

April 19, 2004

Call to Order

The Board of Education of the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District met in regular session at 5:35 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 Lauterbach.

A. Roll Call – Establishment of Quorum

Board Members Present: Terri DeBono
Robert Eggers
Resa Foss (arrived at 6:00 p.m.)
Regena Lauterbach
Shanda LeBoeuf (arrived at 6:03 p.m.)
Carlos E. Noriega
Marjorie Troutman

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

DLI/POM/NPS Representative Present: Ron Graddy

Student Board Member Present: Andrew Mahone, Seaside HS

Student Board Member Absent: Michael Leonard, Monterey HS

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

B. Public Comments on Closed Session Items

No public comments were made at this time.

C. Closed Session

The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:37 p.m. to discuss the following:

- Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code section 54957)
- Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Gov. Code section 54957)
- Conference with Labor Negotiator (Gov. Code section 54957.6)
 - a. *Agency Negotiator: Robert Costa*
 - Employee Organization: Monterey Bay Teachers Association*
California School Employees Association

D. Reconvene Open Session

The Board reconvened at 7:05 p.m. to take the following action:

E. Pledge of Allegiance

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

F. Report Action Taken in Closed Session, if any

No reportable actions were taken in closed session.

G. Take Action to Items That Arose Since Posting of the Agenda and Approve Agenda (2/3 Vote Required if Any Item is Added to the Agenda)

No additional items were added since posting of the agenda.

President Lauterbach requested Board consensus to move Information Item Q-2 up on the agenda before Action Items, and to move Action Item N-4 before Action Item N-2.

RESOLVED that the agenda be approved as discussed.

MSC Troutman, Eggers
AYES: 7

H. Public Hearing

1. Central Coast High School High Priority Grant Program - *Strategy 3*

President Lauterbach opened the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

Associate Superintendent John Lamb provided an overview of Central Coast High School's request to modify their Action Plan per Education Codes 52054.3 and 52055.615. Development and modification of the existing Action Plan requires the participation of the school site council or action planning team and the exclusive representative of the local bargaining agent, and requires that a public hearing be held.

No public comments were made.

The President closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

I. Certificates/ Presentations/ Recognitions

1. Commend and Recognize Cindy Canepa for Her Thirty Years of Service as a School Bus Driver in MPUSD

Cindy Canepa was commended and recognized for her thirty years of service as a MPUSD school bus driver. Transportation Director Bill Martin indicated she has driven accident free during her years with the District. Bus drivers in the audience were also acknowledged and commended for their work in providing safe transportation to all students in the District.

J. Student Board Member Reports

Student Board member Andrew Mahone reported on activities at Seaside High School including a multicultural assembly, parent expo, annual AJROTC battalion ball, May 11 academic excellence banquet, May 20 scholarship awards, spring sports, and an early academic outreach program he attended in Sacramento.

K. Communications

President Lauterbach acknowledged correspondence from the following regarding budget cuts and/or school closures: Mrs. Flores and her Marina del Mar School students, Steve Robinson, Tammy Hunziker, Carol Gurule, Marina del Mar School staff, Kim Reisenbichler, Nanci Perocchi, Teri Wissler Adam, Cathy Findley, Kathie Buaya, Kathy Williams, Kay Cline, Judie Suval, Judith Reese, Bill Martin; Seaside Children's Center Week of the Young Child activities, announcement about the California School Boards Association Golden Bell Awards, Education Foundation for MPUSD fund raiser, Clyde Roberson regarding the Monterey transient occupancy tax, and Wendy Root regarding submission of articles for an anthology about first year college students with disabilities.

L. Suggestions and Comments from Members and Officers of the Board

Board Member Troutman urged everyone to support the fund raising efforts of the Education Foundation for MPUSD to defer 2004-2005 school closures and reconfigurations.

Board Member DeBono reported on the recent Monterey High School Associated Student Body (ASB) elections, and requested that the new ASB Presidents and advisors from both comprehensive high schools provide a presentation on the election process at a future meeting.

