

**Monterey Peninsula Unified School District  
Minutes  
Regular Board Meeting**

---

**September 16, 2002**

The Board of Education of the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., on the above date at the Instructional Materials Center, 540 Canyon Del Rey, Monterey, California.

The meeting was called to order by President Eggers.

Board Members Present:                    Robert Eggers  
    Resa Foss  
    Regena Lauterbach  
    Shanda LeBoeuf  
    Carlos E. Noriega  
    Marjorie Troutman  
    Daniel Villa (arrived at 5:45 p.m.)

Staff Members Present:                    Jim Burnis  
    Daniel Callahan  
    Robert Costa  
    John Lamb  
    Bob Riefe

DLIFLC & POM Representative Present: Ron Graddy

Student Board Members Present:        William Rosenthal, Monterey HS  
    Laurencia Walker, Seaside HS

The President declared that a quorum was present and the Board proceeded with the order of business.

No public comments were made at this time.

The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:33 p.m. and reconvened at 7:06 p.m. to take the following action:

(Mrs. LeBoeuf left the meeting at 7:02 p.m.)

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by President Eggers.

No reportable actions were taken in closed session.

No additional items were added since the posting of the agenda.

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

William Rosenthal reported on activities at Monterey High School including the first annual Paulie D'Agui Toreador Invitational Golf Tournament, school dance, leadership class activities and the Josten's conference, and the upcoming football game.

Laurencia Walker reported on activities at Seaside High School including a September 11 assembly, National Coalition Building Institute training of trainers workshop, Mexican Independence Day activities, and senior parent night.

(Ms. Walker left the meeting at 7:11 p.m.)

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

President Eggers acknowledged correspondence from the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, National School Boards Association, and Microsoft and gave them to Dr. Callahan for review. He also acknowledged an invitation to the NAACP annual breakfast and shared an article from Marina Public Safety Chief Drummond regarding the DARE program and said copies would be made available to Board members. President Eggers announced that a special board study session for single district training will be held on Monday, September 30, 2:30 p.m., at the District Office. He said it was an open session and the public is invited to observe.

## **SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS OF THE BOARD**

Mrs. Lauterbach said while visiting the school sites she observed that a common thread is employee exhaustion. She referred to the 2002-2003 budget adjustments, certificated and classified staff working late and on weekends, and principals trying to fill the gap. Mrs. Lauterbach wanted to know how budget-related decisions have affected employees. She said the Board needed to be proactive instead of reactive and to find some relief where needed.

Ms. Troutman said she hoped that Cabinet will work with the school sites to effect some changes through reorganization that won't require additional funding. She referred to several issues brought up by Board members at the last meeting to include the need to focus on graduation requirements and exit exams at Central Coast High School, and to address the issue of bridging the achievement gap and assisting the students on the bottom 25-30% level in improving their reading and academic skills. Ms. Troutman requested a follow-up to a suggestion to train current staff to better address the needs of special education students instead of contracting services to outside agencies. She referred to her proposal to begin school two weeks later and requested that the topic be agendaized for discussion at a future meeting. She referred to Olson School's disaster preparedness program and a list of emergency items for each student and asked if other schools have a similar program.

## **SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM VISITORS - NON-AGENDA MATTERS**

Teacher Lucille Standifer and Los Arboles Middle School Student Body President Meilina Dalit, thanked Board members who attended Back-to-School Night and thanked Support Services Director Bob Riefe for participating in the school's leadership conference. She thanked those involved for keeping the school library staffed with a certificated librarian this year and distributed school pins as a token of appreciation to the Board and staff.

Meilina's parents and sister, former student board member Christina Dalit, were acknowledged in the audience.

Jeff Kessler, parent, said his child rode to Foothill School with his wife each morning and was able to catch a school bus to Colton Middle School from that area. His child is now unable to ride the bus because she doesn't live within the Foothill attendance area and has no bus pass. He expressed concern about safety and said his child will be forced to walk to Colton on a street without sidewalks (Mar Vista) and urged the Board to reconsider and allow him to purchase a bus pass so his child can ride the bus from the Foothill School area to Colton Middle School and back each day.

Maj Britt-Eagle, Monterey High School teacher, invited Board members to a discussion on world events on September 17, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m., in room 72. She said the session will be hosted by the school's World Without Borders Club.

