

April 22, 2004

Call to Order

The Board of Education of the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District met in continued session at 6:30 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 Lauterbach without roll call taken.

**A. Roll Call –
Establishment of
Quorum**

Board Members Present:

Terri DeBono
Robert Eggers
Resa Foss
Regena Lauterbach
Shanda LeBoeuf
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 Members Absent:

Michael Leonard, Monterey HS
Andrew Mahone, Seaside HS

J. Action Items

2. Consider School
Closures – *Strategy 1*

President Lauterbach stated that the meeting was a continuance of the April 20, 2004, meeting, and that before adjournment, Board Member Troutman proposed to close Fitch Middle School, with a second by Board Member DeBono.

Close Fitch Middle School

Board Member LeBoeuf asked to amend the motion to close Marshall School and to make Fitch a K-8 school.

Close Marshall School and Make Fitch
a K-8 School

The motion to close Fitch Middle School was tabled so that discussion of the amended motion could be held. Board Member DeBono asked that a cap be placed at 850 students.

Discussion was held among Board members regarding past practice and how parents, staff, and community members were afforded the opportunity to speak before the Board when a proposal was made for a school closure. Because Board Member LeBoeuf's motion was new, consideration was not afforded to the Marshall/Fitch community nor was there any information available for discussion. It was recommended that the motion be withdrawn, and that staff be directed to provide information related to a K-8 configuration at Fitch so that a decision could be made at the next meeting.

The motion was withdrawn. Staff was directed to provide information regarding the closure of Marshall School and reconfiguring of Fitch to a K-8 school, as well as its effects to Colton and Marina schools.

Close Fitch Middle School

Board Member Troutman explained her rationale to close Fitch Middle School, and reviewed her criteria and suggestions/recommendations.

The criteria:

- Reduce district costs
- Reduce busing
- Distribution of students would go to either Los Arboles or to King
- Sufficient vacant seats available at receiving schools
- Minimal student disruption
- Minimal teacher/site/administrator disruption

The suggestions/recommendations:

- Close Fitch
- Retain incoming 6th grade students at the elementary level in Marina
- Enroll the incoming Marina/Fitch 7th and 8th grade students at Los Arboles
- Enroll the incoming Seaside-based 7th and 8th grade students at King
- Reconfigure Highland and Manzanita schools to K-6 schools

A lengthy discussion was held regarding Board Member Troutman's proposal.

Mr. Graddy, speaking on behalf of the military families, said Fitch was their neighborhood school. He also reminded Board members about the families moving into the Seaside Highlands housing development and the new Army housing that will be completed in early January that would impact student enrollment.

Board Member Troutman said that she would be willing to withdraw her motion but wanted to discuss and make another motion to not close any more schools with direction given to staff to come up with another solution. She suggested using the reserves to balance the budget.

Board Members Troutman and DeBono withdrew their motion to close Fitch Middle School.

Close no more schools

Board Member Troutman motioned and Board President Lauterbach seconded to close no more schools.

A lengthy discussion followed in reference to the motion among Board members and community members.

Gail Boger, MPUSD teacher, said that the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) was in the process of gathering data to close military bases with a report that would be presented in 2005. She said the biggest criterion for BRAC was community support for public education, and indicated that the Monterey Peninsula might be revisited for base closures.

Other parents and community members made suggestions to revisit the reopening of Monte Vista or to seek other alternatives to closing schools. Several parents and community members spoke against closing Fitch Middle School.

Board Member Noriega said that the recommendations presented by the Facilities Utilization Committee and the Business Advisory Committee should be revisited. He recommended that Foothill be reconsidered for closure.

Discussion continued regarding Board Member Noriega's recommendation with several parents speaking in support of keeping Foothill open.

Jane Mitchel, Monte Vista and Monterey High parent, reminded Board members about the last closures. She said the children will adjust and reminded Board members about declining enrollment in the District. She urged the Board to not cut into the reserves, to work together, and to make their decision in the best interest of the students.

