

February 23, 2004

**A. Call to Order**

The Board of Education of the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District met in special session at 5:31 p.m. on the above date in the District Office Board Room, 700 Pacific Street, Monterey, California.

The meeting was called to order by President Lauterbach.

**Roll Call – Establishment of Quorum**

Board Members Present: Terri DeBono  
Robert Eggers (arrived at 5:34 p.m.)  
Resa Foss (arrived at 5:45 p.m.)  
Regena Lauterbach  
Shanda LeBoeuf  
Carlos E. Noriega  
Marjorie Troutman

Staff Members Present: Jim Burnis  
Daniel Callahan  
Shelby Garrison  
John Lamb

DLI/POM/NPS Representative Present: Cindy Rothstein (for Ron Graddy)

Student Board Members Absent: Michael Leonard, Monterey HS  
Andrew Mahone, Seaside HS

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

**Public Comments**

No public comments were made at this time.

**Closed Session**

The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:32 p.m. to discuss the following:

- Conference with and/or Receive Advice from Legal Council - Anticipated Litigation  
*Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9*

**Reconvene Open Session**

The Board reconvened at 6:00 p.m. to take the following action:

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**C. Report Action Taken in Closed Session, if any**

No reportable actions were taken in closed session.

**H. Opportunity for Public Comments on Agenda Item**

No comments were made at this time.

**I. Action**

1. Approve Partnering with Interested Community Members in Fundraising Efforts to Address July 1, 2004, Budget Deficit

Dr. Callahan said this item was placed on the agenda at the request of the Board after a public address at the February 17, 2004, Board meeting.

Charles Eldred, Foothill School parent, said there are a number of people in the community who don't want to see any schools closed, and he proposed a one-time bail out to slow down the process of closing schools. He didn't feel all of the options

were adequately addressed due to the time frame. Mr. Eldred said if the net gain of the school(s) slated to be closed and a deadline date to raise funds are identified, his group might be able to raise the money in order to forestall the closure of schools for one more year. He said there is no guarantee the money can be raised, but he wanted a commitment from the Board that if his group moves forward and if the funds are raised, that it would be used exclusively for forestalling school closures.

In response to Board member Troutman's question whether the process toward closing schools can be forestalled, Dr. Callahan said the Board can wait as long as the Board chooses to wait, as long as a balanced budget is presented by June 30. He said he would be remiss if he didn't mention that the March 15 deadline for certificated layoffs is rapidly approaching, and classified staff recognize that if the Board doesn't take action on budget adjustments to address the \$2.2 million deficit by March 10, no layoff notices will be sent out and any deficit will be made on classified staff. He noted 91% of the budget is personnel.

Board member LeBoeuf reminded the Board and public about a similar situation in Santa Cruz last year where the community tried to raise money to keep schools open. She admired the community's willingness to "step up to the plate," but said she didn't want to go through the process of closing schools again next year and that it is only putting off the inevitable. She said the Business Advisory Committee has been meeting for 13 months and a Facilities Utilization Committee has been established to address the deficit issue and make recommendations.

Board member Noriega applauded the group's willingness to raise the money, but said the Board has a responsibility to ensure there is a budget that works, and at this time, a pledge doesn't give a sense of security. He said even if schools were closed, what's important is there isn't a teacher or school or principal that isn't going to continue to give the same quality of teaching and learning at any school. Board member Noriega said if the Board is going to give a deadline, it should be March 12; beyond that the Board would be fooling themselves, as well as the public.

Board member Eggers reminded a similar request came to the Board from the Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program parents to allow them the opportunity to raise the funds. He supported the proposal in theory, as long as the group can come up with the money at a reasonable date. Board member Eggers said the Board needs additional information and to hear the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee and Facilities Utilization Committee before moving forward.

Board member Foss concurred with Board member Eggers. She commended the group for their willingness to raise the money and expressed support for the proposal.

Board member Troutman expressed support for the proposal and said if the recommendation is for school closures, the District can proceed with the process and if the money is raised, the Board can decide whether to keep one or two schools open.

Dr. Callahan recommended that the Board take action on the Facilities Utilization Committee's recommendation and to recognize the figure will be approximately \$600,000 based on the Board's action on the Facilities Utilization Committee's and Budget Advisory Committee's recommendations. He suggested a step process: 25% of the money by March 10; 50% by April 2; and the last 25% by April 25. He said if any of those dates are missed, the recommendation for school closure and other cuts will go into place. Dr. Callahan said the April 25 date would create a very tight timeline for implementation.

Mr. Eldred referred to the amount of time to implement the fund raiser and requested a delay in the date of the first 25%, or establish a later beginning date with increments of 50%, 75%, and 100%.

Board member Foss suggested that if the motion on the floor is approved, that the step process be determined at the next meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the Board would agree to give this group an amount to raise and a date needed to raise by, a guarantee that if funds are raised by this date, this money would be used to delay school closures for one year.

MSC+ Troutman, DeBono  
AYES: 4 (DeBono, Foss, Lauterbach, Troutman)  
NOES: 3 (Eggers, LeBoeuf, Noriega)

Mr. Noriega stated the resolution was ambiguous and the committee members were not identified.

2. Approve Implementation of Public Access Information Program on Access Monterey Peninsula (AMP)

As part of the Superintendent's goals that were established this year, Dr. Callahan said there was a goal to produce a program on public access television to communicate with the public. With a group of community members, the process was established in the fall. He provided an overview of the work accomplished to date and introduced former television news anchor Ed Bradford, who addressed the Board about the program, expressed his interest in producing/hosting "Inside MPUSD," and clarified questions from Board members.

**RESOLVE** that the Board accept the "Inside MPUSD" Access Monterey Peninsula production as presented.

MSC+ Noriega, Foss  
AYES: 7

#### J. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Callahan, Ph.D.  
Executive Secretary

DC/jif

^Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey & Naval Postgraduate School  
+Motion/Second/Carried