

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

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**February 3, 2003**

The Board of Education of the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District met in regular session at 5:38 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 Troutman.

Board Members Present: Robert Eggers  
Resa Foss  
Regena Lauterbach  
Shanda LeBoeuf (arrived at 5:53 p.m.)  
Carlos E. Noriega  
Marjorie Troutman  
Daniel Villa

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

DLIFLC & POM Representative Present: Cindy Rothstein (representing Ron Graddy)

Student Board Members Present: Adam Brown, Monterey HS  
Wayne Ming, 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 5:40 p.m. and reconvened at 7:10 p.m. to take the following action:

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mr. Villa.

No reportable actions were taken in closed session.

No additional items were added to the agenda.

#### **STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Adam Brown reported on activities at Monterey High School including homecoming week activities (basketball game, noontime activities, rally, dance), spring sports (baseball), and the upcoming Associated Student Body convention. Adam said the convention was moved up to third quarter to accommodate fourth quarter testing.

Wayne Ming reported on activities at Seaside High School including valentines spirit week (dance, candy grams, theme days), and sports (basketball, soccer, wrestling). Wayne also reported on the death of Principal Bettye Lusk's mother and said the Leadership class sent condolences to the Lusk family.

Adam left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.)

**CORRESPONDENCE** (none)

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

Ms. Foss referred to workshop sessions for student Board members at the California School Boards Association Annual Conference and the possibility of enhancing the roles and participation of the District student Board members.

Mrs. Lauterbach referred to an editorial in the Monterey County Herald regarding the District and gaining the public's trust. She said she agreed with the beginning of the editorial, but expressed concern about the section that indicated that the District had an \$8 million "cushion." She said the editorial is sending to the employees a message that she was not sure is correct, and felt that the Board needed to address the issue and explain what the cushion is and send a letter to the employees so no one gets the wrong idea that the District is doing well financially.

Mr. Villa said he appreciated the comments made by Mrs. Lauterbach and said there needs to be a distinction made between carryover monies and surplus monies. Mr. Villa reported on a recent trip to North Carolina and observations about the level of curriculum. He said the standards are about one year below the District's level. He spoke about recruitment efforts and said there are many excellent black teachers and administrators in that area who are doing good work and working well with the students.

President Troutman reported on the new main gate sign ceremony at Fitch Middle School and said Mr. Noriega, Ms. Foss, and Dr. Callahan were also in attendance.

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

Maria Buell, parent, reported on the recent Monterey County Mock Trial Competition and said Monterey High School and Seaside High School students were well represented and gave an outstanding performance.

## **STUDENT ISSUES**

Support Services Director Bob Riefe announced that Item M-1, Consider Readmission of Student in Expulsion Case #01/02-10, was pulled from the agenda.

\*MSC Noriega, Villa

### **Consider Expulsion Case #02/03-5**

**RESOLVED** that the student in Expulsion Case #02/03-5 be expelled from schools in the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the student may be considered for readmission in accordance with the stipulations set forth by the Board of Education.

AYES: 7

## **ACTION ITEMS**

MSC Lauterbach, Eggers

### **Approve Dates, Times, Locations, and Board Representatives for Secondary Graduation and Promotion Ceremonies**

**RESOLVED** that the assignment of Board members to attend the high school graduation and middle school promotion ceremonies be approved as discussed.

AYES: 7

## REPORTS

Superintendent - Dr. Callahan indicated there was Board member interest regarding the District's level of emergency preparedness. At this time, Health Services Coordinator Linda Pinkham, Crumpton School Principal Yvonne Despard, and Los Arboles Middle School Assistant Principal Elmer Canady presented information regarding the District's school crisis response capability, and the different arenas that the District is working in dealing with emergency preparedness both within the schools and for the District. An overview on school safety requirements, the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), Incident Command Center (ICC), the school preparedness crisis response box, secondary school safety team, and mock disaster planning was also provided, followed by a question and answer session.

DLIFLC/POM/NPS Representative - School Liaison Officer Cindy Rothstein, representing Mr. Graddy, reported on a workshop she attended in Washington D.C. regarding working with transitional students and their families.

At this time, President Troutman acknowledged City of Monterey Council Member Ruth Vreeland and City of Sand City Council Member Tom Krupper in the audience.

## INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION

### **Discuss Possible Joint Meetings with MPUSD and City Representatives to Address Items of Mutual Interest**

Dr. Callahan said the Board requested that this item be placed on the agenda for discussion to explore having joint meetings among the school board, the five cities, and the portion of the county that MPUSD encompasses.

Mr. Eggers said a suggestion that came of the Marina Subcommittee meeting in January was a meeting between the cities of Marina and Seaside, California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB), the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA), and the District to discuss future developments and the effect it is going to have in the District. Because it might be difficult to meet with all five cities, the county, and CSUMB, he suggested meeting two or three times a year with the cities of Monterey, Sand City, Del Rey Oaks, and the county and then twice a year with the cities of Marina and Seaside, and CSUMB.

Dr. Callahan said the original suggestion was not to have the full councils and the Board of Supervisors, but to have one or two representatives from each entity and the entire school board in a study session. Regarding a meeting on the development at former Fort Ord, he said a meeting with staffs from the school district, the cities of Marina and Seaside, FORA, and CSUMB has been set to begin discussion on future developments.

Mr. Villa said the meetings need to be issue driven and there is a need to look at what role the District would play. He wanted to see some consistency where meetings are held on a regular basis. He said there are continuous issues that occur every year and having a dialog on a consistent basis would be helpful as funding becomes scarce and the entities look at how resources can be combined in a collaborative way.

Mrs. Lauterbach suggested that the first meeting include a discussion on how the cities and the District will be able to work together under the financial constraints.

Mr. Noriega said one of the benefits in talking about potential growth is the fact that the District knows that the developer fees and the average daily attendance (ADA) will not be enough to build schools, and that there may be a need for parcel taxes or bond issues. He said it would be a good idea to review the master plans for each entity to avoid duplicating infrastructure and to get together and talk about future needs and what can be done to share facilities.

President Troutman said the Board needs to determine whether to take the lead in communicating its interest in having joint meetings with the cities and county to discuss items of mutual interest.

Mr. Noriega said MPUSD is the only organization that touches all five communities and said it would be a good opportunity for the District to take a leadership role.

Todd Krupper, City of Sand City Council Member, said he was directed by the Mayor to convey the city's interest and support and to be directly involved with whatever the Board is interested in putting together. He said it was an excellent opportunity for the cities and constituents to be involved and believed the City of Sand City will have a larger vested interest in the District in the future.

Ruth Vreeland, City of Monterey Council Member, said the meetings in the past have been fruitful and that times have changed so dramatically that everyone will need to work together. She felt the District leadership was a good idea.

After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to direct Dr. Callahan to communicate with the cities and county the District's interest in having joint meetings to discuss items of mutual interest.

Dr. Callahan said the first two issues for discussion will be long-term development mitigation and budget constraints from the state budget crisis. He said a process will be put in place for each of the cities to submit an issue or two for discussion. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to set the joint meeting on Monday, April 14, 7:00 p.m., at the Instructional Materials Center.

Ms. Foss indicated that she might have a conflict in schedule.

### **Review Renovation Project Schedule from Schools**

Chief Business Officer Jim Burnis reported the State Allocation Board (SAB) met and approved the 24 projects to renovate the schools and anticipated that the projects will be funded in March.

Ray Bickel and Tom Millman, representing 3D/International, provided an update on the modernization project, reviewed the breakdown of funds per site, and clarified questions from Board members. They reported the groupings of the 24 modernization projects into phases of eight projects per phase were necessary to make each bid package manageable, allow more contractors to be able to bid, and to lessen the disruption to the District's normal day-to-day functions. The groupings of eight projects spread the work in each phase as equally as possible between the three cities and were not based on the severity of the needs at each site because, within the limited scope of work, all needs are nearly equal. The work to repair roofs has been charged to deferred maintenance and the monies will be replaced with the modernization funds.

Mr. Noriega expressed concern regarding the condition of the restrooms and said they were health and safety issues.

Mr. Bickel said the restroom walls, floors, and ceilings will be gutted and rebuilt. It is anticipated that the projects will be funded at the March 26 SAB meeting, a May 20 bid date will be set, and the recommendation for contracts will be brought to the Board for action on June 16.

Mr. Villa encouraged 3DI to get as many local bids as possible with contractors and to involve the local building exchanges.