Carlos Ramos, MPUSD volunteer, concurred with Mrs. Mitchell and asked the Board to do what is best for the District, to not give the perception to community that it was not listening to the staff, community, parents, children, and to the voices that weren't present.

Leo Manganares, Foothill parent, asked what the criteria for school closures were. He said in his opinion, the only criterion was the parents' apathy because when Monte Vista was closed not many parents voiced their opposition and/or opinions.

Rick Ziel, MPUSD teacher, reminded Board members about the Education Foundation, and suggested that Board Member Troutman's proposal be considered.

Pam Haze, Monte Vista teacher, referred to Mr. Manganares' comment, and said that the Monte Vista parents aren't apathetic, but that they were trying to follow the high standards of protecting the students and trusting the District to follow the criteria.

Board Member DeBono expressed support for creating K-8 schools and explained the criteria.

Board Member LeBoeuf clarified the rationale for her motion to close Marshall Elementary School and make Fitch a K-8.

Discussion continued among Board members regarding K-8 schools, school closures, and what should be done in the future.

Board Member Troutman suggested waiting one year to close any more schools and to have community meetings to receive input and information before any further decisions were made.

President Lauterbach said that she wanted the decision made, to close no more schools, to go line-by-line through the budget, and find another way to balance the budget. Some of the Board members said it is their belief that another way could be found to raise the money to balance the budget without closing the schools.

Keep all schools open except Monte Vista

Board Member Troutman motioned and President Lauterbach seconded to keep all of the current elementary, middle, and high schools open with the exception of Monte Vista School.

RESOLVED to keep all of the current elementary, middle, and high schools open except for Monte Vista which has been closed.

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

Motion failed.

Direct administration to present information at the next meeting regarding the closure of Marshall and reconfiguring Fitch to a K-8 school

The Board directed administration to present information at the next meeting regarding the proposal to close Marshall, reconfiguring Fitch to a K-8 and moving students to Fitch and other possibilities.

Dr. Callahan recommended that a meeting be scheduled immediately because a decision had to be made before any work could be done on Monte Vista and Colton.

By Board consensus the next meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2004, 6:30 p.m.

Close Foothill School

Board Member Noriega motioned and Board Member Eggers seconded to close Foothill School.

RESOLVED that Foothill School be closed.

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

A recess was taken at 9:20 p.m. and the Board reconvened at 9:30 p.m. to take the following action:

Make Colton a 4-8 school and leave Monte Vista as a K-3 school with a principal overseeing Colton and Monte Vista

President Lauterbach asked if one of the Board members (Eggers, LeBoeuf, Noriega, DeBono) who voted in the majority for the reconfiguration of Colton as a K-8 would allow discussion on the motion and vote. Her purpose was to share information. Per permission from Board Member DeBono, President Lauterbach informed the Board that she was concerned about how the reconfiguration would be done, the cost, and how it would affect the students. She recommended making Colton a 4-8 and leaving Monte Vista as a K-3 with a principal overseeing Colton and Monte Vista.

Discussion continued among Board members regarding President Lauterbach's recommendation with no action taken.

Board Member DeBono requested that the Colton reconfiguration options be discussed under school closures because the parent group and staff wanted to begin work, but could not until the Board felt that the reconfiguration was doable.

Discussion continued and it was agreed to discuss the options at the next meeting when school closures were discussed or if time allowed at the end of the present meeting.

4. Designate the Week of May 17-21, 2004, as Classified School Employee Week – Strategy 5

CSEA President Anna Macaluso announced that a gathering will be held to honor classified employees on May 20, 2004.

RESOLVED that the week of May 17-21, 2004, be designated as Classified School Employee Week.

MSC+ Noriega/Troutman
AYES: 7
NOES: 0

5. Designate May 12, 2004, as California Day of the Teacher – Strategy 5

RESOLVED that May 12, 2004, be designated as California Day of the Teacher.

