

BOARD OF EDUCATION

NORWALK - LA MIRADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION OF

September 23, 2015

The meeting was called to order by the President at 6:02 p.m., in the Board Room, 12820 Pioneer Blvd., Norwalk, with all members present.

Board Members Present: Mr. Jesse Urquidi, President
Mrs. Karen Morrison, Vice-President
Mr. Darryl Adams, Member
Mr. Chris Pflanzner, Member
Mr. Sean L. Reagan, Member
Mrs. Margarita Rios, Member
Ms. Ana Valencia, Member

Administrators Present: Dr. Hasmik Danielian, Superintendent
Dr. Albert E. Clegg, Assistant Supt., Educational Services
Mr. Estuardo Santillan, Assistant Supt., Business Services
Mr. Wayne Shannon, Assistant Supt., Human Resources
Mr. Rob Jacobsen, General Counsel

MEASURE “G”

Estuardo Santillan clarified that this meeting was for information only and no action would be taken that evening. He provided an outline of the meeting that included presentations by Tim Carty, Piper Jaffray, Bond Financial Advisor, David Casnocha, Bond Legal Counsel and Isela Vazquez, Director of Facilities Planning and Construction.

Mr. Carty provided a brief summary of bond events that had occurred up to that point. He reminded the audience that the bond was passed for an amount of \$375 Million and the Board of Education had developed a project list. He then explained that the dollar amount of bonds to be sold and the frequency of sales is not something that was voted on. These decisions will be made according to the District’s need at the time in accordance with the active projects. As a starting point, the bond sales were estimated at about \$52 Million each issuance with bond sales occurring every three or four years, but he emphasized these were just estimates. He explained the resolutions that would be on the next agenda for the Board’s approval. Mr. Carty talked about the flexibility that is available in the issuance of the bonds. His goal is to make sure that the cash is available when the District needs it to do the projects at that time. The only constraint is the \$60 tax rate per \$100,000. There are also rules about the amount of time you have to spend the money. He then provided some information on refinancing bonds that have already been issued at a lower interest rate to save money for the tax payers. Mr. Carty informed the Board that there would be a resolution on the next agenda to refinance some of the District’s bonds at a lower interest rate. He clarified that first installment of Phase I of bond sales for Measure G would be \$24 Million.

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MEASURE “G”, Continued

Mr. Casnocha provided information on the federal guidelines regarding the timelines in which to spend money obtained from facilities bonds. Mr. Santillan will be signing a document attesting that the District will be spending 85% of the principal and interest earned by the third anniversary date of the issuance of the bonds. He clarified that spend does not mean commit; it means the cash is gone. Bonds should not be issued until there are expenditures ready to go. They should be shovel-ready. This restriction drives which projects come first in a bond plan. The IRS is auditing school districts and checking if the money is being spent within these time frames. They don't care about excuses.

Isela Vazquez provided a power point presentation on the Measure “G” Program. She went over the approved projects for phase I which included: HVAC addition projects; modernization/renovation projects; stadiums/track and fields; and technology. Recommended projects for consideration that had not been approved for phase I included: additional air conditioning for MPRs at Norwalk and John Glenn High School, John Glenn Administration building, Southeast ROP High School, and La Mirada Adult Campus; Norwalk High School Gym Modernization; Ramona Head Start Campus Modernization; Excelsior Auditorium Modernization; School Entry Signs; Electronic Marquees; Lunch Shelters; Play Structures; Furniture; La Mirada High School synthetic turf replacement; and irrigation at school sites. She then went over the next steps that included: contracts for architectural services, CEQA, and construction management; generate an implementation plan with architects and construction management firms; merge Citizens Oversight Committee (COC) for Measure “G” and Measure “S”; and provide monthly reports to the Board of Education and Community on progress and timelines of the Bond Program.

Questions and Discussion was held on: passage of State Facility Bond and how that would affect District Bond projects; additional projects for consideration; formation of merged Citizens Oversight Committee; timeline for CEQA process; formation of committees at John Glenn and Norwalk High Schools for input on stadiums; Board of Education prioritization of quick start projects for consideration; project manager; process used for selecting projects for consideration; quality projects; projects being aligned with District Goals; cost for the CEQA process; architectural services for stadium design; future study session for selection of quick start projects; additional quick start projects possibility putting phase I projects over budget; timeline for bond issuance; quick projects that don't require CEQA approval; and specific school input for school specific purchases like furniture.

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ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Ana Valencia, seconded by Sean Reagan, and carried unanimously,

R-234

That the study session of the Board of Education be adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held at 6:30 p.m. on September 28, 2015, in the Board Room, 12820 Pioneer Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650.

Hasmik Danielian, Ed.D.
Secretary to the Board

Jesse Urquidi
President of the Board