Mr. Millman said 3DI will use as many locals as possible and that they would encourage the general contractors to solicit the subcontractors locally. He referred to a new labor compliance program that dictates a 5-to-1 apprentice to journeyman ratio on every job, and that the apprentices will have to come from as many local apprenticeship programs as possible.

## **Discuss Renovation/Rehabilitation of District Office at Board Members' Request**

Mr. Burnis referred to the Board-approved amendment to the Seimans Technology contract to add the District Office to the lighting retrofit project and said the upgrade will be completed in approximately two weeks. He added that the Board also approved the re-roofing of the District Office in conjunction with several other sites.

In response to Mrs. Lauterbach's question regarding the work being done in the back rooms of the District Office, Mr. Burnis said the 3D/International office will be moved to the former Data Processing office and Food Services will consolidate and occupy the area that is currently occupied by the 3D/International office.

Dr. Callahan clarified there was a significant amount of subflooring and platforms that had to be removed in the former Data Processing office and it was felt that it would be better if the District assumed the responsibility to re-cover the floor.

Mr. Burnis said the subflooring was needed for the computer equipment and when it was removed, the floor underneath had holes leading to the basement.

In response to Ms. Foss's suggestion to move the Health Services Department to the former Data Processing office, Mr. Burnis said as the modernization projects for the 24 sites moves forward, there will be a need for more space for 3D/International to accommodate the three architectural firms and contractors involved with the project. In response to Board members' concern about moving 3D/International to the renovated section of the building instead of another District department, Mr. Burnis said 3d/International has a need for greater space and Food Services has a need for additional space. The fact that its contiguous to what they currently have, there would be minimum amount of movement.

Mr. Noriega said he anticipated a report on what needed to be renovated at the District Office.

Dr. Callahan said he didn't have clear direction from the Board about what the interest is in the renovation of the District Office because of previous discussion by Board members. The item was placed on the agenda to allow discussion about what might be done over the next couple of years. Because of a previous discussion by Board members, Dr. Callahan said he wasn't sure if the Board had any interest in renovating anything at the District Office.

In response to President Troutman's question whether the cost to renovate the District Office will be included in the hardship funds, Dr. Callahan said hardship funds cannot be used for the District Office. In response to President Troutman's question about the cost to renovate, Dr. Callahan said it would be provided as soon as he receives some clarity from the Board about what the Board might be interested in doing at the District Office, if anything. He said a list of work that needs to be done at the District Office could be developed and the Board could prioritize.

Mr. Villa said the District Office needs tremendous upgrading and the administrative staff needs to determine what the longevity of the office is going to be, and what appropriate repairs and improvements are needed. He said health and safety issues have been an ongoing problem, e.g., lack of heat during the winter and working in a comfortable environment. He said people have slipped and fallen in the hallways because of the floors and those types of issues should be addressed. Mr. Villa expressed concern about the condition of the Board Room and said it is a place where staff meets with outside agencies. He said it was a very poor representation of the District and reflects on the whole District. Mr. Villa said a minimal amount of effort could be made to upgrade the room substantially. He also referred to the security of the paintings at the District Office.

Mrs. Lauterbach said she thought there was going to be discussion about what is going to be happening at the District Office in the future and expressed concern that things are already happening. She felt it would have been nice to know that 3D/International was going to be relocated to the former Data Processing office. Mrs. Lauterbach said there is a need to look at its own employees rather than other companies. She felt if the Board is looking at the District Office, they need to be caring about the employees who will be there.

President Troutman asked if the Board would be interested in having a list of the major renovations that should be made to the District Office with the accompanying costs, and brought back to the Board for discussion and determination as to which items the Board felt they cannot do without.

Ms. Foss said there is a need to address the District Office, but said she was not ready to discuss renovations. She didn't see it as a big item for the next couple of months, and said she want to see what the budget is going to look like and whether the Board will be able to manage what they've already committed to for this year.

Mr. Noriega said the welfare of employees is very important and the working conditions need to be taken into consideration. He referred to the condition of the restrooms and said the District Office needs to be made more livable. He suggested that a firm be hired to evaluate the building, make recommendations on how to proceed, and determine the phases for the work. Mr. Noriega said the Board could then determine what priority they want to give those phases.

