cuts were also made from parcel tax and general fund so if programs can be reinstated, the money would come back out of each.

Superintendent Stephenson spoke about the 2005 Parcel Tax stating that she has left in 4 FTE to support the Middle School program. The Board had already taken action on reducing from general fund the middle school day from 7 periods to 6 periods. She asked the Board for direction on further shortening the school day from 6 periods to 5 periods. A 5 period day would result if she were to cut the 4 FTE out of the 2005 parcel tax. She also noted that she left two librarians in the 2005 parcel tax.

Member Glasser asked the community to come together to help restore some of these cuts. He also asked for community ideas.

Teacher Linda Bishop asked why elementary teachers are listed as elementary FTE whereas secondary is more detailed.

Superintendent Stephenson explained that secondary is more specific due to credentialing whereas all elementary teachers have multi-subject credentials.

Ms. Bishop asked if the elementary reading program is in danger.

Superintendent Stephenson explained that reading specialists are funded through Title I and SchoolCare at OV and Cornell, but the Marin reading specialist is .5 FTE SchoolCare and SLIBG and .5 FTE BTSA support for the District out of general fund.

Member Walden asked for direction regarding which is more important, reading specialist or para-educator support in classrooms.

Dawn Kawamoto suggested that the pool bond could be revoked so a new parcel tax would go through

Nancy Schiller responded to Member Walden's question about reading specialists vs. para-educators. She asked where money came from to pay para-educators. Superintendent Stephenson explained funding

It was moved by Member Walden and seconded by Member Glasser to Approve Resolution 2008-09-22 Intention to Decrease the Number of Certificated Employees Due to a Reduction of particular Kinds of Service. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

C. Approve Resolution 2008-09-23 Determine Tie-Breaking Criteria.

Superintendent Stephenson explained tie breaking criteria.

Members discussed the tie breaking. Member Walden suggested that BCLAD be separated out and given an extra point. Member Low agreed with Member Walden's suggestion.

Member Low moved to approve Resolution 2008-09-23 Determine Tie-Breaking Criteria with the amendment to separate BCLAD from CLAD and add additional point. Member Walden seconded. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

D. Approve Resolution 2008-09-24 Release and Reassignment of Certificated Administrators.

Superintendent Stephenson explained the reductions. There was a discussion of reassignment.

Mr. Kindle expressed concern about losing the Vice Principal at AMS. He stated that staff would need to backfill for safety reasons, particularly at lunch time.

Joanna Pace, AMS teacher, expressed concern over the loss of the Vice Principal at AMS.

It was moved by Member Walden and seconded by Member Rosenbaum to Approve Resolution 2008-09-24 Release and Reassignment of Certificated Administrators. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

E. Approve the 1st Day of Instruction for the School Year of 2009-10 as August 26, 2009.

Superintendent Stephenson stated that ATA does not have a calendar proposal ready and that she has consulted with the committee chair Nancy Schiller. Parents need to know when school starts in the fall. They have both agreed upon August 26th as the 1st day of school.

Member Walden suggested we not have 2 professional development days at beginning of year until budget is final.

It was moved by Member Walden and seconded by Member Rosenbaum to Approve the 1st Day of Instruction for the School year of 2009-10 as August 26, 2009.

The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

F. Approve the Technology Plan

Superintendent Stephenson introduced plan.

Member Low wanted a thorough discussion of the plan. President Calloway and asked length of time she would need and reminded board of the time (9:35pm).

Superintendent Stephenson asked Board to let Chef Clell Hoffman know if they would not get to the 1st reading of the Mission Statement of Wellness Plan.

Member Low moved to put 1st reading of Wellness Plan before Technology Plan. The Approval of the Technology plan was tabled until the next regular Board meeting.

G. Approve: Convene a Parcel Tax Committee

Member Walden presented structure for the Parcel Tax Committee. Committees do not approve anything, they make recommendations. She suggested that the District do a community survey as opposed to hiring a professional agency to conduct a poll. This would save \$22,000. Member Walden volunteered to be one of the Board members on the committee.

Member Rosenbaum asked what the composition of the committee would be in addition to the two board members.

Member Walden recommended casting a large net and invite everyone to come.

Member Glasser volunteered to be the 2nd board member on the committee.

Barbara Grady-White suggested that the District raise money by opening gyms for public use. She volunteered to serve on the parcel tax committee and expressed support for the AMS Vice Principal.

Dawn Kawamoto asked for clarification about the parcel tax survey. Member Walden responded.

Dawn Kawamoto asked for a timeline. Member Walden said committee could do job it was assigned by the end of April. That would allow the Board to do the work they need.

John Lacy, Cornell parent, suggested the District use parent resources. He is willing to walk every block in town to get parcel tax approved.

Member Glasser was excused to leave at 9:50pm.

Member Walden proposed that the committee meet Thursday, 3/19 at 5 pm.

It was moved by Member Rosenbaum and seconded by Member Low to Approve Convene a Parcel Tax Committee. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Conduct the 1st Reading of the Integrated Wellness Policy Mission Statement.
Executive Chef Clell Hoffman provided overview of Wellness Committee.

Member Walden mentioned that some of the things that Chef Hoffman spoke of about are not on plan, such as lessening the carbon footprint.

Member Glasser said he saw it under eco-literacy.

Member Rosenbaum mentioned wording problem in second paragraph.

B. Review CBEDS/CSIS Fall 2008 Submission.

This item was tabled by the Board and to be brought back at the next regular Board meeting.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:

Board: President Calloway informed Board that she is getting married and will move with her new family out of District. She is resigning and the next meeting, March 10, will be her last.

Members Rosenbaum and Walden and Superintendent Stephenson expressed their regret on her leaving the Board but were happy for her.

Superintendent: None

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 10:07 pm.


FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

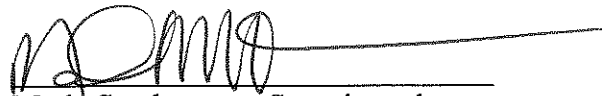
A. Enrichment Task Force	March
B. Parks & Recreation Report	March
C. 2 nd Interim Report	March
D. Grades 1-3 – Use of Increased 2008-09 Instructional Minutes Report	March
E. Reallocation of 2005 Parcel Tax	April
F. Albany Children’s Center Report	April

- G. Increase of 1987, 1999, and 2005 Parcel Tax Rate I June
H. Consolidated Application Part I for Funding Categorical Programs June

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:

- A. Tuesday, March 17, 2009 7:30 p.m., Regular Meeting, Albany Community Center,
1249 Marin Avenue, Albany
B. Tuesday, April 14, 2009 7:30 p.m., Regular Meeting, *Cornell Elementary School*,
920 Cornell Elementary School,
C. Tuesday, April 28, 2009 7:30 p.m., Regular Meeting, *Cornell Elementary School*,
920 Cornell Elementary School,


Jamie Calloway, President
Board of Education


Marla Stephenson., Superintendent
Secretary, Board of Education