President Lauterbach commended the Chief Business Officer for achieving a balanced budget the past two years, spoke about the closure of four schools in 2002 using the criteria for small schools, commended the Facilities Planner for assimilating statistics for current possible school closures, commended the Education Foundation for MPUSD for supporting Charles Eldred on his fund raiser to keep schools open, and commended Board Members Troutman and DeBono for bringing up school closures in their own trustee area. She said the Board must decide to close schools in order to reach the goal of \$600,000, and do what is best for all children.

(Student Board member Andrew Mahone left the meeting at 7:24 p.m.)

**M. Suggestions and
Comments From Visitors
- Non-Agenda Matters**

Richard Grahman, Education Foundation for MPUSD President, reported on the fund raising efforts to include a \$10,000 donation from a citizen, a magazine drive, the donation of 30% of Archie's Diner receipts for one week, a fund raiser at the Seaside American Legion parking lot, a donation from CTB McGraw Hill, and other fund raising items pending.

Tammy Hunziker, Bay View School parent and former Larkin School parent, said the number of empty seats in the District didn't happen quickly and they won't be refilled quickly. Mrs. Hunziker said this is the fourth round of major cuts this District has faced, and that the District needs to position itself so it doesn't continue to happen, stabilize and be strong, make good long-term decisions, come together and be a unified district, and support and promote all children. She said if there is a suggestion or proposal for solution, to bring it forward. If not, she urged the Board to not delay the inevitable or draw the open session, and to move forward with the decision.

Captain Dwayne Stanton, parent, distributed information to Board members containing a compilation of criteria he gathered from Board meetings, newspaper articles, and previous statements. He provided each Board member with a sample decision matrix and a floppy disk containing the decision matrix template so Board members could weigh scenarios themselves and come up with recommendations based on established criteria. He said using a decision-making model will help alleviate public fears if perceived in a logical format, take into account the budget, and allow parents and community members to readily see how and why a decision was reached.

Maria Buell, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) President, requested a response from a letter written to the Board President on March 15, 2004, regarding actions taken by a MPUSD employee with Latino students on March 1, 2004, whether there was prior parent authorization for the students to participate, and whether a letter was written by a Board member congratulating said employee without conducting due diligence in the matter.

Liz Reisenbichler, Monterey parent, questioned the leadership and said the District convened a biased committee with strong conflicts of interest that developed new criteria for school closures, and was never given to the Board for approval. She said the criteria of neighborhood was not well thought out and its implications not addressed. Mrs. Reisenbichler said the Board was never given information about implementation, and that every parent wants quality education for their children and to have a say or choice in the matter. She said the quality of schools will be lost by moving forward with neighborhood schools, parents may be losing choice, and segregation forced in communities. She said the cities of Monterey, Seaside, and Marina are divided and polarized, with Monterey and Marina trying to secede from the District. She expressed concern about the closure of Monte Vista School and the transition of Colton into a K-8 school, and Monterey parents opting out of the school district. Mrs. Reisenbichler suggested that a survey be conducted to find out the true loss. She expressed concern about teachers leaving the District and the cost to reconfigure Colton to a K-8 school. Mrs. Reisenbichler also asked the public to make a donation to the Foundation.

Kathie Buaya, Foothill School parent and member of the Colton Transition Committee, said when Monterey schools went off into a side committee to make decisions about what was best as a community for their school, there was no representation from Seaside or Marina. She said if you're going to be making some decisions regarding the closure of their schools, they should have a say as a community. She said to try

to make one blanket criteria against the District in each separate city is where it started out on the wrong foot. She suggested that before making decisions, the Board allow the administrators, principals, and school site councils of each city to get together and determine what is needed in their city, what school may need to be closed, or another way to clear the ramifications.

Katrina Ognyanovich, former school board member, expressed concern about the closure of Monte Vista School and the transition of Colton into a K-8 configuration. She commended the Board for keeping the Marina and Seaside middle school programs intact. She spoke about mismanagement in the District and that the County Superintendent should take over the District and make it sound again. She recommended cuts in administration and in transporting of students. She said in England, there is a successful school with 22,500 children with only one principal and one secretary.

