

SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA
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SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - MINUTES

July 9, 2007

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in special session on July 9, 2007, in the San Leandro Unified School District Office Conference Room 1, 14735 Juniper Street, San Leandro, California.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Rick Richards with the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag led by Superintendent Christine Lim.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. Pauline Cutter
Mr. Ray Davis
Mrs. Lisa Hague
Mr. Mike Katz-Lacabe (arrived at 6:07 p.m.)
Ms. Linda Perry, Clerk
Mr. Stephen Cassidy, Vice President (arrived at 6:06 p.m.)
Mr. T. W. "Rick" Richards, President

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT

Christine Lim, Superintendent
Song Chin-Bendib, Assistant Superintendent
Cindy Cathey, Assistant Superintendent

CONSENT

General Services

1.1-C Resolution #07-31, City of San Leandro Daytime Curfew Ordinance

Human Resources

2.1-C Information Technology Administrator Revised Job Description

Educational Services

- 3.1-C School Site Plans for Student Achievement for Garfield, Jefferson, Madison, McKinley, Monroe, Washington, Wilson Elementary Schools, Bancroft, John Muir Middle Schools, and Lincoln Alternative High School.
- 3.2-C Memorandum of Understanding with Pallen's Martial Arts
- 3.3-C Memorandum of Understanding with Viva el Español

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board approved the consent items by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Katz was absent.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION

Facilities Workshop #3 – Measure B Bond Program

Trustee Davis, Facilities/Technology Committee chair gave a brief introduction.

Superintendent Lim recapped that staff had conducted two facilities workshops outlining matching funds opportunities; critical paths; cash flows; state requirements from Office of Public School Construction (OPSC); highlights of conceptual design team works; timelines; and Master Schedule priorities.

At the Facilities Workshop #2, she noted that the Board asked staff to bring an accelerated schedule and update bond sales schedule for the following critical projects: 9th Grade Campus, Arts Education Center (AEC) with a 550-seat theater; Library Expansion, Heating Upgrades, and Restroom Renovations.

At tonight's Facilities Workshop No. 3, staff, representatives from Harris & Associates, WLC Architects, and Kelly, Northcross, and Nobriega reviewed and provided an analysis of the direction given by the Board and presented three Master Schedule and "Must Haves" options, keeping in mind the impact on the District's core mission of educating students and closing the achievement gap, training for employees new in their roles, and a potential Parcel Tax.

- Option 1: *Compressed Design and Accelerated Master Schedule*
(Approve the Master Schedule and "Must Haves" #1-8, to meet the July 31, 2009, deadline)
- Option 2: *Typical Design and Accelerated Master Schedule*
(Approve the Master Schedule and "Must Haves" #2-8, to meet the July 31, 2009, deadline)
- Option 3: *Typical Design and Balanced Master Schedule*
(Approve the Master Schedule and "Must Haves" #2, 4, & 5 to evenly spread projects over 7 years)

In addition, staff identified the pros and cons, milestones, Master Schedules, cash flow options, and “Must Haves” associated with each option, noting that Options 1, 2, & 3 shared three common “Must Haves” including:

- **Must Have #2:** Hire an additional Vice Principal at the high school to redistribute roles and responsibilities, allowing for time to coordinate the increased level of work associated with executing multiple construction projects (paid from a combination of .49 FTE general fund and .51 FTE categorical monies), which would free up the principal to attend all Measure B Steering Committee meetings and manage Measure B demands.
- **Must Have #4:** Hire a limited-term site-based Measure B Project Liaison (1.0 FTE for options 1 and 2; and .50 FTE for option 3) for the high school to oversee and coordinate the multiple construction projects executed on the campus.
- **Must Have #5:** Hire a limited-term Measure B Administrative Assistant to accommodate the increase level of documentation tasks, including contracts, minutes, budget reporting, etc.

Public Comments

- Gerald Shovlin favored Option 2; however he was concerned about the hiring of six additional administrators, and asked the Board to reconsider this recommendation.
- Don Bilodeau, Teamsters/Trades, didn’t understand the need for the additional administrators, particularly at the high school, noting that he didn’t remember any administrators being hired for the 1997 Bond.

In response, San Leandro High School Principal Amy Furtado recalled hiring one administrator to oversee the 1997 Bond at the high school. She also felt that in order to effectively look at programs, the change of pace of 9-12 grade education, as well the additional challenges of the bond, an additional administrator was warranted.

- Billy Campbell, Teamsters, voiced his concern over the hiring of additional administrators and the continued lack of increasing custodial personnel.

Board Discussion

The Board posed questions regarding grant application timelines, cost estimates of implementing the “Must Haves”, the length of time of construction, and further clarification regarding the difference between the “*compressed design*” and “*typical design*” of Option 1 and Option 2, which was explained by staff.

Another area of concern shared by the entire Board focused on the hiring of additional administrators.

Mr. Katz wasn't sure if the general fund could support the hiring of the additional vice principal at the high school.

(The Board took a five minute break at 8 p.m. and reconvened at 8:05 p.m.)

