

**Albany Unified School District  
Board of Education**

**Cornell Elementary Multi-Purpose Room  
920 Talbot Avenue  
Albany, CA 94706**

**MINUTES OF:**  
Special Meeting  
March 10, 2009

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Vice President Glasser called the Special Meeting of March 10, 2009 to order at 6:54 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Board Vice-President David Glasser; Board Member Ron Rosenbaum; Board Member Pat Low; Board Member Miriam Walden

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

President Jamie Calloway; Student Representatives, Patricia Mou and Jean Kang.

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Superintendent Marla Stephenson; Director of Special Education and Personnel Diane Marie

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Laurie Harden; Director of Curriculum and Instruction Lynda Hornada

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR CLOSED SESSION:** None

**CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION:** 6:55 P.M.

**RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION:** 7:38 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Board Vice-President David Glasser; Board Member Ron Rosenbaum; Board Member Pat Low:

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Student Representatives, Patricia Mou and Jean Kang.

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Superintendent Marla Stephenson; Director of Special Education and Personnel Diane Marie

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Laurie Harden; Director of Curriculum and Instruction Lynda Hornada

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

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

**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION:** None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Certificated

1. Mental Health Intern
2. Teacher
3. Substitute Teacher
4. Asst. Track Coach
5. Varsity Softball Coach

Classified

6. ELD Para-educator
7. Head Track Coach
8. Boys Varsity Tennis Coach
9. Head Varsity Baseball Coach
10. JV Baseball Coach
11. JV Softball Coach
12. Asst. Track Coach
13. Boys Varsity Golf Coach
14. Athletic Van Driver
15. Coach – correction

With respect to the Consent Calendar, it was moved by Member Glasser and seconded by member Rosenbaum to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT:** None.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

Terry Pinol, Student Data System Manager, presented CBEDS report.

Board Member Glasser pointed out difference in demographics between teachers and students. Member Glasser suggested that District be cognizant of ethnicity during recruitment process. President Calloway stated that a decision was made in past to make an effort to recruit diverse ethnic staff. Superintendent Stephenson reported that the District is advertising in a number of venues to attract diverse range of applicants. Member Glasser would appreciate a summary of high lights for Board to look at in future

Superintendent Stephenson pointed out difference in ethnicity between elementary schools. The District tries not to have “neighborhood schools.” OV seems to be turning into a neighborhood school as it is representative of the very large transient population of second language learners in the Village. Where there are parents whose language might make it uncomfortable for them to participate. OV needs to bridge the gaps that are seen in parent participation.

Member Low commented that difference between staff and student ethnicity is state wide. She recommended the new student data system be user friendly so principals and secretaries easily could disaggregate the data.

Ms. Pinol reported that State wants to go to a state-wide data system to facilitate records transfer when a student moves within California.

Member Low asked for clarification about calculation of drop outs. Ms. Pinol provided an explanation that lost transfers are transfers that the state does not have record of student registering in another school. Mr. Glasser asked if the calculation would be consistent in the future. Ms. Pinol stated it would be.

Member Glasser asked why special education students who are provided a program outside the District were not reported. Ms. Pinol responded that they were but she did not get the report to the Board.

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

ATA President Loring Barker: read a statement regarding trust and mutual respect, stating that the Board voted to unilaterally change number of minutes in school day. He would like to find way to regain trust and work together to find way out of the budget mess that was created in Sacramento.

Mr. John Kindle commented on the difference in the ethnic groups of AHS and Mac Gregor High. He urged the Board not to eliminate the electives that are keeping kids in school. Member Glasser commented that John's hair is getting longer and Member Glasser's will be getting shorter. Member Glasser will be shaving his head next week in support of curing children's cancer. Mr. Kindle will be growing his hair and donating it for a wig.

**REVIEW AND ACTION ITEMS:**

Approve Technology Plan

Superintendent Stephenson introduced Technology Plan. We must have one approved every five years by State and by the Board. The State has approved this plan. Ms. Pinol and Mr. Piercy presented the Albany Technology Plan. Ms. Pinol presented the vision statement and said it was unchanged from last year as it was good. Technology is perceived as a department within the school district but it is actually the center, or hub, of the school. Superintendent Stephenson stated that the District will move to upgrade technology when we are in more fiscally solvent condition.

Member Low retracted statement from last Board Meeting that she wanted to engage in conversation and use it as tool for Board communication.

