

GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Rosemead, California

Minutes of Regular Meeting
September 29, 2011

The Garvey School District Board of Education met in regular session on September 29, 2011, at the Education Center, Rosemead, California.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m., by Board President M. Janet Chin.

ROLL CALL

Present at the meeting were Mr. Bob Bruesch, Ms. M. Janet Chin, Mr. Henry Lo, Mr. Tony Ramos, Mr. John Yuen (arrived at 6:45 p.m.), and Superintendent Dr. Sandra Johnson.

Also in attendance were Mr. Genaro Alarcon, Mr. Michael Coughlin, Ms. Dolores Preciado, Dr. Mary Suzuki, and Ms. Maria De La Cruz.

VISITORS PRESENT

Present as visitors were the persons listed on the attached Register of Attendance who signed the register and whose signatures were legible and which is hereby made an official part of these minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Elena Martinez, student of Bitely School, led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board acknowledged the presence of Martin Dacumos, student of Bitely School.

COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS FROM THE BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

The Board presented certificates of recognition to 30 retirees for their many years of service to the Garvey School District.

Board President Janet Chin presented a certificate of special recognition to Board Clerk Bob Bruesch for his leadership and support of the 2011 Family Fun Day. Mr. Bruesch noted that there were approximately 700 people present at the health fair. He thanked the nurses that were available to provide needed resources.

The Board presented a certificate of special recognition to Dr. Laurie Narro, principal of Bitely School, for having received a Doctorate of Education degree.

Dr. Narro gave a presentation on what she and the Bitely staff did to help students accomplish an increased academic performance index (API) score. Dr. Narro spoke of Bitely's mission statement and student achievement. She showed several student projects that were instrumental in attaining student success.

Dr. Narro stated that Bitely students passed the State goal of 800 points, a total growth of 34 points. Dr. Narro spoke of the collaborative time spent by staff and a more rigorous curriculum used with the implementation of Treasures textbooks. Bitely staff provided more student engagement and a curriculum that focused on science and the arts, using the interactive FOSS Program and Meet the Masters Program providing learning about various artists and the teachers spent time developing student leaders and working with kids that needed more help. Another area of focus was in writing through the Writer's Workshop and developing appropriate writing strategies using of notebooks. There was also a focus on English language learners with teachers working together using the new Wonders curriculum and the appropriate level of instructions.

Dr. Narro stated that there was extensive Response to Intervention (RtI) done during and after school for those student with more intense learning needs. She noted the many after school activities to help students with Math. Bitely School partnered with Garvey Intermediate School by having some Bitely students take the pre-algebra class. Thinking Maps were used by teachers as a different way of visualization.

Dr. Narro talked about her making a conscientious effort to make weekly visits of every class and getting feedback from students about what they were learning. Dr. Narro thanked the staff of Bitely School and she acknowledged the teachers present at the meeting.

Tony Ramos congratulated Dr. Narro and the staff of Bitely School for their efforts and success of student learning.

Henry Lo talked about a recent press conference held by Assemblymember Mike Eng at Garvey Intermediate School. The conference addressed anti-bullying legislation (AB 1156) that is expected to be signed soon by the Governor. Mr. Lo thanked Gema Macias, principal of Garvey Intermediate, and her staff for their assistance in making the press conference a success. Present at the conference were Board Clerk Bob Bruesch, Garvey Superintendent Dr. Sandra Johnson, Alhambra Unified School Board Member Adele Andrade Stadler, and Alhambra Unified School Superintendent Donna Perez. Mr. Lo indicated that this bill will set guidance and procedures in dealing with bullying at our schools. Dr. Sandra Johnson commended the maintenance staff on their efforts in making the early morning preparations for the press conference by early that morning.

Tony Ramos stated that he has always supported anti-bullying efforts not just in schools but also in the workplace, and he talked about the need to start this prevention process at an early age. John Yuen spoke of the need to have a curriculum in place or some activities for individuals that need assistance to stop the bullying. Bob Bruesch commented on how far ahead our District has advanced on this issue compared with other districts.

Bob Bruesch spoke of a recent breakfast held by the San Gabriel Education Civic Alliance where discussions were held regarding the need to teach science and technology with hands-on activities in schools and match the needs of the industry where jobs are more likely to be available for students who are taught these skills at an early age.