MSC+ Eggers/Troutman
AYES: 7
NOES: 0

6. Approve Meal Price Increases for Fiscal Year 2004-2005 – Strategy 1

Chief Business Officer Jim Burnis recommended that the price for lunch be increased from \$2.00 to \$2.50 for elementary lunches, and from \$2.50 to \$3.00 for 2004-2005 for high school lunches.

RESOLVED to approve meal price increases for fiscal year 2004-2005.

MSC+ Foss/Troutman
AYES: 7
NOES: 0

7. Approve Minutes – Strategy 1 (Item added by Board since posting of the agenda)

President Lauterbach pulled the March 15th minutes for discussion.

President Lauterbach asked why budget revisions were discussed under Consent because it was her understanding that it was agreed to discuss any budget revisions under Action Items.

After a brief discussion, the recording secretary was directed to research this question.

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+ Eggers/Troutman
AYES: 7
NOES: 0

L. Reports
Strategy 1

Routine status reports and announcements regarding campus activities, meeting schedules, conferences attended, and recent developments from:

1. Committees/
Conferences
Board Member Troutman shared information regarding a SELPA meeting she attended on March 25, 2004.
2. Superintendent's
Report
Superintendent Callahan celebrated successes from La Mesa School, Foothill School, Central Coast High School, and Ano Nuevo.
3. DLIFLC/POM/NPS
Representative
Mr. Graddy gave a brief report on the Town Hall meeting held on April 21, 2004. He spoke about government housing that allowed government employees to live there, and reminded the Board that the District is a member of the Monterey County Childcare Planning Council. He reminded that the week of April 22nd is the Week of the Young Child.

M. Information

1. Discuss the
Renaming of the
Monte Vista School
Library – *Strategy 1*
Dr. Callahan said the Monte Vista staff is still interested in naming their school library in honor of Ruth Vreeland.
It was the consensus of the Board to bring this item up as an Action Item at the next meeting.
- *2. Review Board Policy
Subcommittee
Protocol – *Strategy 1*
Dr. Callahan said this item had been addressed.
It was the consensus of the Board to extend the meeting to 10:45 p.m.
(Board Member Eggers left the meeting at 10:30 p.m.)
- *3. Review Single Plan
for Student
Achievement for Los
Arboles Middle
School and Central
Coast High School –
Strategy 3
The Single Plan for Student Achievement for Los Arboles Middle School was presented by Principal Carol Weesner and questions clarified from Board members.
The Single Plan for Student Achievement for Central Coast High School was postponed due to the lateness of the hour and the presenters not being able to stay the length of the meeting to present their plan.
- *4. Review Modified
Action Plan and
Proposed Budget –
Central Coast High
School – *Strategy 3*
This item was tabled because the principal was unable to attend the continued meeting due to scheduling conflicts.
- *5. Review Petition by
Monterey Bay
Charter School –
Strategy 1
This item was tabled.

- *6. Review Memorandum of Understanding Between the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District and the Business and Education Alliance of the Monterey Peninsula (BEAM) – *Strategy 2*

President Lauterbach said that this item had been addressed.

- *7. Review Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Education Committee First Day Celebration and Supply Drive – *Strategy 2*

Support Services Director Shelby Garrison reviewed the First Day Celebration and Supply Drive.

N. Board Member Request(s) for Information and/or Possible Future Agenda Items

Board Member DeBono requested information regarding Colton's reconfiguration options and asked for direction by the Board to the Committee. Mrs. Gail Motion answered questions regarding Option D.

Clerk Vice-President Foss requested that the following agenda items be added in addition to Option D.

1. Consider closing Marshall School with consolidation of Fitch as a K-8.
2. Consider budget reduction items not previously discussed.
3. Consider proposed options for Colton reconfiguration as an Action item.

O. Board Self-Evaluation, as Applicable

P. Closed Session

Q. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 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