

LOWELL JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
11019 Valley Home Avenue, Whittier, CA 90603

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
October 15, 2012

- CLOSED MEETING** President Barber called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the District Office, 11019 Valley Home Avenue, Whittier. President Barber declared the meeting recessed to closed session at 6:31 p.m.
- CALL TO ORDER** President Barber reconvened the meeting to open session at 7:30 p.m.
- The flag salute was led by Dr. Patricia Howell, Superintendent of Schools.
- Trustees Present: Darin W. Barber, William A. Hinz, James A. Najera, Fred W. Schambeck, and Anastasia M. Shackelford.
- Trustees Absent: None.
- Staff Present: Patricia A. Howell, Superintendent; Tiffany Rudek, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction; and Andrea Reynolds, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services.
- REPORTING OUT ACTION (IF ANY) TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION** This evening in closed session, the Board took action (5-0) to approve the settlement agreement with employee number BG0595725, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.
- INTRODUCTION/ WELCOME** President Barber welcomed CSEA President Darleene Pullen, LJE Co-President Allison Fonti, and Board Candidates Brandon Jones, Martha Leonard, and Fred Schambeck.
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE** Mr. Barber stated he received thank you cards and appreciates those who sent them.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA** It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (5 – 0) to approve the October 15, 2012, agenda.

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES

Mr. Barber stated that Resolution 2012/13 No. 583 Regarding Layoff and Reduction of Hours of Classified Personnel, attached to the October 1, 2012, Board Meeting minutes incorrectly reflects the elimination of two bilingual aide positions as 3.25 hours per day. The Resolution should have reflected 6.25 hours per day. Those employees who were affected by this resolution personally received lay-off notices on October 2 which reflected the elimination of the positions.

Mr. Barber recommended that Resolution 2012/13 No. 583, attached to the October 1, 2012, Board Meeting minutes be amended to read 6.25 hours, and since the original resolution was a roll call vote, that a roll call vote be administered.

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, (5 – 0) to approve the October 1, 2012, Board Meeting minutes with amended Resolution 2012/13 No. 583.

TOPICS NOT ON THE  
AGENDA

None.

TIMELY INFORMATION  
FROM THE BOARD  
AND  
SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Howell thanked all those who have already registered for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Lowell Joint Education Foundation 5K Family Turkey Trot and Wellness Fair on Saturday, November 3. There is still time and to register online at [www.ljefonline.org](http://www.ljefonline.org).

Mr. Hinz reiterated for any student or staff member who can beat his time at the 5K Turkey Trot, he will donate \$20.12 to the Foundation for each individual who crosses the finish line prior to him. Last year, he donated \$100.55 to the Foundation from this challenge.

Mr. Barber shared that at the last Board Meeting a student council member from Macy Elementary School had a concern about the price of the water bottles. Research shows that the surrounding school districts also sell a 16.9 ounce bottle of water for \$1.00. If Nutrition Services were to lower the price of water, there would be a loss in revenue, therefore, at this time, it is not recommended that the water bottle price be lowered.

SCHOOL REPORT

None.

RESOLUTION 2012/13  
No. 584 SUPPORTING  
“RED RIBBON WEEK,”  
OCTOBER 23 THROUGH  
OCTOBER 31, 2012

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, (5 – 0) to adopt Resolution 2012/13 No. 584, as attached, supporting “Red Ribbon Week,” October 23 through October 31, 2012, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the resolution.

RESOLUTION 2012/13  
NO. 585 DETERMINING  
STEPS TO ENSURE  
AVAILABILITY OF  
TEXTBOOKS AND  
INSTRUCTIONAL  
MATERIALS FOR  
2012/13

Pursuant to *Education Code* Section 60119, California school districts must adopt a resolution that determines steps to ensure availability of textbooks and instructional materials for the 2012/13 school year. State guidelines for adoption of the resolution include holding a public hearing. The Public Hearing was opened at 7:38 p.m., and after hearing no comment, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:39 p.m.

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous roll call vote (5 – 0), to adopt Resolution 2012/13 No. 585, Determining Steps to Ensure Availability of Textbooks and Instructional Materials for 2012/13, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

UPDATED/REVISED  
BOARD POLICY 1312.3,  
UNIFORM COMPLAINT  
PROCEDURES

California Assembly Bill (AB) 9, or “Seth’s Law,” effective July 1, 2012, is a new law that reinforces and expands the Safe Place to Learn Act to help safeguard all public school students. California public schools are required to adopt policies to protect students who are targets of unlawful discrimination and harassment. The proposed revised Board Policy 1312.3, Uniform Complaint Procedures, has been shared with representatives of the certificated and classified employee groups and administrators.

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (5 – 0) to adopt the updated/revised Board Policy 1312.3, Uniform Complaint Procedures, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the resolution.

UPDATED/REVISED  
BOARD POLICY 5030,  
STUDENT WELLNESS

New regulations now in place as part of 42 USC 1758b mandate that each school district participating in the National School Lunch Program update their board policy regarding student wellness. The proposed revised Board Policy 5030, Student Wellness, has been shared with representatives of the certificated and classified employee groups and administrators.

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (5 – 0) to adopt the updated/revised Board Policy 5030, Student Wellness, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the resolution.