Janet Chin commented on how every industry is affected by the education of students. She talked about the Back to School Nights. She encouraged Board members to visit all the schools and to show that the Board is listening to the concerns of the parents by seeking to engage parents on their child's hope and aspirations. Ms. Chin acknowledged the challenges some teachers are having with the delivery of their textbooks and she hopes that these have been resolved.

REPORT FROM UNION REPRESENTATIVES

- **Garvey Education Association (GEA):** None
- **California School Employees Association (CSEA)**

Vicky Walker, president of CSEA, Chapter 292, thanked Henry Lo for inviting her to a press conference regarding anti-bullying today. She indicated that CSEA supports this legislation and she hopes that the Governor will sign the bill. Ms. Walker talked about the various programs in place at the District that address this issue. Ms. Walker stated that she has attended most of the Back to School Nights; she was most impressed with Dewey School after the move of portable classrooms. She noted that many CSEA members give of their own time to help with PTA activities and the food booths during Back to School Night.

REPORT FROM HEAD START REPRESENTATIVE

Cindy Carter Bedoya gave an update on the Head Start Program. She indicated that 513 children are enrolled in the program and that two vacancies occurred in the last couple of days, one at Bitely School and one at Dewey School. These spots will be filled from the waiting list.

Ms. Carter reported that one of the requirements of Head Start is that all Head Start teachers hold a minimum of an Associate of Arts Degree. She stated that by October 2011, all teachers will have met this requirement and many hold a Bachelors of Arts degree or higher.

Ms. Carter reminded the Board of the next Head Start Policy Committee (PC) meeting scheduled for October 19, 2011. She stated that there will be three days of training of the new PC committee members on October 24-26, 2011, and on the last day, the outgoing members will be thanked for their commitment during this past year.

Ms. Carter said that next month she will be presenting a review of the 2010-11 Year, and will also provide information on the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) Child Outcomes Assessment.

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

- **Garvey Council PTA**

Bob Bruesch announced that a Candidates Forum will be held next Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at Garvey Intermediate. He reminded everyone of the International Walk to School Day on October 5. He noted that PTA membership dues are being collected and encouraged the Board to join the PTA of each school in the District.

- **Garvey Education Foundation**

Dr. Sandra Johnson reported that there will be a Foundation meeting next Monday, October 3, 2011 to set the dates for the Foundation Dinner in the spring of 2012.

HEARING OF PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE

Cecilia Losoya addressed the Board regarding the lunch menus. She stated that the food is "lousy"; that the Head Start children are not eating it, and that it contains too much syrup and sweets when the District should be limiting the sugar contents. She did not feel that the price increases are justified.

Ms. Losoya addressed the workload of CSEA members and the need to bring back the laid-off employees. She talked about her request for information regarding the qualifications and background of Heather Morris, Carol Maaske, and Becky Wetzel. She stated that she read the District's response letter to CSEA members at a recent Chapter meeting stating that the District does not have information on the qualifications of Becky Wetzel.

Henry Lo asked that the Board to direct staff to conduct a review of the Food Services Program in the District.

Wesley J. Portinga addressed the Board regarding his concern with the District's consideration to eliminate the Honors Program. He urged the Board to uphold their commitment in this area of education.

Ted Saulino addressed the Board regarding lead poisoning and the consequences to children. He distributed information from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and pictures of paint peeling and hazards involving a building located at Williams School. He indicated that he recently filed a complaint with CAL-

OSHA. Janet Chin asked Mr. Saulino to forward a copy of the letter to Dr. Sandra Johnson. Ms. Chin asked Dr. Johnson to do some further research on Mr. Saulino's complaint.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS: None

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

On the motion of Henry Lo, seconded by Bob Bruesch, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board adjourned at 7:46 p.m. to a closed session and addressed those items posted on the agenda.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened in public at 8:49 p.m.