Mr. Eggers referred to the replacement of deferred maintenance funds with modernization funds and suggested that some of the money can be used to address the condition of the District Office. He suggested that staff come back in 30 days with a prioritized list of needs, addressing health and safety concerns first, with a cost estimate so the Board can make a decision whether to move forward.

Mrs. LeBoeuf concurred with Ms. Foss. She said although the renovation of the District Office is something that needs to be addressed, the Board has some other pressing issues. She said she doesn't discount the employees who work in the District Office; she felt the main priority is addressing the students and schools first, and moving forward from there. She suggested that District Office personnel develop a list of items that they consider are pressing.

After further discussion, it was the consensus that staff be directed to develop a prioritized list of what is most pressing at the District Office.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

MSC Eggers, LeBoeuf

Ms. Foss said she supported the Close-Up program, but felt the item should have been placed on the agenda for action sooner in the event there are questions or concerns from Board members.

Mr. Villa said the main concern is student safety and whether they are properly chaperoned during the trip.

Dr. Callahan said out-of-state field trips would be placed on the agenda one month in advance in the event there are questions or concerns from Board members.

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

- Approve/Ratify Personnel Items
- Approve Gifts to the District

From	To	Amount	Purpose
Waste Management Service	Olson School	\$300	Outdoor field school program
Dennis Volk	Colton Middle School	\$496	Instructional supplies

- Approve Out-of-State Trip, Seaside High School, February 8-15, 2003, Washington D.C., to Participate in the Close Up Foundation Program

AYES: 7

### **SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS OF THE BOARD AND BOARD MEMBER REQUEST(S) FOR INFORMATION AND/OR POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEM**

Mrs. Lauterbach expressed concern regarding an editorial in the Monterey County Herald about the District's \$8 million "cushion." She felt there is a need to explain to the employees what the cushion is so they don't feel that the Board made cuts in prep times and programs, laid off teachers, and now there is extra money.

Mr. Burnis referred to the Interim Report and said the total cash reserve is \$7.6 million. He said \$3.5 million is the AB 160 loan reserve for a debt that's \$5 million, and another \$2.7 million is the state-mandated 3% reserve. The only other additional reserve is \$800,000 for deferred income that the District was suppose to receive this year but was deferred by the Governor to next July. He said the total cash reserve may appear to be a large number, but in reality, the District actually owes more than the "cushion." Mr. Burnis said the District's financial situation is far better than it was a year ago.

Mr. Villa referred to the discussion about joint meetings earlier on the agenda, and said it would be a good venue to clarify the District budget and to explain it correctly to the various entities so they can properly explain it to their constituency.

Mr. Eggers said Board members don't normally respond to an editorial as a Board. He said the three employee association presidents were present during the presentation of the Interim Report.

Dr. Callahan said a statement can be sent out clarifying the \$8 million "cushion."

Although Ms. Foss concurred with Mr. Eggers about responding to editorials, she felt there is a need to make the information available and to translate what it means. She said there are people who take accurate information back to their agencies, but there are a lot more people who don't understand and the only information they receive is what they read in the newspaper.

Mr. Noriega said many people go to the District web page and read the minutes. He felt there wasn't a lack of knowledge and that people are informed.

Ms. Foss requested historical background on how a grade of "D" became a no credit in MPUSD, and what is the point of having a "D" grade if there is no credit for a "D?"

Associate Superintendent John Lamb said about three years ago, in light of increasing accountability, standards movement, and the high school exit exam, the proposal was made to the Board that the District would give 5 course credits for semester grades of C or higher for core classes -- English, mathematics, science, and social studies. For any elective course or non-core course, a student who received a grade of "D" would still count for credit. If a student receives a first semester grade of "D" in English I, he/she gets zero credit and must repeat that course. Mr. Lamb said the policy has been in place for three years and is indicated on student transcripts.

### **BOARD MEETING EVALUATION**

President Troutman reviewed previous Board meeting evaluations and suggested that Board members include comments on their evaluation of each meeting.

Mr. Noriega suggested that the evaluations be shared with their constituents.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m. in memory of Ara Jones, mother of Seaside High School Principal Bettye Lusk; and in memory and honor of the Columbia crew and their families.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Callahan  
Executive Secretary

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