



A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

4 PM

LIBRARY

\*Noted attachments can be found on file in the office of the Executive Director's Assistant.

### I. PRELIMINARY:

A. CALL TO ORDER: Rene Rodman 4:09PM

B. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Patrice Fisher  
Darcy Stamler  
Steve Klima  
John Callas  
James Paleno  
Karen Perkins

Amy Dresser Held (arr'd 4:11PM)  
Rene Rodman  
John Riley (arrv'd 7PM)  
Torino Johnson (arrv'd 4:30PM)  
Victoria Francis

Ex-officio

Greg Wood  
Ramin Badiyan  
Martin Griffin (abst)

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM BOARD MEETING ON JUNE 9, 2009. See final approved version at [www.palihigh.org](http://www.palihigh.org).

- James Paleno moved that the Board approve the minutes from the June 9, 2009 Board meeting. John Callas seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**7 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Dr. Karen Perkins , Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. John Callas, Mr. James Paleno)**

**1 – abstain (Mr. Steve Klima)**

**3 – absent (Dr. John Riley, Mr. Torino Johnson, Ms. Amy Dresser Held)**

### 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.

- Ellie Frank, a parent, spoke about the search for a Principal
- Helene Kunkel, College Center, spoke in support of maintaining College Center Summer Hours when the Board considers additional budget cuts.
- Cheryl Onoye, a teacher, spoke about the Hiring Committee's recommendation for Principal.

### III. ACTION ITEMS:

#### A. UPDATE ON 2009-2010 BUDGET AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE (INCLUDING POTENTIAL ACTION ON VILLAGE NATION EXPENSES FOR 2009-2010) (see attachment\*)

- Greg Wood presented the Budget and Finance Committee's recommendation for \$116,000 in additional budget cuts which include \$30,000 for Summer Mini-Grants, \$25,000 for IMA, \$36,000 for field trips, and \$25,000 for Professional Development.
- These cuts, combined with a recommended increase in enrollment by 1% or 27 students and the receipt of \$240,000 in additional federal stimulus funds ensures that the school will only decrease the reserves by \$500,000.
- The Budget Committee also recommended that administration review summer hours, 9<sup>th</sup> grade English class size reduction and the need to fill positions versus covering them through auxiliaries to possibly identify additional budget reductions.
- Patrice Fisher moved that the Board accept the Budget and Finance Committee's recommendation to reduce expenses by \$116,000. James Paleno seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**9 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Mr. Torino Johnson, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Dr. Karen Perkins, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. John Callas, Mr. James Paleno)**

**1 – abstain (Mr. Steve Klima)**

**1 – absent (Dr. John Riley)**

- Greg Wood and Steve Burr then presented a revised cost structure for the Village Nation program for the 2009-10 year: Village Nation contract cost of \$7,500, Summer Training costs of \$6,200 and In-House costs of \$13,000 for a total cost of \$26,700; this total cost does not reflect a net increase in the budget that was approved by the Board at the June 9 Special Board Meeting.
- James Paleno moved that the Board accept the recommendation for this Village Nation cost structure. and seek a recommendation from Administration for further action to reduce overall costs for the program moving forward.
- John Callas seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**9 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Mr. Torino Johnson, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Dr. Karen Perkins, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. John Callas, Mr. James Paleno)**

**1 – abstain (Mr. Steve Klima)**

**1 – absent (Dr. John Riley)**

#### B. POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO REVISE ITS BYLAWS (see attachment\*)

- Julia O'Grady presented the Policy Committee's recommendation to revise its bylaws to reflect that the Committee's purpose is not only to develop policy but also to review and act on proposed policies.
- Amy Dresser Held moved that the Board accept the Policy Committee's recommendation to revise its bylaws. James Paleno seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**10 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Mr. Torino Johnson, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Dr. Karen Perkins, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. John Callas, Mr. James Paleno)**

**1 – absent (Dr. John Riley)**

#### C. APPROVAL TO SUBMIT AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SIGN THE 2009-2010 CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION PART I DUE JUNE 30, 2009