Laurie Raffetto, Fitch Middle School, reported that the junior varsity squad and the varsity squad both won third place at the U.S. Nationals, and both squads succeeded in taking first place at the American Championship in the elementary division and the junior high division. Ms. Raffetto acknowledged cheerleaders in the audience and said they will be performing at Open House. She also invited everyone to the May 16 comedy performance by the eighth grade members of the drama club.

Q. Information

Item Q-2 was moved up on the agenda.

- *2. Review Memorandum of Understanding Between MPUSD and the Business and Education Alliance of the Monterey Peninsula (BEAM) - *Strategy 2*

Support Services Director Shelby Garrison provided an overview of the District's partnership with the Business and Education Alliance of the Monterey Peninsula (BEAM) and clarified questions from Board members. BEAM is a non-profit organization comprised of Monterey Peninsula-based businesses and educational institutions. Its purpose is to help students become better prepared for the world of work and continuing education. Ms. Garrison said the District has partnered with BEAM since its inception eleven years ago, and that the Memorandum of Understanding will be brought back for Consent at the next meeting.

N. Action Items

- *4. Approve Minutes

President Lauterbach pulled the March 10, 2004, minutes, referred to page four and noted that the vote to Consider the School Closures Alternative 2 – the Closure of Fitch Middle School should be corrected to read, “Ayes – 0 and Noes – 7.”

RESOLVED that the minutes of March 10, 2004 be approved as corrected.

MSC Troutman, LeBoeuf
AYES: 7

The following minutes were not voted upon at this time:

- November 17, 2003, Regular Board Meeting
- February 25, 2004, Special Board Meeting
- March 8, 2004, Special Board Meeting
- March 15, 2004, Regular Board Meeting

- *1. Designate April 27, 2004, as California School Bus Driver Day - *Strategy 5*

RESOLVED that the Board adopt the resolution designating April 27, 2004, as California School Bus Driver Day with appropriate activities that recognize their outstanding contribution.

MSC LeBoeuf, Foss
AYES: 7

- 2. Consider Budget Reductions - *Strategy 1*

Mr. Burnis said this is a continuation of the agenda item from the last meeting. He said the Board has already cut approximately \$1 million of hard budget, and also approved a motion to ensure that the first 1.2% of State cost of living allowance (COLA) that may be received next year is to be directed toward refilling the revenue that was lost this

year. He said those actions have closed the deficit from \$2.3 million to approximately \$600,000. Mr. Burnis provided an overview of the budget-building process, and said the Governor's office will be coming out with the May revise --- the last official look at revenues this year at the State level, and what they might be proposing for increases to school districts and other government agencies next year. He said the \$2.3 million deficit estimate for next year is still intact, and that it's a moving number. Mr. Burnis said staff will continue to go through the budget line by line, weighing how much was spent last year, how much is currently being expended this year, and saving wherever they can in next year's budget to add to lines that they know will increase, e.g., gasoline or diesel. He said staff intends to have a fully completed budget by May 10 based on the best estimates. Once the Governor makes his information known, staff will continue to refine the budget. Mr. Burnis asked the Board to continue making the big final cut and staff will continue to refine each budget line, saving where they possibly can as a way of producing a small amount of dollars (\$100,000-\$200,000) to reposition in the budget to handle other costs that are anticipated to increase.

Board Member Eggers referred to a motion he made at a previous meeting to cut 25% of the extra-curricular and co-curricular activities budget beyond cutting transportation of \$150,000, and asked if he could amend his motion. After a brief discussion, the motion was amended as follows:

RESOLVED that the Board amend its direction to principals at the last meeting to cut 25% from their extra-curricular and co-curricular activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board direct principals to cut 25% from their extra-curricular and co-curricular activities that take place after the school day outside of the curriculum.

MSC Eggers, Noriega
AYES: 7

3. Consider School
Closures - *Strategy 1*

Dr. Callahan said this item has been continued from the last meeting and that the Board and public are aware of the issues.

To open the discussion, Board Member DeBono motioned and President Lauterbach seconded to close all the schools.

At this time, President Lauterbach opened the floor for public comments.

Allison, parent, expressed support for Bay View School and invited the Board to the school's spring carnival and alumnae reunion.