Member Rosenbaum thanked Ms. Pinol and Mr. Piercy, particularly Mr. Piercy who has been working on the plan from the start.

Member Glasser cautioned that goals need to be measurable. He used as an example a goal which "utilized".... He stated utilize is a very broad term. What are our expectations? What is success? How will we measure success? Member Rosenbaum suggested the development of specific rubrics.

Member Glasser asked how data driven differentiated instruction is being used now. He said that the Technology piece is well done; it is the curriculum piece that needs to be measurable. Ms. Pinol said that the District will be reporting the curricular piece and the District's progress on it.

Member Glasser asked why District purchases Mac Books when the world uses PCs. Superintendent Stephenson stated that Macs have a lot of educational programs.

Superintendent Stephenson commended Mr. Piercy and Ms. Pinol and all the teachers, parents and students who put the time into the report.

A member of the public, Paul Black, an employee of Apple, said you can run Windows on an Apple.

A member of the public, David Salvatore asked if there is a triage set of recommendations contained within the technology plan due to current budget. Superintendent Stephenson stated that District just went through a FCMAT review. District will release the report to Board and public when complete. It will provide a guide and direction on how we are going to proceed.

Jackie Rydmann, CSEA President, asked what was going to happen to the program since Steven is being let go. Superintendent Stephenson stated that the position was going to be covered by current management.

Board Member Rosenbaum moved and Member Low seconded to approve the Technology Plan. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

#### Approve the 2009-10 Calendar

Superintendent Stephenson acknowledged Nancy Schiller on the work she has done with the calendar. Member Rosenbaum asked about going to a different format and wondered if that would be in the future. Superintendent Stephenson said that committee would look at this during the 2009-2010 school year for future calendars.

Loring Barker commented on calendar committee and possible future changes. Survey was done at AHS and it was mixed. He suggested that community be surveyed to see if response was mixed. Superintendent Stephenson reported that she was in the process of a community survey. Member Glasser stated that initial work was done on this a few year's ago.

Member Glasser moved and Member Low seconded to approve the 2009-10 calendar. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

#### Approve Provisional Appointment Process to Fill Board Vacancy.

Superintendent Stephenson stated that Board Policy and City Charter are consistent when a resignation occurs. The Board must make a provisional appointment and an election must occur at the next municipal election. Superintendent Stephenson will post, as required, the open seat for the required two weeks, which would end 3/27/09. A Board member and Superintendent Stephenson will screen applicants to assure candidates were eligible to fill the Board vacancy.

Member Low asked when interview process would be developed. Superintendent Stephenson attached questions, which can be modified through email communication. Member Low said that she would volunteer to be on the committee but for the sake of transparency would like to discuss criteria for Board member and questions publicly. She has had a number of community members email her. She read over the Superintendent's criteria then came up with her list which includes:

1. History in volunteerism, extra points for leadership. This is a must.
2. Have some professional experience in or related to public school education/professional or volunteer experience in AUSD's current situation
3. Submission of Curriculum Vitae or Resume
4. A proven ability to collaborate or work in a team setting.

She feels questions can be modified to get at this information.

President Calloway stated resumes were required last time. Material will be public information and suggested they be posted on the web. Superintendent Stephenson said that the information will be available to the public in the Board packet.

Member Rosenbaum said he loves working with educators but a diverse representation brings a wider perspective. He also stated collaboration was represented in a question during the last member appointment.

Member Glasser stressed importance of all applicants being asked the same set of questions.

Member Rosenbaum stated questionnaire must be ready for Friday and suggested questions be emailed to Superintendent Stephenson.

President Calloway said she would not be sending comments but suggested that a question be asked about ability to commit time to participate fully on the Board.

Member Low said the Superintendent needs to know if any changes need to be made to candidate information sheet. She added that a resume must be submitted.

Member Glasser said he would not rank the candidates publicly. It was a bad process during the last appointment.

Member Rosenbaum moved and Member Glasser seconded to approve provisional appointment process to fill Board vacancy. The Board was polled and passed unanimously.

Approve Resolution 2008-09-25 Honoring Jamie Calloway.

Superintendent Stephenson read Resolution honoring Jamie Calloway in recognition of her service on the AUSD Board of Education.

Member Rosenbaum said he was very sorry to see her go.

Member Low gave best wishes on her new marriage.