Following the brief recess, Ms. Perry adamantly felt that Option 1 was not a realistic process and didn't provide enough community and staff input. She also didn't support a two-year construction frenzy "red zone", noting that she preferred Option 3.

Mr. Richard would like to see the reporting structure of the additional administrators.

The Board asked for further explanation regarding what administrative expenses are permissible through the bond, at which time Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Song Chin-Bendib read a transcribed voice message from Bond Counsel, Bill Madison explaining that while "the provision of Prop 39 says "no administrative salaries, it is really designed to describe very traditional standard administrative expenses of running the District." He advised that it would not be a good idea to have the word "administration" in the job title; however, it would be permissible to use bond proceeds as long as the job description and title related specifically related to the design, construction, and implementation process of the projects being financed by the bond.

Responding to Mr. Katz's question regarding the impact of the construction timeline on the school and students San Leandro High School, Principal Amy Furtado shared her perspective on whether a short construction period of time (red zone) was less or more disruptive than a longer period of time, adding that in her opinion the effect of this bond would be less disruptive than the impact the school and staff had experienced with the construction of the science building and modernization.

Mrs. Cutter would like to see the District focus on accelerating the 9th grade campus. It was also her feeling, as opposed to Ms. Perry, that with the last bond too much time was spent on community and staff input, thus stifling the process and preventing the experts hired to do their job.

Additional Board Comments

The Board thanked the staff for their time and effort spent on compiling and presenting this very useful information.

The Board was in agreement that Must Have #2, "hiring an additional Vice Principal at the high school" deserved its own consideration, separate from the Bond. They continued to voice their concern with regards to the remaining five Measure B positions being recommended. They felt they needed a better

understanding of the justification and cost-savings before making a decision, so staff was asked to bring back further information regarding the job description, i.e. responsibilities and qualifications, and cost comparisons between consultants and “limited-term” Measure B staff.

All Board members, except Trustee Perry favored Option 2, with some specific variations:

Trustee Cutter would like to focus on the PG&E lot and 9th grade campus, and then maximize the selling of the bond for the AEC.

Mr. Cassidy would like to remove the “Must Haves” from Option 2. He also was concerned about escalation and accuracy of the construction estimates.

Mr. Katz felt that the “Must Haves” #2-7 regarding additional funding for the Measure B positions was justified as it would provided project and spending accountability.

Mr. Davis also supported an accelerated 9th grade campus as did Mr. Richards, who also would like the “Must Haves” removed from Option 2.

Ms. Perry supported an accelerated Option 3 plus focusing on the 9th grade campus and PG&E parking lot. She also felt that the community input process needed further clarification.

ACTION

Facilities & Construction

- 5.1-A Measure B Master Schedule & “Must Haves”
Approve one of three options related to Measure B Master Schedule & “Must Haves”.

Trustee Davis’ motion to approve Option #2 with an accelerated 9th Grade campus, as outlined in Option #1, without any “Must Haves” was not seconded.

Trustee Cassidy then motioned and Mike Katz seconded to approve Option #2 and bring back the “Must Haves” to the next regular meeting in July, with the exception of the Vice-Principal at the high school, which would be brought back separately from Measure B consideration.

Following a brief discussion from the Board regarding further clarification of the motion, the Board took the following action:

On a motion made by Mr. Cassidy and seconded by Mr. Katz,

the Board approved Option #2, without the “Must Haves”, by a vote 5-1. Trustee Perry voting no, and Trustee Cutter absent.

Following the vote, President Richards noted that Trustee Cassidy arrived at the meeting at 6:06 p.m., Trustee Katz arrived at 6:07 p.m., and Trustee Cutter left the meeting at 9 p.m.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

- Gerald Shovlin asked that staff make a concerted effort to encourage parents to sign-up to receive email highlights from Board meetings with links to important information, particularly around the Measure B process, as a way of strengthening and enhancing communication.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Ms. Perry reminded the Board that the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) hearing would be going before the Planning Commission on July 12, 7 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, noting that any written comments with regards to the adequacy of language for schools needs to be received by 5 p.m. on July 19. It was the consensus of the Board to have staff review the language with regards to schools (pages 215-222 of the draft EIR) and report back to the Board.
- Mr. Cassidy shared three areas of interest to him related to the 9th grade campus:
 1. Working with the County with regards to a student health clinic located at the 9th grade site
 2. Joint use with Chabot College
 3. Joint use with the City with regards to the 9th grade campus gymnasium
- Mr. Davis commented that currently the Superintendent is authorized to execute contracts up to \$20,000. He would like to see that amount increased to \$100,000, (for those firms on the approved contract list and for Measure B projects) as a way of facilitating, simplifying, and expediting the Measure B process. It was the consensus of the Board to have staff research other districts’ processes, Education Code policy, etc. and forward the information to the Board.
- Mr. Richards thanked Trustees Cutter and Katz for their input to a draft “Letter to the Editor” highlighting the accomplishments of the District this year, noting that the protocol of whether of not the letter should be sent from the Board president or the entire Board still needed to be finalized. He will email a copy of the letter to the members for their review.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:39 p.m. by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Cutter was absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Perry, Clerk