



A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2008

5:00 PM

LIBRARY

I. PRELIMINARY:

A. CALL TO ORDER – Rene Rodman – 5:05 PM

B. ROLL CALL – Rene Rodman

Members Present:

Steve Klima	John Riley (absent)
Darcy Stamler (left 7:34pm)	Amy Dresser Held
Rene Rodman	James Paleno
Dave Suarez	Michael Rogers (absent)
Victoria Francis	Torino Johnson (arrived 5:20pm)
Eileen Savage	John P. Callas (alternate/did not attend closed session)

Ex-officio Members:

Martin Griffin
Greg Wood
Ramin Badiyan (absent)

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM BOARD MEETINGS ON JULY 1, 2008. See final approved version at www.palihigh.org.

- Mr. James Paleno moved that the Board approve the July 1st Minutes as corrected. Mrs. Darcy Stamler seconded the motion.

BOARD ACTION: The Board voted to approve the July 1st Minutes as follows:

6 – yes (Mrs. Amy Dresser Held, Mrs. Eileen Savage, Mrs. Darcy Stamler, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. James Paleno, and Ms. Vicky Francis)

3 – abstain (Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. Dave Suarez, and Mr. Torino Johnson)

2 – absent (Mr. Michael Rogers and Dr. John Riley)

- The minutes for the July 15th meeting were tabled until the following meeting.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Non-agenda items: No individual presentation shall be for more than two (2) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed sixteen (16) minutes. Board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the Board may give direction to staff following a presentation. Use of names of individuals should be avoided when referring to accusations or wrongdoing (names should be presented to the Executive Director for follow-up action). Speakers may choose to speak during the public comment segment and/or at the time an agenda item is presented.

- Mrs. Rose Gilbert updated the Board about the pool groundbreaking ceremony on August 1, 2008. She also told the Board that at her 90th birthday party, held the following day, she received “birthday presents” in the form of checks made out to the Maggie Gilbert Aquatics Center fund totaling \$9,620.

- Ms. Tammy Christopher thanked the Board for sending her to the Village Nation Conference which was held at UCLA July 25–28, 2008. She attended a valuable workshop on “Closing the Achievement Gap”, the principles of which she hopes to put into place at PCHS for the 2008-2009 school year.
- Ms. Monica Iannessa thanked the Board for sending her to the Village Nation Conference held July 25-28, 2008 at UCLA.
- Ms. Patrice Fisher thanked the Board for sending her to the Village Nation Conference held July 25-28 at UCLA. She hopes that funds will be made available so that the team attending the conference will be able to put into place those ideas learned at the conference.

III. ACTION ITEMS:

A. APPROVAL TO ADD PRINCIPAL MARTIN GRIFFIN AS A CHECK SIGNATORY TO ALL PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNTS.

- Mr. Greg Wood explained to the Board that it is an annual requirement that PCHS must officially sign, approve and file an updated Certificate of Signatures with the County Office of Education. This document is included in the PCHS Treasurer’s Report to the County of Los Angeles Office of Education. He recommended that the PCHS Board of Directors add Principal Martin Griffin as a signatory to the Certificate of Signatures for 2008-2009. He also recommended that Principal Martin Griffin be added as a signatory to all PCHS bank accounts (Bank of America, Wells Fargo and Cal National Bank). The other signatories are Mrs. Amy Dresser Held and Mr. Greg Wood.
- Mr. Dave Suarez moved that the Board approve adding Principal Martin Griffin as a signatory to all PCHS bank accounts and as a signatory to the 2008-2009 Certificate of Signatures. He also moved that the Board sign and approve the Certificate of Signatures so that Mr. Greg Wood could then file this document with the County Office of Education.
- Mr. Steve Klima seconded the motion.