Member Glasser stated that he enjoyed working with President Calloway. She kept the Board focused on children's needs. AUSD is a better district because of it.

Member of the public, John Kindle commended President Calloway for showing her conviction even if she was only one voting this way.

Member of the public, Charlie Blanchard, thanked President Calloway for her service on the Board and stated it was pleasure working with her. She was always clear, always civil.

Member Rosenbaum moved and Member Glasser seconded approve the resolution 2008-09-25 Honoring Jamie Calloway. The Board was polled Members Rosenbaum, Glasser and Low voting Aye and President Calloway abstaining.

President Calloway thanked all and said she is happy for the reason she is leaving (Marriage) but will miss doing her part for the students and will miss everyone.

**REORGANIZATION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

Superintendent Stephenson opened nominations for president Member Rosenbaum moved to nominate Vice President Glasser. Member Low seconded. Members Low, Rosenbaum, Calloway voting Aye and Member Glasser abstaining.

President Glasser opened nominations for Vice President. Member Low made a motion to nominate Member Rosenbaum. Member Callaway seconded. Members Low, Glasser and Calloway voting Aye and Member Rosenbaum abstaining.

#### **SUPERINTENENDENT AND BOARD COMMENTS:**

Superintendent:

Superintendent Stephenson explained her communication regarding Program Improvement Early Warning Letter. Over 500 Districts in California received a similar letter. Based on current year projections. The following subgroups may fall under the mandated NCLB targets for both ELA and mathematics: Students With Disabilities, African Americans, Hispanic, and Socio-Economically Disadvantaged.

President Glasser asked what that meant from an operation standpoint. Superintendent Stephenson stated there would be a significant impact on staff – would be required to go through review. Our decision making would be governed by state review team.

Member Glasser stated that we need to do hard work or decisions will be made for us.

Superintendent Stephenson reported actions that she would like to take.

- A. Every school site has a student data based single school plan for 2009-2020. Each site has goals that are focused on student achievement especially students within our lowest performing subgroups.
- B. Albany High School's WASC plan has significant goals for improving curriculum and instruction. Principal Baron and VP Benau reported to the Board last week on the progress they made so far in realizing the plan's goals.
- C. School sites have started to implement the use of data to assist teachers in pinpointing student's skills gaps and the creation intervention plans in order to address them.

For the 2009-2010 and beyond, the following steps will be very important:

- A. Providing professional development for teachers that is up to date and based on current research in best practices in all curricular areas.
- B. To continue to develop formative and summative district benchmarks to provide ongoing student progress monitoring at all levels, K-12 grades in Language Arts and mathematics.
- C. Develop Professional Learning Communities at school sites.

Superintendent Stephenson reported that it is important to remember that this is early warning is based on projected data and gives us more time to create plans to address the AYP student subgroup issue.

Superintendent Stephenson further reported that it is also important to note that NCLB is up for revision and reauthorization in about 11/2 years. The criteria for AYP and PI may change with reauthorization. We still need to act now under current PI criteria so that we can be as proactive as possible.

Board:

Member Low offered to take more of the responsibility for Board notes, handouts, etc. for Parcel Tax Committee as Member Glasser is now President Glasser, which will result in a larger time commitment.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

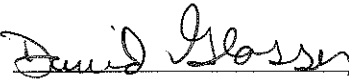
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| A. Enrichment Task Force  | March |
| B. Parks & Recreation Report  | March |
| C. 2nd Interim Report   | March |
| D. Reallocation of 2005 Parcel Tax                                  | April |
| E. Albany Children's Center Report                                  | April |
| F. Increase of 1987, 1999, and 2005 Parcel Tax Rate I               | June  |
| G. Consolidated Application Part I for Funding Categorical Programs | June  |

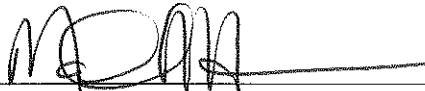
**FUTURE AGENDA MEETINGS:**

- 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, 901 Cornell Elementary School,
- C. Tuesday, April 28, 2009 7:30 p.m., Regular Meeting, Cornell Elementary School, 901 Cornell Elementary School,

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no objection from the Board, President Glasser adjourned the meeting at 9:12 P.M.

  
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David Glasser, President  
Board of Education

  
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Marla Stephenson, Superintendent  
Secretary, Board of Education