

GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Rosemead, California

Minutes of Regular Meeting

March 14, 2013

The Garvey Board of Education met in regular session on March 14, 2013, at the Education Center, 2730 N. Del Mar Ave., Rosemead, California. The meeting was later moved to Garvey Intermediate School, 2720 Jackson Ave., Rosemead, California.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., by Board President Tony Ramos.

ROLL CALL

Present at the meeting were Mr. Bob Bruesch, Ms. M. Janet Chin, Mr. Henry Lo (arrived at 6:50 p.m.), Mr. Tony Ramos, Mr. John Yuen (arrived at 6:50 p.m.), and Superintendent Dr. Sandra Johnson.

Also in attendance 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

Tony Ramos led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION TO RECESS

On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by Tony Ramos, and carried by a vote of 3 to 0 (John Yuen and Henry Lo not present for the vote), the Board recessed at 6:35 p.m. to move to Garvey Auditorium.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

At 6:53 p.m., the Board reconvened into public session at Garvey Auditorium, Rosemead, California.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: None

COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS FROM THE BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Sandra Johnson announced the upcoming Beautification Day on April 20, 2012. Staff from Rosemead City and Garvey staff will be working at all seven Rosemead schools on additional hardscaping and landscaping. Dr. Johnson stated that she has received the first estimates for security upgrades, including fencing and blinds for classrooms. She will bring these to the Board for approval later.

Bob Bruesch spoke of five schools he visited in the last two weeks reading to children and he and the children enjoyed it.

Janet Chin stated that last Friday she attended a LACSTA presentation with a panel of health experts that talked about community health programs and health centers around schools creating a community resource center. She hopes that our District will look into having one of these centers nearby. Ms. Chin spoke of a public California website, coveredca.org, providing information on health coverage and a benefits estimator which calculates costs per family.

Henry Lo indicated that Ms. Chin, Dr. Johnson, and he had attended a Monterey Park Council meeting to pay tribute to two retiring elected officials, the Honorable David Lau and the Honorable David Barron. Mr. Lau is a former Garvey Board member; Mr. Barron has served the City of Monterey Park for 25 years. Mr. Lo commented on other local city newly elected and re-elected officials. He asked to send them congratulations on behalf of our Board.

Mr. Bob Bruesch indicated he spoke with some people in Orange County who are experienced in working with school districts that have vacant schools. He said it is not about selling property, rather a joint effort with developers to use the land as commercial property and affordable housing that would increase the enrollment and income for the District. Mr. Bruesch asked that the Superintendent meet with these individuals and discuss our surplus property use without selling it.

Tony Ramos stated he visited Hillcrest School for Read Across America Week and he read to the children. Tomorrow, he will visit Dewey School. Mr. Ramos commended Principal Michelle Collaso for continuing to support the Leader in Me Program. Mr. Ramos attended an event this week with great speakers and an inspiring performance.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Mr. Juan Dominguez and Ms. Lillian Hernandez made a presentation on the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE). Mr. Dominguez stated PIQE's commitment to bring families and schools together, to encourage all students attend college. Ms. Hernandez is director of the PIQE Program in this area and explained that this non-profit organization has been serving underserved families for 25 years. The programs are offered in 16 languages and operated by invitation of local districts. Through the years, our District has participated and parents have been provided with relevant information and the tools to navigate student resources. Ms. Hernandez stated that parents receive a certificate at the end of the program. PIQE has partnered with the California State University (CSU) system that pays special attention to the students applying for college whose parents participated in the PIQE program. Ms. Hernandez stated that recently, PIQE opened a parent leadership program in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Education.

Bob Bruesch applauded the work of PIQE and its activities in educating our parents. John Yuen noted that his children received the benefit from the PIQE program in our District. He is especially interested in helping students enroll in science and engineering programs. Janet Chin spoke of her involvement with PIQE since she was PTA President at Hillcrest School and has participated as a train-the-trainer for Head Start Parents. Ms. Chin stated she is very supportive of the PIQE Program at Garvey. Henry Lo stated he appreciates the PIQE partnership with our District. Tony Ramos thanked Ms. Hernandez and Mr. Dominguez for supporting our parents and asked for their assistance in increasing the performance of our students in academics. Bob Bruesch suggested having the PIQE graduation dates and the Back to School Nights dates in the Board agenda as a reminder to Board members.