Gail Morton, parent on the Colton Transition Committee, said the combined enrollment of the Monte Vista and Colton population will not all fit at Colton, and there will be as many as 719 or more students who will need to be redirected to other schools in Monterey or Seaside. She asked that the Board take that into consideration if they are going to configure K-8 and make decisions about school closures. As a parent, she felt everyone agrees that school closures are required to balance the budget, and it appears that the Board is considering closing schools based on cost savings and referenced to a District policy of closing small schools first. She said she was not in disagreement, but said it's apparent that budget constraints require closure of as many as three schools to reap a benefit of a savings of over \$1 million. She disagreed with the prior decision to close Monte Vista, and said it was based on a separate set of factors and criteria. Mrs. Morton asked that the Board put Monte Vista back into the consideration of closures and to apply an equitable means in their decision.

Carol Gurule, Principal, expressed support to keep Marina del Mar School open, called attention to its diversity, and asked the Board to revisit the chart of future growth in the community of Marina. She said the Marina community will be short five classrooms next year. Mrs. Gurule urged the Board to balance the cost of school closure with the savings, make good decisions, face the current issues, but also be aware of the future in MPUSD.

Chris Panzetta, Olson School parent, read aloud a statement prepared by Marina school principals regarding facts related to the possible closure of Marina del Mar (MDM) School: (1) 273 empty seats in Marina elementary schools does not paint an accurate picture of what is really available; (2) available classrooms yield a more realistic scenario due to the class size reduction program; (3) MDM currently uses 14 classrooms; (4) the projected classroom availability at the three remaining Marina elementary schools for 2004-2005 is nine rooms maximum taking away rooms currently used for other programs, e.g., Stone Soup after school program; (5) at least five displaced classrooms of students would need to be bused out of the community; (6) 52+ Marina elementary students are currently attending schools in Seaside or Monterey; (7) portables are expensive and transportation costs would increase as MDM students are 81% free and reduced lunch; (8) MDM has shown growth on the API over the last four years and has earned the top score of 10 when compared with schools of a similar demographic; (9) the children don't want to be uprooted; (10) Marina will continue to grow and all its schools will continued to be needed.

Gary Wilmot, Marina resident and member of the Facilities Utilization Committee, referred to the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee and the Facilities Utilization Committee, and said the Board is sacrificing students instead of taking a hard position to freeze step and column for one year and save over \$600,000. Mr. Wilmot said the Board will now have to close two or three schools to balance the budget. He said Marina schools have deficit seating for its students, and taking the model of closing small schools in Marina makes no sense and doesn't address the impact it will have on the community.

Kathy, Marina del Mar School parent, expressed support to keep the school open, spoke about the imminent growth of the City of Marina, and said she didn't understand the logic of keeping schools open in towns where student population is decreasing.

The following Marina del Mar School students expressed support to keep their school open and spoke about their teachers and support staff, library, computer access, DARE program, diversity, improvements to the campus, walking distance, and having to be bused to another school:

- Joceyln Navarro
- Chrisoda Perez
- Brenda Gonzales
- Janice Escalara
- Amanda Jenks

Heather Issorvan, Foothill School parent and member of the Colton Transition Committee, said the closing of schools is a big factor. She hoped that the District would gauge why students are leaving, instead of accepting declining enrollment as the future of Monterey. She challenged the Board to think of it as an opportunity to bring choice back to Monterey in order to bring students and average daily attendance (ADA). She said there is much to gain by catering to students and giving them a school of choice not just in Monterey, but in Marina and in Seaside, instead of pitting communities against each other. Mrs. Issorvan said the Facilities subcommittee did not have any criteria to work through as they made their facilities report, and that their recommendations should not be considered by the Board. She said school of choice is important for every community in the District, and that the loss should be spread throughout the District.

In response to Patricia Hughes-Irvine's request for a budget breakdown of the lottery money, Board Member Eggers said he would provide her with the information.

Bob Schaffer, Monterey resident and member of the Strategic Planning Committee, Superintendent's Advisory, and the Facilities Utilization Committee, said both the Business Advisory and Facilities Utilization committees came in with open minds, and criteria was developed at great lengths that was appropriate for closing schools. He assured, for anyone who sat in those committee meetings as did President Lauterbach, Board Member Troutman, and previous speakers, the public saw the open process. He suggested that a Board member make a responsible motion that the Board go back, consider the criteria that was developed over many months, take action on that, and move ahead.