Kay O'Neal, Colton Middle School parent, expressed concern about safety on a Colton bus and said her child has had to sit on the floor because other students would not move over and let him sit on a seat. She said the matter has been brought to the attention of the bus driver.

Rick Ziel, Monterey Bay Teachers Association President, thanked Mrs. Lauterbach and Ms. Troutman for their comments and reassured that the Association will work with Cabinet and the Board to bring some relief to their tired teachers.

Helen Rucker, Seaside resident, expressed concern that some students are being penalized because their work is not done on a computer. She said students who have access to a computer have a greater advantage and asked if there is a way to help those students being penalized.

Bena Arao, Fiscal Services Director, said he will be leaving the District to continue his education at University of California, Davis, and said it has been a pleasure working with the Board. He said it has been a difficult year. He felt the Board has made positive decisions and made key appointments, and he urged the Board to support the current administration.

Beth Silveria-Costanza, California School Employees Association President, thanked Mrs. Lauterbach for her comments and looked forward to working with the Board to address the fact that all staff are working above and beyond the call of duty to help resolve the issues.

Carolyn Plummer, Education Foundation to Support MPUSD Chair, thanked Mrs. Lauterbach and Ms. Troutman for attending the Los Arboles Middle School library reopening. She thanked President Eggers and Mr. Noriega and community members who attended Dr. Callahan's welcome reception hosted by the City of Marina on September 10. She reminded that the next opportunity to meet and greet Dr. Callahan will be at a September 25 reception hosted by the City of Seaside and Citizens League for Progress. She thanked Mrs. Lauterbach and Ms. Troutman for their comments and that there needs to be a solution.

President Eggers invited the public to a September 25 welcome reception for Dr. Callahan hosted by the City of Seaside and Citizens League for Progress, and an October 22 reception hosted by the City of Monterey.

## **STUDENT ISSUES**

**Consider Readmission of Student in Expulsion Case #01/02-09  
Consider Expulsion Cases #02/03-01 and #02/03-02**

Bob Riefe, Support Services Director, said the above items were pulled from the agenda.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

MSC Noriega, Foss

**Approve Signatures of Board Representatives Effective September 16, 2002**

Chief Business Officer Jim Burnis said the authorized signatures reflect the change of Fiscal Services Director from Bena Arao to Bruce Colby.

**RESOLVED** that the attached authorized signatures of Board Representatives effective September 16, 2002, be approved as submitted.

AYES: 6

MSC Foss, Troutman

**Approve Classified Job Descriptions**

Ms. Troutman said the proposed position seemed to describe a certificated counseling position and requested clarification.

Robert Costa, Personnel Services Director, said the position is not a role or function to counsel, but to train and bring people to mediate.

**RESOLVED** that the classified job description for Conflict Resolution Coordinator be approved.

AYES: 5

NOES: 1 (Troutman)

## REPORTS

Superintendent - As a part of the Superintendent's report, Dr. Callahan said Mr. Riefe will provide an update on site capacity and Mr. Burnis will report on the closing of the books. He referred to questions raised at the last regular meeting regarding the achievement of children of color and English Language Learners. Dr. Callahan said a retired administrator has been assigned to research the matter and the findings will be reported to the Board. In the area of special education, an outside audit on how business is conducted is being considered. He referred to Ms. Foss's suggestion to train MPUSD staff to address all special education needs instead of contracting services to outside agencies and said at this point the department is not fully staffed. He said special education staffing is problematic in MPUSD as well as other districts in the state. Regarding the question regarding enrollment and whether the District is losing average daily attendance (ADA) because of the starting date of school, Dr. Callahan said a retired administrator has been assigned to investigate the District's history as well as compare like districts. Regarding a question raised about disaster preparedness, Dr. Callahan said the Maintenance and Safety Director will be working with public safety officials and reviewing the District's procedures. More frequent disaster readiness exercises will be conducted to insure that if any future circumstances arise, the District will be better prepared to handle the situation.

Mr. Riefe provided a report and distributed information regarding site capacity and the number of open seats at each school. He said at this point, only one school -- Los Arboles Middle School -- is above capacity.