- B. Robert McEntire presented the Second Interim Report. He reminded everyone that the Board adopted the 2012-13 budget at the end of June 2012, and in mid-December, the Board approved the First Interim Report; in January, the Governor's budget proposal was presented to the Board.

Mr. McEntire stated that tonight's Second Interim Report includes some major assumption changes, budgetary concerns, and multi-year projections based on operating history, along with the fund balances trends and effects in the future years. Mr. McEntire stated that this year's budget includes a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 1.65 percent, but in recent history, the State has reduced funding up by 22.272 percent and has also deferred funding to schools into the next fiscal year. Mr. McEntire stated that this year, the District chose to be part of the States' mandated block program that guaranteed a flat rate/student. He explained that 75% of the eligible Districts in the State participated in this program. This is significant because in the past we have filed for mandates in the hopes that we would be reimbursed "someday." However, this year, using the per

student flat funding amount, we were paid in full in the current year. We anticipate continuing with this program for the immediate future.

Mr. McEntire listed other things that have affected the District's budget, such as class size reduction levels. The District realized 34 more ADA than originally projected for this year, and that these projections would carry forward into next year's funding under the Revenue Limit. There was an increase in one-time expense this year for information technology purchases plus late year service contracts of \$153,000. Additionally, GSD lost revenue due to the loss of the East Los Angeles College as a tenant at Williams School.

Mr. McEntire reported that, at this moment, the Second Interim Report, which is from July 1 to January 31, 2013, the District is able to project a positive budget certification. This means GSD is projected to meet its expenses and obligations through this fiscal year and the two subsequent fiscal years. Mr. McEntire explained that the positive certification is precarious at best. Garvey School District is positive by \$69,170, which is 0.15% of total expenses or just shy of the cost of one fully qualified teacher.

Mr. McEntire spoke of the down trend in the District's revenue which has resulted from the State passing its financial difficulty on to schools. He also highlighted the structural deficit, and the District's need to borrow funds to meet its monthly expenses, and the reductions of the District's reserve. While Proposition 30 and the unanticipated State's COLA have temporarily saved the day, we need to manage long-term expectations against our reality; that for five years we have diverted infrastructure funding to cover staffing costs. This has resulted in deferred maintenance which has taken its toll on our physical plant, property, and equipment. Instead of simple maintenance and repairs, we will now have higher replacement costs for things such as desks, chairs, and mechanical equipment. Looking forward, the Board needs to decide how best to focus the District's scarce resources with this reality in mind. The Governor's May Revise will determine the final effects to our budget.

Tony Ramos asked about the reason for the last minute change to a positive certification of our budget. Mr. McEntire talked about the quality control process, and how it is necessary to validate every account line. In this case, the actual loss in revenue from the East Los Angeles College presented him with a concern about the treatment of the lost revenue in the multi-year projections. Upon thorough investigation, he was able to validate that the lost revenue was handled properly, which resulted in a positive budget. Bob Bruesch asked about the cause for changes in the Special Education encroachment. Mr. McEntire stated that the original projection was understated earlier due to incorrect estimates by LACOE. Last year, we challenged LACOE's assumption with the number they gave us for this cost, but LACOE stood firm. We trusted them and got surprised.

Mr. Bruesch asked why the projection was lower. Dr. Sandra Johnson stated that L.A. County Office of Education (LACOE) billed-back expenses to the District every year in the past, but this year school districts have experienced higher expenses. It is one of the reasons to move these programs back to the SELPA. The Alhambra Unified School District is acting as the administrative unit for tracking these costs hoping that this won't happen in the future. Mr. Bruesch asked for a comparison of the previous three or four years on these costs. Mr. Bruesch commented on the long-term leases or rents on charges that can be made at current market value on the entities using our facilities, showing the voters that the Board has explored every avenue before seeking a property tax assessment. John Yuen concurred with the need to have an analysis and projection information for the Board to make the best decision.

Janet Chin asked about a previous presentation on the local control funding formula (LCFF) and how it can increase the District's revenue. Mr. McEntire explained how the Governor is attempting to redirect and redistribute educational funding by providing additional supplemental grants, considering numbers of English Language Learner students, low socio economic students, foster children, and base grant supplementals. Superintendents through the State of California have met in Sacramento to discuss how the LCFF is being

addressed throughout the State. Some more affluent Districts like San Marino will be financially harmed under the LCFF plan. Districts like Garvey would benefit.