Marcelina, Marina del Mar School parent, expressed support to keep the school open and spoke about the many programs offered not only for students, but for parents.

Christina Ortiz, Marina del Mar School parent, expressed support to keep the school open, and said closure would affect a lot of children in the neighborhood, and the adult school classes and other programs at the site.

Lilia Aquino, Marina del Mar School parent, expressed support to keep the school open, and spoke about children being the highest priority, and putting students and parents at risk.

Jenny Salazar, Marina del Mar School parent, expressed support to keep the school open and said she is going to adult education classes to learn English at the site. She expressed concern about children who might miss their bus and their parents who won't be able to drive them to school.

Kathrina Ognyonovich, former school board member, suggested that the Board reconsider the closure of Monte Vista School, and she commended Bay View and Marina del Mar school's curriculum. She understood that the District is down 3,000 students in ADA, and asked what is the percentage of administrative positions that have been eliminated?

Jason Morton, Foothill School parent, said no schools should be closed. He referred to a similar situation regarding school closures when he was living in Utah, and said now there is a problem with overcrowding.

Helen Rucker, Seaside resident, said the Board should take into consideration that 89% of Marina del Mar School students are eligible for Title I funding, and that the District might be in violation of a civil rights law if the students are divided and sent to different schools. Mrs. Rucker urged the Board to consider the impact on the Title I program, and to keep Marina del Mar School open.

David McCall, Marina Mayor Pro Tem, speaking as a citizen, said 90% of the District's budget is in personnel. He said a one-year freeze in step and column that the Board didn't consider at a previous meeting would have saved approximately \$856,000 and the deficit would have been solved. He said the 1.2% COLA would have saved \$676,000, and nearly solved the deficit; and instead, the Board will be closing schools and laying off teachers. He referred to the growth in Marina, including housing projects at East Garrison, Marina Heights, Marina Station, University Village, CSUMB north campus facilities, and the City of Marina proper. He said all growth will happen in the northern section of the District, and urged that the Board take that into consideration in their deliberations.

Maria Buell, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) President, referred to the closure of Cabrillo School two years ago and the criteria to close small schools, and said the closure impacted 90% of the neighborhood students who walked to school. She said the possible closure of Marina del Mar School looks like another Cabrillo scenario, as it serves a significantly large percentage of minority students, a group of parents who can count on their children walking to school, has the highest growth within MPUSD schools, and has helped its students gain tremendously with the curriculum. Ms. Buell said the public and the LULAC Council notice that the Board is setting a precedence in closing schools that are heavily populated with Latino students, where its parents are economically disadvantaged, work two to three jobs, and are unable to express their concerns and issues before the Board or raise money to keep their school open. She said it is unfair and socially unjust, and the Board should be mindful not to create this pattern. She said the LULAC Council urges the Board to keep Marina del Mar School open.

Stacy, Bay View School parent, referred to the decision matrix that was presented earlier in the meeting, and urged the Board to use it as an objective decision-making tool. She said Captain Stanton is willing to give his time, at no cost, on the use of the matrix, and said it is usable, non-emotional, and allows the public to see the criteria in which their decisions are based.

John McCutchon, Marina resident and member of the Business Advisory Committee, said CSUMB staff and administration will enter its third year without any compensation increases on July 1. Because the Board did not choose to address the step and column increase, closing schools is their only choice at this point. He referred to Board comments about closing schools and sharing the pain across the District, and noted 34% of Marina students, 22% of Seaside students, and 17% of Monterey students attend schools outside their respective cities. Mr. McCutchon said if you want equity and sharing of the pain, then there should be a similar percentage of students bused from Monterey as there are from Marina or Seaside. He said all schools and teachers are good; it's not based upon where you are, but based upon what you do at a school site. Mr. McCutchon referred to comments about criteria, and said both the Business Advisory Committee and the Facilities Utilization Committee developed and used criteria. The result is what people don't like; not that there was no criteria.

