



A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

4:00 PM

LIBRARY

(* handouts referred to are on file in the Executive Director's office)

I. PRELIMINARY:

A. CALL TO ORDER: Rene Rodman 4:07PM

B. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Amy Dresser Held

Darcy Stamler

Karen Perkins

John Callas

James Paleno

Torino Johnson (left at 6:15PM)

Patrice Fisher

Rene Rodman

Alex Shuhgalter

John Riley

Victoria Francis

Officers/Non-Voting Members

Greg Wood

Marcia Haskin

Azad Amanat

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM BOARD MEETING ON JULY 28, 2009. See final approved version at www.palihigh.org.

- John Riley moved that the Board approve the minutes from the July 28, 2009 Board Meeting as amended. Torino Johnson seconded the motion.

BOARD ACTION: Motion Passed

10 – yes (Ms. Vicky Francis, Mr. Alex Shuhgalter, Mr. John Callas, Ms. Rene Rodman, Mr. Torino Johnson, Ms. Darcy Stamler, Ms. Amy Dresser Held, Mr. James Paleno, Dr. Karen Perkins, Dr. John Riley)

1- abstain (Ms. Patrice Fisher)

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.

- Cynthia Scott, a parent, expressed concern about LAUSD's elimination of the school bus service from the Topanga area to Pali High.
- Kirsten Bohman, Ruth Tosdevin, David Dills, Rene Hernandez, and Nancy Lee, all parents, ceded their time for public comments to Cynthia Scott.

III. ACTION ITEMS:

A. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON DRAFT BOARD ELECTION PROCEDURES AND LEGAL OPINION REGARDING BOARD MEMBER TERM LENGTHS.

- Darcy Stamler presented the Board Election Procedures Committee's recommendations and timeline for the Fall 2009 Board elections. (**see handout**)
- Board discussion centered around procedures to break a tie in an election, advertising the upcoming elections, and establishment of a permanent Election Committee.
- Patrice Fisher moved that the Board charge Monica Ianessa with soliciting volunteers for an Election Committee for the upcoming election to be comprised of 5 teachers, 1 parent, 1 administrator, 1 clerical staffer, and 1 student; authorize up to \$1500 to administer the election; ensure that the nominations process is advertised via a variety of methods to reach the greatest number of stakeholders (budget permitting); and authorize the Board to oversee a coin-toss process to decide the winner in the event of a tie for any of the seats being voted on. John Riley seconded the motion

BOARD ACTION: Motion Passed

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

- Rene Rodman presented PCHS's attorneys' legal opinion regarding Board Member term lengths, specifically the issue regarding the term lengths of the teacher Board Member elected by the students and the non-certificated staff Board Member. The opinion was sought due to conflicting language in the PCHS Charter itself as well as in the accompanying by-laws.
- Also presented was the student ballot from the June 2009 election for the student-elected Faculty member on which was printed that the term would be for 09-10 (**see handout**).
- It was also noted that the students had communicated their desire for a one year term; this had been communicated at the Charter Renewal Committee meetings in 2008 as well as through a question posed to the Leadership class by Monica Ianessa.
- The legal opinion stated that in the case of conflicting language, specific language regarding the term length prevails over general language.
- Patrice Fisher moved that for the October 2009 election, the available classified Board seat term be a one year term, and that the Student Elected Faculty Board seat that will be available in June 2010 be a one year term. John Callas seconded the motion.

BOARD ACTION: Motion Passed

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

5- no (Ms. Vicky Francis, Mr. Alex Shuhgalter, Mr. Torino Johnson, James Paleno, Dr. Karen Perkins)

B. UPDATE ON 2009-2010 BUDGET AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON ADDITIONAL CHANGES. (**see handout**)

- Greg Wood presented a Budget Funding Analysis based on a two year period, 08-09 school year and the 09-10 school year. The Analysis shows a higher ADA Funded Amount for the 08-09 school year than anticipated, and a lower ADA Funded Amount for the 09-10 year than that in the approved budget. The net effect over the two year period will be an approximate \$20,000 budget surplus at the end of the 09-10 year, provided that additional reductions to the budget are not imposed by the State.
- It was emphasized by Greg Wood and members of the Board that State revenues are likely to be modified downward throughout the year and financial projections will need to be closely monitored throughout the year. Alex Shuhgalter suggested that two alternative budget models, based on two different scenarios of reduced state funding over the course of the next year, be prepared.