Ms. Chin asked for an update on possible tenants for Williams Schools and how the Federal sequestering would affect our District as a whole. Mr. McEntire stated that the sequestering will not have a direct change in the General Fund but it will indirectly affect it by thousands of dollars. Dr. Johnson stated that this will have an effect on the categorical budget and not just in the Head Start Program.

Henry Lo recognized Mr. Joe Walker, Board Member of Temple City Unified School District and Mr. Ladderback, economics teacher at Temple City Unified School District, along with educators from San Gabriel Unified School District and the Alhambra Unified School District.

Mr. Lo agreed with Ms. Chin on the need for information on the weighted LCFF and estimates on how this would help in eliminating or reducing the deficit. Mr. McEntire is expecting some legal analysis that was not included in the second interim reporting figures. Mr. Lo commented that some Districts have reported that these numbers are either over-inflated or under-inflated. Mr. McEntire will continue to keep the Board appraised as the LCFF develops further.

- C. Dr. Sandra Johnson gave information on District Office Expenditures and Donations. She explained that the Board initially had talked to her about their desire to increase curb appeal, to improve cleanliness and the conditions of all schools in order for all student and staff to learn and work in good facilities.

Dr. Johnson listed the number of painting of walls and cleaning carpets in the District Office, along with substantial de-cluttering, replacement of furniture, and the addition of pictures on the walls. These were made with help of volunteers, individual donations, and District funds.

REPORT FROM UNION REPRESENTATIVES

- **Garvey Education Association (GEA)**

Michael Drange, president of GEA, addressed the Board regarding the agreement between the Association and the District regarding early notification of retirees. Mr. Drange applauded the District for not having certificated layoffs for the first time in many years. Mr. Drange acknowledged the teachers attending tonight's Board meeting from San Gabriel Unified School District and Alhambra Unified School District. Mr. Drange mentioned an Unfair Labor Practice case filed recently, and spoke of Board Policy No. 4119.25. Mr. Drange spoke of a recent email response he received from Board Member Janet Chin. Dr. Sandra Johnson and Ms. Chin clarified that under the Brown Act, Board members are cautioned about sending "Reply to All" emails.

- **California School Employees Association (CSEA)**

Olivia De Leon, president of CSEA, Chapter 292, addressed the Board regarding negotiations taking place next week, concerns about volunteer union work taking place at Rice School, and laid-off employees. CSEA is working hard on other projects, such as preparations for CSEA celebrations at each school site.

REPORT FROM HEAD START REPRESENTATIVE

Stacy Stewart, Assistant Supervisor, Educational/Disability Services gave a report to the Board on the Head Start Program. She indicated an electronic update will be submitted by Director Carolyn Wong. The Non-Federal Share amount is \$90,878.55 which includes volunteer hours in the classroom and at home, Policy Committee volunteer time, and in-kind contributions; 4,492 hours of service was provide in 29 classrooms. Ms. Stewart talked about staff training regarding Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) and post-observations scheduled for completion on April, 2013.

Ms. Stewart will send a written report with additional items to report to the Board.

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

- **Garvey Council PTA:** None
- **Garvey Education Foundation**

Bob Bruesch talked about a recent Foundation meeting and efforts to contact all the parents asking for donations.

HEARING OF PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE

Cathie Camacho addressed the Board regarding filthy conditions of the Parent Education Center. She talked about issues related to Board Policy 4119.25.

Gloria Lopez addressed the Board regarding her participation in the GEA negotiation team. Ms. Lopez feels that the rights of the union have been taken away. Ms. Lopez asked Board members to include teachers in the changes that are taking place.

Terry Skotnes, executive director of Alhambra Teachers Association, addressed the Board regarding teachers wearing red tonight and exercising their political rights. Mr. Skotnes spoke of teachers' efforts aimed at helping to pass one of the propositions (Proposition 32), to have a voice and participate in political activities. Mr. Skotnes spoke of a double standard on what people are allowed to do when is approved by the Board.

Ted Saulino spoke about political figures that have been students in the District, have served as Board members. or are now in positions representing the people in California and local cities. Mr. Saulino said that recently a teacher was pulled out of the classroom because a student was talking about the recall and recent election..