On the motion of Henry Lo, seconded by Bob Bruesch, and carried by 5 to 0, the Board waived the Bylaws and extended the meeting to 10:00 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Janet Chin indicated that no action was taken during the closed session:

CONSENT AGENDA

On the motion of Henry Lo, seconded by Janet Chin, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as indicated below:

A. Board/Superintendent

1. Approval of Minutes 1
The minutes of the following meeting are submitted for approval:
Regular Meeting – September 8, 2011

On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by Janet Chin, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board approved the minutes as corrected.
2. Conference/Convention Attendance 2
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve requests for conference and convention attendance as presented. Approved.
3. Walk to School Day Resolution 3
It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution 11-12-03 –recognizing October 5, 2011 as Walk to School Day in the Garvey School District. Approved.
4. Red Ribbon Week Resolution 4
It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution 11-12-04 recognizing October 23-31, 2011, as Red Ribbon Week in the Garvey School District. Approved.

B. Human Resources

1. Personnel Assignment Order - Revised 5
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Assignment Report No. 11-12-05 as presented. Approved.

C. Pupil Personnel Services

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with L.A. County Department of Mental Health 6
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve an MOU with the L.A. County Department of Mental Health (DMH) for the 2011-2012 fiscal school year.

Bob Bruesch asked about the procedures that a teacher would follow if there is suspicion of a child having some type of mental problems. He stated that this morning's press conference alluded to the Oxnard student that was recently killed having some type of psychological problems. Dolores Preciado indicated that for those students not identified through the Special Education Program, there is a referral process that involves a panel to identify the student's needs and assessments. Dr. Johnson stated that this MOU allows the District to access funding from the State for the District to provide mental health services.

Bob Bruesch moved, Tony Ramos seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0, to approve Item C.1 as presented.

D. Instructional Services

1. AVID Program 7
Approval to enter into an agreement with LACOE to provide professional development to support the implementation of the AVID program at Garvey and Temple Intermediate Schools for the 2011-12 school year at a cost of \$1,500 to be paid from Title II, Part A Funds. Approved.

E. Business Services

1. Purchase Order Report 8
It is recommended that the Board approve Purchase Order Report No.11-12-05 as presented. Approved.

2. Appropriation Transfers 9
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Appropriation Transfers as presented.

Bob Bruesch asked about an item in the Appropriation Transfers report. Michael Coughlin pointed out that the revisions for the expenditure must reflect the decreasing amount and the fund balance.

Bob Bruesch moved, Janet Chin seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0 to approve Item E.2 as presented.

3. Lunch Price Increase 10
It is recommended that the Board approve the increase in the price of a lunch for a full-pay student as presented.

Tony Ramos asked about the reason for the increase in prices for lunch at a time when there is a bad economy, and if it would possible to postpone the rate increase or to do a minimal increase from one year to the next.

Dr. Johnson stated that this increase was to start moving closer to having full price lunches cost the same as the Federal reimbursement for free and reduced prices. Mr. Coughlin indicated that the District is obligated to stay within some balance between what is received

as a reimbursement from the Federal Government and the full price of meals. This increase affects only ten percent of the students in the District, and there is no increase in reduced lunch prices. Mr. Coughlin indicated that price increases have not incurred since 2007, and this .25-cent increase is necessary to get closer to the Federal reimbursement.

Approval of this item was tabled pending a review of lunch prices since the last increase three years ago.

4. Contract with Dolinka Group 11

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the contract with the Dolinka Group as presented.

Bob Bruesch asked a question regarding the survey done to justify the development fees collected from the three cities within the District's boundaries.

Bob Bruesch moved, Tony Ramos seconded, and the motion carried to approve Item E.4 as presented.

5. Unaudited Actuals 12

It is recommended that the Board of Education receive the Unaudited Actuals Financial Report for 2010-11 as presented. Approved.

6. GANN Limit Resolution 13

It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 11-12-05 adopting the GANN Limit and the District's annual report on the GANN Appropriation Limits for 2010-11 and estimated limits for 2011-12. Approved.

Reports and Information Items

- A. Dr. Mary Suzuki, gave an update on the K-6 ELA Pacing Guides. She spoke of the purpose for The pacing guides that provide a template to ensure that a curriculum is in place aligned to the California State Standards. Pacing guides use the newly adopted Treasures textbooks as the resource. A matrix was developed using the essential standards and standards were grouped by topic. 14

Dr. Suzuki indicated that a committee determined the sequence of the standards for the English Language Arts and adapted the benchmarks based on the essential standards. The committee reviewed the student assessments for consistency and spent many hours to ensure that there is a high level of success for all students.