C. BOARD RESOLUTION TO OFFICIALLY SUBMIT CHARTER RENEWAL PETITION TO LAUSD (NEW REQUIREMENT FROM LAUSD SINCE CHARTER RENEWAL PETITION WAS SUBMITTED IN JANUARY 2009). (**see handout**)

- Darcy Stamler moved that the Board of Directors officially submit the PCHS charter renewal petition to

LAUSD, designating Amy Dresser Held as the Lead Petitioner, Amy Dresser Held as the Executive Director of PCHS, and Greg Wood, Chief Business Officer, as PCHS' on site financial manager.

BOARD ACTION: Motion Passed

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

D. APPOINTMENT OF 2009-2010 EXECUTIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE.

- The Board briefly reviewed the PCHS Evaluation Process for the Executive Director, which was approved by the Board on March 25, 2008 (**see handout**)
- Darcy Stamler, Vicky Francis, Karen Perkins, and Alex Shugalter were appointed to the Executive Review Committee.

E. BOARD RATIFICATION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL (PCHS) AND PALISADES EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL UNITED (PESPU) FOR 2007-2010 (**see handout**)

- James Paleno, Karen Perkins, Torino Johnson, and Alex Shugalter, left the meeting at 6:15PM, as they are members of employee bargaining units.
- John Callas moved that the board authorize an approximate 4% State COLA salary adjustment retroactive to July 1, 2007 for PEPUSU personnel, an increase which all PCHS employees were granted. Patrice Fisher seconded the motion.

BOARD ACTION: Motion Passed

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

4- absent (Mr. Alex Shuhgalter, Mr. Torino Johnson, James Paleno, Dr. Karen Perkins)

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

- There were no expense reports.

III. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS:

- James Paleno, Karen Perkins, and Alex Shugalter, returned to the meeting at 6:25PM

A. BROWN ACT UPDATE AND REVIEW.

- Susan Frank, a parent spoke at this point regarding the Brown Act and the importance of the Board Committees' minutes, agendas, and other documents being kept up-to-date.
- Rene Rodman spoke about basic tenets of the Brown Act, what constitutes a serial meeting, and general safeguards for the Board to follow in all communications between members so as not to violate the Brown Act.

B. GOVERNANCE PRACTICE INFORMATION/UPDATE: REPORTS ON GOVERNANCE READING.

- Darcy Stamler, Karen Perkins, John Riley, and Rene Rodman all presented brief reports on a variety of Board governance books that they had reviewed.

C. CONFIRMATION OF SPECIAL MEETING ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 25 AT 4:00PM AND NEXT REGULAR MEETING ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AT 4:30 PM, BOTH IN THE LIBRARY

V. ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS:

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

- A. Student Report – **Azad Amanat – no report**
- B. Parent Report –
 - Parent Advisory Committee – **Susan Frank**
Mentioned that PAC meetings will now take the format of 60 minutes devoted to a topic/issue of interest to the parent community followed by a 30 minute session with one of the Parent Board members to discuss current school issues.
- C. Faculty/Staff Report – **James Paleno/Torino Johnson** – relayed issues regarding the Pali server
- D. Academic Principal’s Report – **Marcia Haskin (see handout)**
- E. Executive Director’s Report – **Amy Held (see handout)** – Highlights of the report included newly released CST scores for a variety of subject areas, key schoolwide goals for 2009-10, an update on Temescal Academy, the plan for the start of the school year, and an update on the upcoming launch of the comprehensive fundraising program for Pali including the annual giving campaign.
- F. Chief Business Officer’s Report – **Greg Wood (see handout)**
- G. Technology – **Maisha Cole Perri (see handout)**
- H. Human Resources – **Jennifer Avant Eustice (see handout)**
- I. Standing Committee Reports:
 - Communications – **Monica Iannessa** – discussed possible fall enrollment of up to 2889 students (excluding the Temescal Canyon facility)
 - Education Program – **Melinda Meinen** – no report
 - Finance and Budget – **Greg Wood** – no report
 - Operations/Facilities/Technology Committee – **Maisha Cole Perri – no report**
 - Policy – **Julia O’Grady – no report**

Board Chair then announced agenda items for closed session.

VI. CLOSED SESSION: 8:25PM

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

Title: Chief Business Officer

Title: Finance Manager

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION b OF SECTION 54956.9

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

EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION: PESPU, UTLA

- James Paleno, Karen Perkins, and Alex Shugalter, left the meeting at 9PM, as they are members of employee bargaining units.

VII. PUBLIC SESSION: 9:59PM

- Rene Rodman announced that there was no reportable action taken in Closed Session.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: 10PM