Brian Raffeto, Fitch Middle School student, expressed support to keep the school open, commended the teachers and administrators, spoke about the number of houses being built near the school, the size of the campus for growth, and the many classes and programs offered at the school.

Vanessa Bredthauer, teacher, said it must be clear to the Board that it is imperative that they agree the complexity of the decisions they are faced with required a fully thought out, logical decision matrix. She urged the Board to regroup, place all MPUSD schools on the board, and build a formal matrix that will give them the tools to logically and unemotionally make the hard decisions before them.

Linda Figlock, Foothill School teacher and parent, asked questions regarding developer fees and whether it will offset the deficit. She asked if an old school could be closed so a new one could be built with those funds?

Dr. Callahan said the District collects approximately \$2.14 per square foot for developer fees, and it is the maximum that the law allows. He said developer fees will not have an impact on the deficit, and that it can only be used for new facilities in the District, as opposed to renovation projects. He said the District will not collect enough money from all the new developments within the District over the next 15 years to do any more than possibly build an elementary school.

Carlos Ramos, member of the Business Advisory Committee, said a ball is a ball and a strike is a strike, and that the Board has to step up to the plate. He said he didn't want the public to be misled, and said since late summer, the BAC has been looking at the budget with criteria and the Facilities Utilization Committee used a matrix and provided the criteria necessary for the Board to make hard decisions. He asked the Board to reverse its decision, follow the lead of the university, freeze step and column, and keep schools open.

Dave Perry, Bay View School parent, referred to the criterion and matrix that was used by the committees, and asked that it be published so the public will know what was used and understand where the decisions came from.

Francine Stewart, Monterey Bay Teachers Association (MBTA) President, said teachers have been in a salary freeze, they've had a health and welfare cap, and they have a pay cut this year. She said a ball is a ball, and a strike is a strike.

Dr. Callahan complemented the audience and said for the most part, everyone was civil, impassioned, and thoughtful. He said it was important to clarify that most of the school closure savings will be in administrative/classified salaries and benefits, and that no teachers will be laid off because of school closures. He referred to comments made about Board Policy 6130, the small schools study policy. Dr. Callahan said it does not bind the Board to decide to close a school because it is small; it initiates a small school study when a school drops below 250 students. He noted the final sentence of the policy says in part, may consider closure of that school or any school with similar grade configuration, but not necessarily the school that is the smallest in the District. Dr. Callahan said this is a unified school district, and hoped in the conversation that goes forward, that the Board can be the best models for all the students in the District about

civil discussions and thoughtful, well-reasoned decision-making. He said people can argue with the criteria, but there was not a decision or set of recommendations that came to the Board absent criteria. They were thoroughly discussed by both committees, and brought forward to the Board as part of their recommendations.

Board Discussion:

Board Member Eggers provided rationale for keeping Marina del Mar School open, based on data provided by the Facilities Utilization Committee: a minus eight (-8) total open seats if Marina del Mar were closed and the students were redistributed to other Marina elementary schools; the cost of securing portable classrooms and installing them in the remaining open schools to accommodate the displaced students; and an increase in transportation costs because the nearest Marina elementary school is 1.25 miles from Marina del Mar and 82% of the students will be exempt from bus fees because they are receiving free or reduced meals. Board Member Eggers said he is not a fan of closing any schools, and beyond these arguments to keep the school open, he asked the Board to consider reversing its decision, and to freeze step and column for one year and not close any schools.

President Lauterbach said her rationale for closing Marina del Mar School is that enrollment has gone down in Marina over the past three years and that the projected growth has not materialized. She said her information was based on information presented by the Facilities Committee in January, and that a lot of the classrooms are being used for libraries, computer rooms, and resource teachers. She said according to the data, there were 1,111 vacant seats in Marina, and that is why she brought up Marina del Mar, because it's the smallest school in Marina and has the most vacant seats. President Lauterbach envisioned Marina del Mar being a central library for Marina and a day care child center similar to the Cabrillo site.

Board Member Eggers said what might be lacking is the 60 Marina elementary school students who are bused to Marshall and the 135 middle school students bused to Fitch, as well as other students bused to other Monterey or Seaside schools. He spoke about the conditions for class size reduction and that depending where the students live, the availability of classrooms may be maxed out in Marina schools and portable classrooms would have to be added. He referred to conflicts in data that was received regarding Olson School and assured the school didn't have 700 classroom seats, and that 470 seats is a more logical number.