Ken Tang, addressed the Board regarding his efforts to work precincts and make phone calls and feeling that his political rights are been threatened.

John Yuen encouraged everyone to exercise their rights and assured them that the Board will continue to set rules that work for everyone and that are fair and legal. Bob Bruesch talked about the well established procedures that need to be followed when dealing with parent complaints ensuring that teacher's rights are not abrogated..

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS: None

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by Henry Lo, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board adjourned at 8:36 p.m. to closed session and addressed those items posted on the agenda.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened in public at 9:25 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Tony Ramos indicated that no action was taken during the closed session.

CONSENT AGENDA

On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by Tony Ramos, 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

On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by Henry Lo, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board approved the minutes of the following meeting as corrected.

Regular Meeting – February 28, 2013

2. Conference/Convention Attendance

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve requests for conference and convention attendance as presented. Approved.

3. Acknowledgement of Gift

It is recommended that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$115.40 from unknown Temple Intermediate parents to offset the cost of agenda books for students. Accepted.

4. Acknowledgement of Gift

It is recommended that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$75 from Edison International's Employee Contributions Campaign Match program. Accepted.

5. Resolution 12-13-17 – Women's History Month

On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by Tony Ramos, and carried, the Board adopted Resolution No. 12-13-17 recognizing March 2013 as Women's History Month in the Garvey School District, as corrected.

Bob Bruesch asked to add to the resolution the following:

"Whereas, women have played an instrumental role in child welfare and educational reform movements."

6. Employ Consultant

It is recommended that the Garvey School Board of Education approve the employment of Pamela Pritchard, Educational Consultant to provide a one-day training to the Head Start/State Preschool teaching staff on Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) on March 15, 2013. Approved.

7. One Time Supplement Grant Proposal(s), Budget Adjustment Requests and Request for Advance Approvals for 2012-13.

It is recommended that the Garvey School District Board of Education approve the One Time Supplemental Grant Proposal(s) along with Budget Adjustment Requests and Request for Advance Approvals for 2012-2013 school year to be used for various Health and Safety Head Start projects. Approved.

B. Human Resources

1. Personnel Assignment Order - Revised

On the motion of Janet Chin, seconded by Henry Lo and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board approved the Revised Personnel Assignment Report No. 12-13-14 as modified.

Janet Chin asked to change one word in a ratify item, "Baby Sit" to "Child Care Provider."

2. Memorandum of Understanding
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Retirement Notification Stipend Agreement with Garvey Education Association for the 2012-2013 School Year. Approved.
3. Agreement for Hearing Services
It is recommended that the Board of Education approved required agreement for retaining the Office of Administrative Hearings to provide hearing, mediation or other proceeding services. Approved.

C. Learning Support Services

1. Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) – Emerson School
It is recommended that the Board of Education ratify a contract with the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) to provide a parent training course to Emerson Elementary School parents from February 6 through April 10, 2013. Approved.
2. Summer School
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the 2013 Summer School Program.

The Board discussed the summer cleaning activities and savings in maintenance during the summer months. Robert McEntire stated that staff is preparing different scenarios to ensure how best to access and maintain the facilities during the summer months. Mr. Bruesch asked about contract language related to leaving clean the Williams School facility after it's vacated by East Los Angeles College. Mr. McEntire stated that there will be a close-out walk-through of the facility once the site is vacated.

Mr. Bruesch asked about the Jaime Escalante summer program. Dr. Mary Suzuki stated that the six-week program will end on July 30, 2013, at Garvey Intermediate School. The Jaime Escalante Program is also offering a fee-based privately run program at Garvey Intermediate School.

Bob Bruesch moved, Henry Lo seconded, to approve Consent Item No. C.2., as presented.

D. Business Services

1. Purchase Order Report
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Purchase Order Report No.12-13-12 as presented. Approved.
2. Appropriation Transfers
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Appropriation Transfers as presented. Approved.
3. Comprehensive School Safety Plans
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Comprehensive School Safety Plans for all sites. Approved.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Second Interim Report

On the motion of Henry Lo, seconded by Bob Bruesch, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board approved the Positive Certification Second Interim Report pursuant to Education Code (ED) Sections 35035(g), 42130 and 42131, certifying the District's ability to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of fiscal year (2012-13) and subsequent two fiscal years (2013-14 & 2014-15).