NOMINATIONS FOR  
MEMBERSHIP ON THE  
LOS ANGELES  
COUNTY COMMITTEE  
ON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ORGANIZATION

Mr. Schambeck shared that the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization was more prevalent back in the 60’s and 70’s because school districts were just forming. However, since boundary lines of school districts are established this committee has only met once or twice in the last five years to discuss redistricting.

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (5 – 0) to not cast a ballot for the nominations of membership on the Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

## 2012 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Tiffany Rudek, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, shared with the Board of Trustees the results of the May, 2012, parent survey. The parent survey is completed every year and results were tallied over the summer. The results were organized into five categories: 1) Academic Preparation; 2) Parent Communication; 3) School Environment; 4) Student Behavior; and 5) Perception of the School. A total of 24 questions were asked, and the parents were to respond with “Agree, Disagree, or Do Not Know.” The results of the surveys were shared with principals and staff members to address and develop strategies of areas that may be of concern.

Mrs. Rudek stated that it is important to note and commend the staff members of the District as most responses were in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for agreement of each specific category.

Dr. Howell stated that there were no parent survey results for 2011. This is because the District had very little response to the electronic survey in 2011. This past spring, surveys were sent home in each student’s backpack.

A parent asked if it would be appropriate to hand out surveys at Back-to-School Night in order to generate more responses from parents.

Dr. Howell responded that Back-to-School Night would not be appropriate because the survey would be directed to the previous year’s parents and not the current year’s parents. However, Open House in the spring could be an option.

## 2012 GROWTH AND API AND AYP REPORTS

Mrs. Tiffany Rudek, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, was proud to present the 2012 Academic Performance Index (API) and 2012 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Reports for each of the schools and the District. The API information and the AYP information for the District and the schools are required by No Child Left Behind Legislation. Students enrolled in grades two through eight are required to take the California Standards Test (CST) in English/language arts and mathematics. In addition, fourth- and seventh- grade students take a CST in writing, fifth- and eighth-grade students take a CST science test, and eighth-grade students take a CST social studies test.

All six of the District’s schools improved and received an API over 800, which is the State target. El Portal gained two points resulting in a score of 876. Jordan’s API is now 873, which is a 50 point increase. Macy and Meadow Green gained 5 points and 15 points, resulting in a score of 912 and 915, respectively. Olita improved by 11 points and has an API of 864 and Rancho-Starbuck improved by 18 points resulting in an API score of 865. The 2012 API for the District increased by 17 points resulting in a score of 881.

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2012 GROWTH AND  
API AND AYP REPORTS  
Continued

Mrs. Rudek also shared that the 2012 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Report varies by site and District. Each site, including the District, must meet certain criteria. The criteria to meet the AYP varies by school, but includes participation rate of 95 percent, meet the proficient percent established by NCLB, have an API of 710, and includes all students and significant subgroups. Jordan Elementary School and Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School met all the requirements and have met their AYP. Macy Elementary School and the District met all but one requirement, and other schools missed their API targets ranging from two to six.

Mr. Hinz asked if there is a single reason why scores are improving. Mrs. Rudek responded that there is not a single reason but a culmination of things which include explicit direct instruction, intervention programs, and focus on five, to name a few.

Mr. Barber shared that it is also because of the extraordinary efforts of all, parents, students, teachers, and staff members.

Mr. Najera stated that there is drastic improvement in the subgroups which was quite impressive.

Mrs. Shackelford expressed that No Child Left Behind is noble to want to close the achievement gap, and everybody is working hard to ensure that steps are taken to close the achievement gap. However, the rate at which No Child Left Behind requires increasing rates of achievement, this closure is unrealistic. Our scores are a testament to our school structure.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (5 – 0) to approve/ratify the following items, under a consent procedure.

Purchase Order Report  
2012/13 #3

Approved Purchase Order Report 2012/13 #3, which lists all purchase orders issued September 19, 2012, through September 28, 2012.

Warrant Listing Report  
2012/13 #3

Approved Warrant Listing Report 2012/13 #3, which lists all warrants issued September 24, 2012, through October 5, 2012.

Employer-Employee  
Relations/Personnel  
Report 2012/13 #3

Ratified Employer-Employee Relations/Personnel Report 2012/13 #3, as attached, which includes hiring, resignations, contract adjustments, and retirements for certificated, classified, and confidential employees.

Approval of Consultant  
Agreement with  
Ms. Jennifer Church to  
Provide After-School  
Coaching Services for the  
2012/13 School Year

Ratified the consultant agreement with Ms. Jennifer Church to provide after-school coaching services for the 2012/13 school year, at the amount of \$700.00 per season, not to exceed \$2,100.00, to be paid from monies secured by the Lowell Joint Education Foundation donation, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Consultant Agreement with Ms. Sarah Rainey to Provide After-School Coaching Services for the 2012/13 School Year

Ratified the consultant agreement with Ms. Sarah Rainey to provide after-school coaching services for the 2012/13 school year, at the amount of \$700.00 per season, not to exceed \$2,100.00, to be paid from monies secured by the Lowell Joint Education Foundation donation, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
COMMENTS

Mr. Barber stated that his daughter is now attending Rancho-Starbuck, and he is quite impressed with all that the school does. The staff members are doing a great job.

Mr. Barber also shared that Mrs. Jan Averill, former Board Member, is going through some health related issues, however, she is doing much better.

ADJOURNMENT

President Barber declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. in accordance with Government Code Section 54956.9 (a, b, c) and indicated no further public action would be taken.

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Clerk/President/Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Date Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_, 2012