- James Paleno moved that the Board approve the submittal of the 2009-10 Consolidated Application Part I due June 30, 2009, and authorize the Executive Director to sign it. John Callas seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**10 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Mr. Torino Johnson, Ms. Amy**

**Dresser Held, Dr. Karen Perkins, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. John Callas, Mr. James Paleno)**

**1 – absent (Dr. John Riley)**

**D. APPROVAL TO UPDATE CHECK SIGNATORIES ON ALL PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNTS AND TO ASSIGN AN INTERIM SIGNATORY UNTIL NEW PRINCIPAL IS HIRED**

- Steve Klima moved that the Board approve the update of check signatories on all Palisades Charter High School bank accounts and to approve Monica Ianessa and James Paleno as interim signatories until a new principal is hired. Vicky Francis seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**9 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Mr. Torino Johnson, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Dr. Karen Perkins, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. John Callas)**

**1 – absent (Dr. John Riley)**

**1- abstain (Mr. James Paleno)**

**E. MODIFICATION TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

- Amy Dresser Held 's existing contract caps vacation accrual at 20 days, which is close to the current balance. Contract modification would allow days already accrued to be carried over into the next fiscal year and allow for those scheduled for issue on July 1, 2009 to be accrued.

- John Callas moved that the board allow the Executive Director to accrue up to 10 vacation days (over and above any already accrued vacation days) to be utilized by the end of 2009 (for maternity leave). Darcy Stamler seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**9 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Mr. Torino Johnson, Mr. James Paleno, Dr. Karen Perkins, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. John Callas)**

**1 – absent (Dr. John Riley)**

**1- abstain (Ms. Amy Dresser Held)**

**F. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON BOARD POLICY DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE**

- The board committed to focusing on policy development initially in the area of governance process policies and executive limitations policies with the goal of crafting draft policies over the summer to be circulated to school community stakeholders for input by September 30<sup>th</sup> for finalization and action at the October meeting.

**G. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EXPENSE REPORTS (STANDING ITEM) (see attached)**

- James Paleno moved that the board approve the Executive Director's Expense Report totaling \$14.70. John Callas seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**9 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Mr. James Paleno, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Mr. Torino Johnson, Dr. Karen Perkins, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. John Callas)**

**1 – absent (Dr. John Riley)**

**1- abstain (Ms. Amy Dresser Held)**

**IV. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**A. TEMESCAL CANYON CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE (see attached\*)**

- Amy Dresser Held reported on the closure of Temescal Canyon Continuation School by LAUSD and the plan for Pali to absorb the students and operate the program and site including budget, staffing and programmatic plans.

**B. GOVERNANCE PRACTICE INFORMATION/UPDATE (see attached\*)**

- Rene Rodman shared a recommended reading list of governance books for board members to read over the summer.

C. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING FOR TUESDAY, JULY 28 AT 4 PM IN THE LIBRARY

- The meeting date was changed from the third Tuesday of the month because a number of Board Members were scheduled to be out-of-town on July 21.

V. **ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS:**

This is a presentation of information concerning non-confidential matters which have occurred since the previous Board meeting.

A. Student Report – **Ramin Badiyan**

- Ramin Badiyan told about the school Carnival last Thursday and the election of teacher Alex Shuhgalter to the student-voted Board member position.

B. Parent Report – **Julia O’Grady**

- Parent Advisory Committee –
- PTSA –
- BOOSTER CLUB –.

C. Faculty/Staff Report – **James Paleno/Torino Johnson**

D. Academic Principal’s Report – **Martin Griffin (see attached\*)**

E. Executive Director’s Report – **Amy Held (see attached\*)**

F. Chief Business Officer’s Report – **Greg Wood**

G. Operations/Technology – **Maisha Cole Perri (see attached\*)**

H. Human Resources – **Jennifer Avant Eustice (see attached\*)**

I. Standing Committee Reports: (**see attached**)

- Communications – **Monica Iannessa**
- Education Program – **Melinda Meinen**
- Finance and Budget – **Greg Wood**
- Operations/Facilities/Technology Committee – **Maisha Cole Perri**
- Policy – **Julia O’Grady**

The Board Chair then announced agenda items for closed session. Additional members of the public opted to speak prior to closed session regarding closed session agenda items.