Mr. Burnis reported that the Superintendent, Fiscal Services Director, and he attended a workshop related to the interpretation of the state budget that was recently signed by the Governor. He said the legislature and Governor continue to support the Proposition 98 guarantee for education and the 2% cost of living allowance (COLA) for revenue limits was extended to include all categorical programs. Mr. Burnis said several programs were not funded and the combined effect reduces the 2% to approximately 1.46% for most unified districts. He said the State ended with a negative ending balance and some expenditures were deferred to include the School Improvement Program (SIP), home-to-school transportation, and supplemental grants. He hoped that the California economy remains at this level or better or there will be the likelihood that other items will not be funded in the future.

Ms. Troutman requested an accounting for the month of July to include the unencumbered balance so the Board will have an idea of the percentage spent from a particular budget.

Mr. Burnis said a report of prior month activities will be provided at the second Board meeting of each month.

Dr. Callahan said when looking at the balances it may not be proportional across the year and that some programs may spend 60-80% of the budget in the beginning of the year and others may carry 80% of their funds through the spring and spend it at the end of the year. He said the numbers can be provided, but it may not give the Board the exact information in terms of ongoing regular expenditures from those funds. Dr. Callahan indicated monthly updates have not been provided due to problems with the County's

accounting software and suggested it may serve the needs of the whole Board to wait until the first budget update is received.

DLIFLC/POM Representative - Mr. Graddy reported that La Mesa School has 25 identified languages in the school. He referred to the article in the local newspaper regarding the Los Arboles Middle School library and commented how well written it was. He referred to the site capacity report and said he and the housing office serving the Defense Language Institute/Presidio of Monterey and Naval Postgraduate School will work with Mr. Riefe and provide information regarding incoming military families and the number of school-age children so that they can be assigned to a housing area (La Mesa or former Fort Ord) in which the school of residence can accommodate their children.

**Report on the American Field Service (AFS) Program**

Vida Horne, representing the AFS program at Monterey and Seaside High School, provided a brief history of the program and AFS activities at both schools. She acknowledged several people in the audience instrumental in guiding the success of the program, as well as host parents and AFS students. She reviewed the AFS mission and several AFS students shared their experiences with the program and the impact it has had on their lives.

**INFORMATION/ACTION** (none)

**INFORMATION ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING** (none)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

MSC Troutman, Foss

**RESOLVED** that the Consent Agenda be approved.

- Approve Minutes
  - September 3, 2002 Regular Board Meeting
  - September 9, 2002 Special Closed Session
- Approve/Ratify Personnel Items
- Ratify Purchase Orders for August 1 through August 31, 2002
- Ratify Warrant Register for August 1 through August 31, 2002
- Approve Gifts to the District

From	To	Amount	Purpose
Longs Drug Store	Crumpton School	\$500.00	Supplies for the after school program
Olson School PTA	Olson School	\$7,972.00	Field trips, risers, and instructional supplies
Quaker Manufacturers & Traders Trust Company	King Middle School	\$1,600.00	Instructional supplies
Lifetouch National School Studios	King Middle School	\$280.43	Instructional supplies
Los Arboles Middle School PTA	Los Arboles Middle School	\$24,000.00	For 1 full-time equivalent library position
Monterey High School PTSA	Monterey High School	\$2,000.00	Sound system for Randall Gym
Community Foundation for Monterey County	Seaside High School	\$1,000.00	H.R. Sarment Scholarship Fund

- Approve Board Member Absence from September 9, 2002, Special Closed Session

- Shanda LaBoeuf

- Appoint District Auditor - 2001-2002
- Reject Claim Against the District - #005-Amended
  
- Approve Nonpublic School Agency Contract with Easter Seals Central Coast, Monterey, CA, for the 2002-2003 School Year for 1:1 Behavior Aides (NTE \$84,840)
- Approve Nonpublic School Agency Contract with Easter Seals Central Coast, Monterey, CA, for the 2002-2003 School Year for Home Technicians (NTE \$121,200)
- Approve Nonpublic School Agency Contract with Easter Seals Central Coast, Monterey, CA, for the 2002-2003 School Year for Occupational Therapy Services (NTE \$90,900)
- Approve Nonpublic Agency Contract with Easter Seals Central Coast, Monterey, CA, August 26, 2002 through December 31, 2002 for Speech/Language Services (NTE \$32,000)
- Approve Contract for Services with Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD), July 1, 2002 - December 31, 2002 (NTE \$29,400)
- Approve Private Agency Agreement with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service Center, Inc., September 3, 2003 - June 6, 2003 (NTE \$2,000)

AYES: 6

#### **SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS OF THE BOARD**

Mr. Villa referred to the site capacity report and whether the information reflected the number of portable classrooms being used. He said if the report reflects portables, it might raise a question of selling some of the portables and possible reorganization.

