

GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Rosemead, California

Minutes of Special Meeting

January 9, 2013

The Garvey Board of Education met in special session on January 9, 2013, at the Education Center, Rosemead, California.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Board President Tony Ramos.

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 6:42 p.m.), and Superintendent Dr. Sandra Johnson.

Also present at the meeting were Mr. Genaro Alarcon, Mr. Robert McEntire, 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

Dan Alvarez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: None

REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Robert McEntire made a presentation on improving security and safety throughout the District. He addressed the concerns arising as a result of the recent incident at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut.

Mr. McEntire listed 15 major areas that the District has reviewed with many items that have already been addressed, such as doing site assessments, reviewing door placements, and construction retrofitting district wide. District staff has also reviewed the best practices in security systems, e.g., looking at fencing, having in place double entry doors, camera monitors, panic buttons, and intercoms, staff training needs throughout the District, and the need to continue to have District-wide earthquake and disaster drills every year. Mr. McEntire stated that through Alliance of Schools for Cooperative Insurance Programs (ASCIP), a DVD is being made available and a webinar for selected staff to learn about an active shooter program. The program was developed by the California Department of Education, Merge-Risk Management Joint Powers Authority.

Dr. Johnson stated that she has set up meetings with local police chiefs and city managers to address some ideas for working together to improve the safety and security in the schools. Mr. McEntire talked about the weekly reports and proposals that will be made to the Board in future weeks.

John Yuen noted the importance of having cameras monitored at all times and the location of the security cameras through the school buildings. Bob Bruesch suggested having dummy cameras in place to prevent camera lens damage.

Robert McEntire stated that as part of the next steps in improving and/or enhancing the safety and security in the District, the Board will be given a prioritized list of projects along with bid packages for consideration and possible sources of funding.

Henry Lo recommended not to just rely on making 911 calls during an emergency situation but to contact law enforcement agencies directly to shorten the response time. Bob Bruesch asked about a push-button system in the District Office that makes a direct call to the local police agencies. Janet Chin cautioned about having a false sense of security in the District and at the same looking at the legal issues around these measures being implemented.

Dan Alvarez addressed the Board on behalf of Merge-Risk Management Joint Powers Authority as security consultant in this District and throughout the State of California since 2007. Mr. Alvarez stated that our District has implemented many recommendations for conducting site assessments to comply with the requirements of AB 640 and addressing the many challenges that districts face daily. Mr. Alvarez stated that our District has in place a comprehensive plan for every school and has looked at the best practices of setting protocols to respond to critical incidents on school campuses.

Mr. Alvarez stated that this Friday, board members of Merge-Joint Powers Authority will be voting on a proposal prepared by various local law enforcement agencies and statewide experts relating to emergency response preparations and having in place policies and procedures that address specific actions that can begin to take place throughout the summer months. The plan will include having parents understand the training process on an annual basis.

Bob Bruesch talked about the need to review safety and security procedures that would involve the after-school programs and activities.

- B. Robert McEntire made a presentation on a proposed parcel tax survey.

Mr. McEntire addressed the structural deficit that exists and the District not being able to maintain its required three-percent reserve for economic uncertainties Mr. McEntire spoke of the benefits of using a parcel tax as a source of revenue as opposed to bonds. Mr. McEntire stated that the District reached out to many firms who conduct parcel tax surveys. The Board received a list of five firms with their detailed price quotes. Isom Advisors provided the best quote of the five firms. Board members asked to see the contract from Isom Advisors at the next Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. The Board of Education may provide direction to administration for improving security and safety throughout the District.

Robert McEntire stated that Fund 35 is the matching State fund for modernization projects that has some restrictions lifted for any upgrades and security projects needed. This fund balance is \$3.2 million. The Board was presented with a list of items that can be funded from these funds.

Bob Bruesch asked about the possibility of increased funding from the State to increase security in schools.

John Yuen moved, Tony Ramos seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 5 to 0 to approve proceed with implementing Action Item A.

- B. It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution #12-13-11 to oppose a possible water rate assessment from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Dr. Sandra Johnson addressed the need to pass this resolution before January 15, 2013, opposing a water rate assessment that will cost the District over \$80,000 a year. Mr. McEntire stated that Dr. Johnson and he will be attending a hearing on January 15th to protest the water rate assessment and discuss its impact for school districts.

Board members talked about whether or not the water rate assessment would have any benefit to schools and the minimal storm drain run-off water and/or water pollution that our District campuses generate. There was also a discussion about revising the language of the resolution. Instead Dr. Johnson will draft a cover letter to address the concerns raised.

John Yuen moved, Tony Ramos seconded, to approve Action Item B adding to the resolution a cover letter with talking points discussed tonight. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0-1 (Janet Chin abstained).

- C. On the motion of John Yuen, seconded by Tony Ramos, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board tabled the motion to approve the contract with Isom Advisors to engage in a survey for the potential levying of a Parcel Tax on behalf of the District. Staff will send the Board the contract for the proposed services. The Board asked to include the contract for approval at the next Board meeting.
- D. On the motion of Henry Lo, seconded by Janet Chin, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board adopted Resolution #12-13-12 on the CalRecycling Caltire Grant.
- E. On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by John Yuen, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board approved the first and final Reading of Board Bylaw 3510 (Green Schools Operations).

MOTION TO EXTEND THE BOARD MEETING

On the motion of John Yuen, seconded by Bob Bruesch, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board extended the meeting to 10:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS: None

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

On the motion of Janet Chin, seconded by John Yuen, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0 the Board voted to adjourn to closed session and address the item on the agenda.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION: The Board adjourned to closed session at 9:11 p.m.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION: The Board reconvened into public session at 9:25 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION: There was no action taken during closed session.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Bob Bruesch commented on the need to show voters that the Board is doing everything it can do, e.g., survey of cost per square footage of facility rentals and capitalize on vacant classrooms.

Janet Chin asked for a discussion on the status of the contract with the East Los Angeles College and proposals for the use of Williams School and other school properties. Dr. Johnson stated that a letter was sent to Board members with information about terminating the lease with East Los Angeles College.

Janet Chin read aloud an open letter to the community published in the World Journal (a local Chinese news paper) about a recall petition being circulated.

The Board held a moment of silence in memory of the students and staff killed on December 14, 2012, at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Newtown, Connecticut. The Board also held a moment of silence in memory of Huell Howser, public TV host, who passed away on January 7, 2012.

Tony Ramos asked for a future Board meeting on a Saturday to discuss and create a vision for the Board in the next five to ten years.


A list of future meetings and potential agenda topics were reviewed.

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, January 17, 2013, at the Education Center. Public session will begin at 6:30 p.m. with closed session to begin at 7:00 p.m.

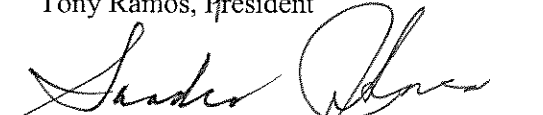
Meeting Date	Agenda Topic
January 17, 2013	
February 7, 2013	
February 28, 2013	
March 14, 2013	

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.



Tony Ramos, President



Dr. Sandra Johnson, Secretary

REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE

Dan Alvarez
Michael Drange
Elizabeth McClure
Carolyn Wong