MOTION TO EXTEND THE BOARD POLICY

On the motion of Henry Lo, seconded by Tony Ramos, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board waived the Board's Bylaws and extended the meeting to Midnight.

- B. Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 4119.25 – Political Activities of Employees
The Board reviewed review the current policy BP/AR 4119.25 – Political Activities of Employees.

Bonny Garcia, Legal Counsel, addressed the Board regarding Board Policy 4119.25 and answered questions from the Board. He gave a brief overview of the law without issuing an opinion. Mr. Garcia stated that the policy is needed to prevent giving the public the impression that any conduct, even passive, has the approval of the District on issues related to political activities during school hours and within school property. The policy also covers those designated areas that union employees are allowed to use, such as lounge rooms and union bulletin boards. Mr. Garcia stated that union members have a right to advocate for whatever issues they wish in the lounge and among themselves but not during instructional time, nor in instructional areas. Employees are prohibited from handing out materials to non-employees and members of the public on site and during school hours. Mr. Garcia stated that our Board policy is very general and not different than anyone else's policy.

Mr. Garcia suggested that the Board ask on an annual or every-other year basis for a legal opinion on what is considered a political activity and this would include the latest information and interpretation regarding the law and statutes or cases that have been decided.

Dr. Sandra Johnson noted a 2007 letter to all employees restating basically what the policy is and political activities this was joint letter from our staff and cosigned by Les Nakasaki, then president of GEA, and Peter Leung, then president of CSEA.

The Board asked that the Superintendent bring back the policy for review and include any recommendations made by legal counsel, with a separate document giving some scenarios that may help with the interpretation of the Bylaws.

PUBLIC AGENDA ITEMS: None

Bob Bruesch asked for a review of procedures when parent complaints are initiated.

Tony Ramos asked for available dates to schedule a Board meeting and discuss a vision statement for the District. He wishes to involve the community and the associations on where we wish to see the School District in the future.

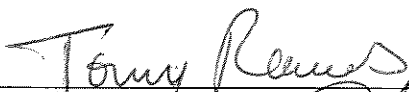
FUTURE MEETINGS

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.

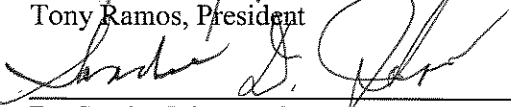
Meeting Date	Agenda Topic
April 4, 2013	
April 25, 2013	
May 16, 2013	
June 6, 2013	
June 27, 2013	

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional items, the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 p.m.



Tony Ramos, President



Dr. Sandra Johnson, Secretary

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

Santa Acevedo	Alice Nishimoto
Ozzie Aguirre	Betty Ng
Mary Louise Anderson	Sandra O'Brien
Minh Anderson	Chris Oda
Marilyn Arellanes	Scott Osborn
Thi Bui	Sal Partita
Cathie Camacho	Judy Phung
Jose Cardenas	Melissa Ram
Brinda Lee Chavez	Rachel Reyes-Aceytuno
Edward Chavez	Blanca Rios-Quiroz
Kathleen Coad	Laura Sakamoto
Adriana De Leon	Irma Salcedo
Diane Drange	Janet Sauber
Michael Drange	Angelina Saulino
Jenny Duque	Ted Saulino
Griselda Flores	Alayna Sato
Dean Furnish	Julie Sena
Melinda Hernandez	Elizabeth C. Silva
Jose Herrera	Terry Skotnes
David Huerta	Stacy Stewart
Becky Hum	Gwen Tambe
Laurie Hurley	Elaine Tamura
Connie Jameson	Ken Tang
Minerva Jimenez	Jasmine Tang
Julie Julie	Betty Tran
Mike Kenny	Brigitte Trenzini
Mark Lalla	Joyce Uenishi
Christine Lee	Mony Ung
Elizabeth Lee	Mark Valdes
Kim Lee	Leslie Villarroel
Carrie Liang	Chris Wallace
Alex Linsley	Vickie Walker
Gloria Lopez	Mary Jo Watkins
Karrah Ly	Denise Williams
Gabriela Marchionne Nava	Richard Williams
Lucy S. Middleton	Grace Wong
Romelia V. Morales	Len Wong
Debbie Nakamura	Cathy Yamasaki
Les Nakasaki	Chitra Zhao
Sanya Namboun-Terracina	