Ms. Foss expressed appreciation for the hard work of her fellow Board members and the number of activities they have been attending. She concurred with Mrs. Lauterbach's and Ms. Troutman's earlier comments and suggested that a chart be made to keep track of items discussed by Board members. She said the Board needs to mitigate the damage brought upon the District as a result of the budget reductions and that it is up to everyone to provide input on areas that the Board should address.

Ms. Troutman referred to comments made by Mrs. Rucker related to students who can't afford computers and felt there are some facilities where students can go to use computers. She suggested that the District make a list of places where students can go to access computers and that it be made available in the counseling offices of secondary schools.

Mr. Noreiga felt that Mrs. Rucker said the effort put into the work of the student and the outcome of their work should be looked at, and that a student shouldn't be penalized because it was handwritten.

President Eggers thanked Mr. Noriega and Mr. Villa for attending Dr. Callahan's welcome reception sponsored by the City of Marina and for Mrs. Plummer and the Marina City Clerk for organizing and providing refreshments for the event. He suggested that information regarding the receptions hosted by the cities of Monterey and Seaside be included in the school newsletters and reminded that the events are open to the public.

Mrs. Lauterbach acknowledged and thanked the Marina schools for continually providing Board members with copies of their newsletters.

## BOARD MEMBER REQUEST(S) FOR INFORMATION AND/OR POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

Ms. Troutman asked if the Board was interested in a staff planning study session on reorganization to alleviate employee workload. She asked if the Board wanted to direct staff to work with school site personnel to reorganize and eliminate some of the need for adjunct duties that teachers are having to take on at this time in addition to their workload.

Mrs. Lauterbach said the Board needs to look at the effect in a general manner and see what can be done to alleviate some of the concerns of all employees.

Dr. Callahan said when the cuts were instituted last spring, they were directed to the school sites. He said the principals are dealing with their issues at their individual sites as well as possible and that it is a difficult time for everyone. He said the District is only at the very beginning of figuring out how to live in the new environment, but staff could develop a study session for the Board to sit and listen to issues from individual schools if directed.

Ms. Troutman suggested directing administrators to work with their own staff to see how their work can be more efficiently handled with less stress and eliminate some of the overload; and to follow-up on how the overload was handled. She realized there will be different responses to the current problems and that some schools felt everything is going as smoothly as can be expected under the circumstance while other schools felt there is still concern and exhaustion on the part of staff. She asked how this could be addressed.

Mr. Noriega said fairness can't be regulated and that there is no answer. Each person draws on their own ethics, values, and morals and they deal with the situation everyday.

President Eggers concurred with Mr. Noriega. He suggested evaluating the situation in six months and that staff can come up with recommendations at that time based on where the District is fiscally as opposed to micromanaging each school.

Ms. Foss referred to the Consent agenda and gifts to the District. She said the amount of resources from the community varies from school to school and the contributions are not equitable. Ms. Foss expressed concern regarding a school with no telephones in the classroom and said there are some inequities that will cost money and others that won't. She said she didn't have a solution but felt the Board needed to identify what can be done now and that waiting six months may not be an acceptable alternative.

Ms. Troutman said she would like to have a discussion regarding at-risk students and to see what types of alternative programs are available to engage their interest, help them succeed, and eliminate the need for the high school exit exam for some of the students. She suggested a discussion on Board goals so the Superintendent can formulate with the Board his goals.

After a brief discussion and clarification, staff was directed to agendize a report on District intervention programs for the next regular meeting.

Ms. Foss requested an update on the schools participating in the Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP) and what each school is doing differently this year than what has been done in the past and what progress has been realized. She also wanted to know whether any of the schools will have sanctions put against them.

After further discussion, staff was directed to agendize a report on the II/USP program for the first meeting in November.

## ADJOURNMENT

MSC Noriega, Troutman

**RESOLVED** that the meeting be adjourned in memory of former Seaside High School teacher Kanneka Bhundhumani.

TIME: 9:10 p.m.

AYES: 6

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Callahan  
Executive Secretary

DC:jif  
\*MSC-Motion/Second/Carried