- Rick Mills spoke regarding the Principal position.
- Lisa Loptman, a parent, spoke regarding the appeal of a grade appeal decision.

VI. **CLOSED SESSION:** 6:10 PM

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

Title: Principal 2009-2010

Title: Chief Business Officer 2009-2010

Title: Human Resources Director 2009-2010

Title: Operations Manager 2009-2010

Title: Director of Special Education 2009-2010

Title: Director of Student Services 2009-2010

Title: Finance/ASB Manager 2009-2010

Title: Community Service Coordinator 2009-2010

Title: Security Supervisor 2009-2010

Title: College Advisors 2009-2010

Title: Executive Administrative Assistant 2009-2010

- John Callas moved that the positions of Finance/ASB Manager, Community Service Coordinator, Security Supervisor, College Advisors, and Executive Administrative Assistant be delegated for contract action recommendations to the administration, with the stipulation that the salaries for these positions in the aggregate not change for the next fiscal year due to the current fiscal crisis. Patrice Fisher seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**7 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Dr. John Riley, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Ms. Vicky Francis, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. John Callas)**

**4- no (Mr. James Paleno, Mr. Torino Johnson, Dr. Karen Perkins, Mr. Steve Klima)**

- Darcy Stamler moved that the Board approve the renewal of one year contracts for the Chief Business Officer, the Human Resources Director, the Operations Manager, and the Director of Student Services, with no increase in salaries due to the current fiscal crisis. John Callas seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**10 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Mr. James Paleno, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Mr. Torino Johnson, Dr. Karen Perkins, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. John Callas)**

**1 –no (Vicky Francis)**

John Callas moved that the Board exercise the option to renew the contract for the Director of Special Education for one year at the contracted salary and stipend rate. Dr. John Riley seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**9 – yes (Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Vicky Francis, Ms. Patrice Fisher, Dr. Karen Perkins, Dr. John Riley, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Mr. Steve Klima, Mr. John Callas)**

**2 –abstain (Mr. James Paleno, Mr. Torino Johnson)**

**B. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISSMISSAL/RELEASE**

**C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

**SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION b OF SECTION 54956.9**

- John Callas moved that the Board authorize the Executive Director to finalize a confidential settlement agreement to avoid potential litigation regarding this case; the agreement stipulates that in exchange for a cash payment, the case will be closed and that Pali will be released from all future claims. James Paleno seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**6 – yes (Ms. Vicky Francis, Mr. James Paleno, Mr. Torino Johnson, Mrs. Rene Rodman, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Mr. John Callas)**

**3 – no (Darcy Stamler, Patrice Fisher, Dr. John Riley)**

**2- abstain (Dr. Karen Perkins, Steve Klima)**

**D. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR PCHS Negotiator: Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Executive Director**

**EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION: PESPU, UTLA**

- At 9PM Karen Perkins, James Paleno, Torino Johnson and Steve Klima left the meeting as they are members of an employee bargaining unit.
- John Callas moved that the Board authorize the grandfathering into the UTLA-PCHS Article for Health and Welfare of the School Psychologist and include only the years of service at Pali. Patrice Fisher seconded the motion.

**BOARD ACTION:**

**7 – yes (Darcy Stamler, Patrice Fisher, Ms. Rene Rodman, Dr. John Riley, Ms. Vicky Francis, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Mr. John Callas)**

**4- absent (Dr. Karen Perkins, Steve Klima, Mr. James Paleno, Mr. Torino Johnson)**

**VII. PUBLIC SESSION: 9:13PM**

Ms. Rene Rodman reported out the actions taken in closed session (See above. If no action is noted under a specific item, no action was taken.)

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT: 9:15PM**