Colette McLaughlin, Facilities Planner, said the January information was preliminary analysis without curriculum considerations that would impact the student's ability to learn and may have contained typographical errors. She said the March 10 data that the Board received is the final data that includes reasonable academic space, to include library computer space, special day classes, after school programs, and other resource rooms that could be used for classrooms. She clarified that the maximum capacity at Olson based on doubled up kindergarten classes is 470.

Board Member Troutman requested information on the number of seats in a regular classroom, vacancies depending on regular classrooms, and the number of seats if classrooms were used for other programs.

Mr. Burnis said one of the difficult things in looking at just raw enrollment numbers is that it masks the number of approved interdistrict transfers. He compared enrollment in Marina from last year to this year, and said it looks like 89 students were lost. He said the reason is 137 students transferred out of the area to Monterey or Seaside schools on interdistrict transfers, and if you net those two numbers out and they were to interdistrict transfers, the student population would have grown by 48 students from last year. Mr. Burnis said the ins and outs on interdistrict transfers is a difficult number as it changes every year by the month.

Dr. Callahan said he would seek Board direction on what additional data the Board would like and how they would like it organized.

In response to Board Member Troutman's request to have the number of regular classroom seats for capacity at each school, Dr. McLaughlin said the difficulty is how to distribute class size reduction in comparison with the standard size class.

President Lauterbach motioned and Board Member Troutman seconded to borrow \$600,000 from the County Treasury and make a plan for next year to implement the Board's agendas. President Lauterbach said it has been done before and the District could get a lower interest rate than what is currently available.

Board Member Eggers asked for specifics of the borrowing program, the availability of funds in the County Treasury, what the monthly repayment would be, at what interest rate, and how will the District repay the loan?

Board Member Foss said if you borrow money from the County Treasury on July 1, you have until June 30 of the next year to repay it, and the District is charged the current borrowing rate.

Board Member Noriega spoke against the motion, and said a balanced budget is due to the County Superintendent of Schools. If the District borrows money, it will have to project how it will pay the amount within the next year. He referred to voter approval of Propositions 57 and 58 that covered this year's \$15 billion State deficit, and the additional \$8 billion State deficit for next year. Board Member Noriega said he didn't see any positive money coming in MPUSD's direction to help pay the additional encumbrance that President Lauterbach motioned.

President Lauterbach said it was only a suggestion, and she withdrew her motion.

In response to President Lauterbach's request for additional proposals to address the deficit, Board Member LeBoeuf suggested combining Manzanita Elementary School and King Middle School as a K-8 school; closing Colton Middle School and Monte Vista School; reconfiguring Bay View, Foothill, and La Mesa elementary schools to K-6 schools; and moving Colton 7th and 8th graders to Monterey High School's lower campus. She felt it would be an easier transition as opposed to turning Colton into a K-8 school.

Dr. Callahan responded, initially, there would be a savings from closing an elementary school and a middle school. He expressed concern that some of the lower campus classes may not meet the requirements of the Field Act for mandatory student attendance, a state law where buildings have to meet earthquake retrofitting guidelines. He also expressed concern about the short time line to convert the high school into a 7-12 campus programmatically, as there are many K-8 models to draw from and few 7-12 models. Dr. Callahan said there has already been a good deal of discussion about what a K-8 configuration could look like, and little discussion at the staff level about a 7-12 model.

In response to Board Member Foss's question about pairing a middle school with an elementary school that are close together, and sharing only two administrators between the two schools, King Middle School Principal Darren Sylvia said it was suggested years back to look at King and Manzanita Elementary School. He said both schools are operating under capacity at this point and their programs are comparable. He said the question is whether it is being done for a cost savings, or for more of the concept of a K-8 model? If for a cost savings, he said one school would have to be closed and its staffs combined. He said the King campus is conducive to that model, but with some boundary reconfiguration and structure change, because if Seaside students currently attending Colton will be sent to King next year, the school will be over capacity and unable to handle all the Manzanita and King students. Mr. Sylvia said he and the Manzanita School principal have discussed different options of what that would look like, using the strength of the uniformity of their programs to design a seamless program that would be in compassing of all Seaside children who feed into their two schools.