Bob Bruesch asked if the assessment process allowed for those students with less verbal skills but capable of understanding the particular standards. Dr. Suzuki stated that teachers will be using multiple assessments and activities and that the District needs to put resources to insure that everyone is focused on the needs of "90-90-90" schools (high poverty, minority, and high proficiency). Janet Chin commented on ways to explain the standards to parents so that students and parents can take ownership on the process of using pacing guides. Dr. Suzuki explained that there will be an evaluation process throughout the year to determine needed changes.

Dr. Johnson spoke of the needs to improve on effective data collection for primary grades so principals can review the information with the teachers. John Yuen spoke of the need to help parents understand what their children are learning each week.

Action Items

- A. It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 11-12-05 authorizing the Study of Necessity of Trustee Area Elections and Funds to Conduct Same. 15

Dr. Sandra Johnson explained that the California Voting Act allows for Districts to go to a form of governance where Board members are elected to represent an area. Dr. Johnson indicated that there is a provision called Safe Harbor, and that under advice of attorney Bonny Garcia, if the Board passes a resolution authorizing a study, the District is protected under the Safe Harbor provisions from any kind of action against the District. There are no time limits to the study; however the resolution requires the hiring of a demographer and an estimated cost was given based on a comparison with other schools districts.

Janet Chin noted that this recommendation, if approved, would not incur any costs at this time. John Yuen recommended the approval of the resolution only, and to consider lowering the cost for the study. Bob Bruesch suggested that staff be directed to ask other districts if they have considered doing a study where the cost of the study can be divided among several districts. Tony Ramos felt that the estimated price given was too high, and that there is much data available that can be obtained at a much lower price. Henry Lo felt that while this matter is meant as a precaution, he does not think this is an issue of real concern for this district and that the law is vague.

John Yuen moved, Bob Bruesch seconded, to approve Resolution No. 11-12-05 with no commitment to a dollar amount for the demographics study.

Henry Lo amended the motion to approve Resolution 11-12-05 and strike the cost from the resolution.

The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

PUBLIC AGENDA ITEMS

Bob Bruesch stated that the Board really needs to look at the maintenance of Williams and Marshall Schools with proper off-limits signs in places considered dangerous areas and alerting individuals who rent the facilities.

Henry Lo spoke of a recent event where a couple spoke about a book they wrote, "Honor Thy Children," where it addresses the issue of bullying. This was a very moving presentation of the story of their two children who were shunned; one son died and the other was murdered. Mr. Lo asked how this issue can be raised with parents to become more involved in and promoting responsibility and tolerance.

Tony Ramos thanked the Superintendent for the digital photo frame with former Board members. He recommended having the mission statements placed somewhere where it would remind Board members of their mission.

Mr. Ramos indicated he would like to continue the 7-Habits presentations at future Board meetings, and have students, one school at a time, presenting what they have learned in their presentations. Mr. Ramos commented on e-readers, such as Kindle, or tablets at reduced prices, that could possibly help to have every student in the classroom using these devices.

Janet Chin asked about the status on the Comcast Internet Essentials to implement in the District.

John Yuen indicated he is pleased to see that in the last two years the District is moving forward with upgrades in technology and he commended everyone for this accomplishment.


FUTURE MEETINGS

The following are future Board meetings and agenda topics. Public session will begin at 6:30 p.m., and closed session to begin at 7:00 p.m.

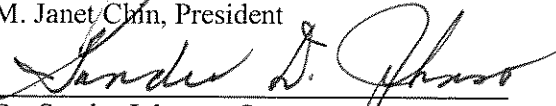
Meeting Date	Agenda Topic
October 20, 2011	
November 10, 2011	
December 8, 2011	

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.



M. Janet Chin, President



Dr. Sandra Johnson, Secretary

**REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE AT GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

Cindy Carter Bedoya

Allison R. Cervera

Armando D. Cervera

Armand r. Cervera

Rachel O. Cervera

Susan Byard

Martin Dacumos

Nancy Eng

Lucina Gaeta

Cecilia Losoya

Sergio Martinez

Debbie Nakamura

Jason Otis

Yolanda Pena

Judith Portinga

Wesley J. Portinga

Suzana Romo

Ted Saulino

Michelle Truong

Wendy Tsang

Vickie Walker