BOARD ACTION: The Board voted to approve the motion as follows:

8 – yes (Mrs. Amy Dresser Held, Mrs. Darcy Stamler, Mrs. Eileen Savage, Mr. James Paleno, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Ms. Victoria Francis, and Mr. Dave Suarez)

1 – abstain (Mr. Torino Johnson)

2 – absent (Dr. John Riley and Mr. Michael Rogers)

B. APPROVAL OF STRS TAX-DEFERRED RESOLUTION.

- Mr. Greg Wood explained to the Board that teachers can elect to purchase STRS Buy Back (additional service credits to be used in times of breaks in service in order to qualify for benefits). Employees of PCHS must first contact CalSTRS and indicate to them that they wish to have funds taken out of their PCHS paychecks by PCHS so that PCHS can then deposit those funds directly into individual STRS accounts. These are pre-tax, non-matched funds. Mr. Wood recommended that the Board approve the Palisades Charter High School Redeposit Payroll Resolution so that this transfer of funds could happen should an employee decide to exercise this option to increasing his/her retirement savings.
- Ms. Victoria Francis moved that the Board approve the Palisades Charter High School Redeposit Payroll Resolution.
- Mr. James Paleno seconded the motion.

BOARD ACTION: The Board voted to approve the Palisades Charter High School Redeposit Payroll Resolution as follows:

9 – yes (Mrs. Amy Dresser Held, Mrs. Darcy Stamler, Mrs. Eileen Savage, Mr. James Paleno, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. Torino Johnson, Ms. Victoria Francis, and Mr. Dave Suarez)

2 – absent (Dr. John Riley and Mr. Michael Rogers)

C. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EXPENSE REPORTS (STANDING ITEM).

- This item was tabled until the following meeting.

IV. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. POOL PROJECT UPDATE

- Mrs. Amy Dresser Held reported to the Board that the pool groundbreaking ceremony (as previously stated by Mrs. Rose Gilbert) was a huge success. She indicated that she and Mr. Chaz Yench met with the pool contractor and signed a Letter of Agreement earlier this morning (Aug. 5, 2008). August 15, 2008 will be the start date of the staging process. Aug. 15, 2008 is also the end date of the 35 day CEQUA period.
- Mr. James Paleno expressed concern that the service road closure will cause disruption for the 2008-2009 school year. He also wondered about if the bright pool lights will cause problems with Pali's neighbors.
- Mrs. Held indicated that a very extensive environmental review had been conducted and that all issues with neighbors will be dealt with during the 35 day CEQUA period.
- Mr. Dave Suarez wondered where the handball courts could be relocated so that fall and spring team sports that use them for practice will still have access to them.
- Mr. Paleno conducted a walk-through of the campus today (Aug. 5, 2008) and was considering relocation options for the basketball courts.
- Mrs. Held will update the Board at the Regular August meeting on August 19, 2008, about the progress of the pool project.

B. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING FOR AUGUST 19, 2008 AT 5:00 PM IN THE LIBRARY.

V. CLOSED SESSION: The Board entered closed session at 5:55pm

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

- i. Case No: BS108722

B. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

Title: Educational Consultant 2008-2009

BOARD ACTION: The Board voted to deny the Executive Director's and Principal's proposal to retain an Educational Consultant for 2008-2009.

7 – yes (Mrs. Eileen Savage, Mr. James Paleno, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. Torino Johnson, Mr. Dave Suarez, and Ms. Victoria Francis)

1 – abstained (Mrs. Amy Dresser Held)

3 – absent (Dr. John Riley, Mr. Michael Rogers, and Mrs. Darcy Stamler)

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

D. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR PCHS Negotiator

EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION: PESPU, UTLA

VI. PUBLIC SESSION:

IF REQUIRED, PUBLIC REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION (includes the vote or abstention of every member present).

Ms. Rodman returned the meeting to open session at 8:41pm and reported out the closed session Board action noted above.

Unless otherwise noted above, no reportable action was taken on the item in closed session.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Rodman adjourned the meeting at 8:42pm.