Board Member Troutman shared a proposal to close Fitch and send those students to King, and she distributed enrollment information that she prepared for middle schools and Seaside/Monterey elementary schools.

Board Member Noriega said if Fitch were closed, the students living in Marina would have to be bused further to school.

Board Member Eggers referred to Board Member LeBoeuf's proposal to relocate Colton 7th and 8th graders to Monterey High School's lower campus and expressed concern that it is a small campus and there is already a lack of field space for sports. He expressed interest in the combining of King and Manzanita, and also encouraged the Board to look at freezing step and column movement for one year.

Board Member Noriega said he didn't know what it would do to Marina's capacity, but he suggested closing Fitch, making all Marina elementary schools K-6, and making Los Arboles a grades 7-8 campus for students living within the Marina city limits.

Dr. Callahan reminded the Board doesn't have authority to unilaterally take action to freeze step and column or furlough employees unless agreed upon by the employee groups.

RESOLVED that all Monterey Peninsula Unified School District schools be closed.

MSC	DeBono, Lauterbach
AYES:	0
NOES:	7

Dr. Callahan suggested if Board members have additional scenarios, to get them to staff so they can clarify the numbers and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Board Member Foss said it is almost the end of April, and the point of the fund raising is to buy time so quality decisions can be made and implemented. She reminded Board members who are proposing new scenarios that there is barely enough time to reconfigure Colton to a K-8 school. She said fewer changes and impacting fewer students might be more prudent than impacting a lot of students.

Board Member Noriega motioned to cut all District employees' salaries by 1.2% across the Board to keep schools open and parents happy. There was no second.

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to extend the meeting to 11:00 p.m.

There was brief discussion whether the remaining minutes had been voted on earlier in the meeting. It was concluded that only the March 10, 2004, minutes were approved at that time.

It was the consensus of the Board to table school closures to the April 20, 2004, special Board meeting.

N. Action Items

*4. Approve Minutes

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved.

- November 17, 2003, Regular Board Meeting
- February 25, 2004, Special Board Meeting
- March 8, 2004, Special Board Meeting
- March 15, 2004, Regular Board Meeting

MSC	Troutman, LeBoeuf
AYES:	7

- O. Consent Agenda** (No Consent Items)
- P. Reports** (No Reports)
- Q. Information**
- *1. Review Board Policy Subcommittee Protocol - *Strategy 1*

Dr. Callahan said the Board Policy Subcommittee protocol has been placed on the agenda for Board discussion.

Board Member Troutman reviewed the policy and highlighted the revision to the protocol.

Board Member Eggers expressed support for the revision, but felt it would be more prudent for the Board to contract with a firm like the California School Boards Association to update all District Board Policies so they would be up-to-date based on changes in state legislation, keep attorney fees down, and make better use of Board member time.
 - *3. Review Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Education Committee First Day Celebration and Supply Drive - *Strategy 2*

Support Services Director Shelby Garrison said the presenters of the item left due to the lateness of the hour, and said information was left about First Day of School Celebration. She added that the Education Chair of the Chamber would like to come back at a later date to talk about the increased collaboration they've had with MPUSD, and offer additional assistance from the business community to support MPUSD schools.
- R. Board Member Request(s) for Information and/or Possible Future Agenda Items**
- In response to Board Member Noriega's request to add to the agenda a motion to cut all District employees' salaries by 1.2% across the Board to keep schools open and parents happy, Dr. Callahan said the item could be added tomorrow evening as an issue that had arisen since the posting of the agenda with the two-thirds vote.
- Board Member Noriega also requested an update on energy savings since the District retrofitted its lighting system throughout the District.
- President Lauterbach requested that an update on the trip to the Philippines to recruit special education teachers be agendized for the May 3 regular Board meeting.
- Board Member Foss requested information regarding the documentation of immunizations in the District.
- S. Board Self-Evaluation, as Applicable** None.
- U. Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 10:45 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