



**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MINUTES - MEETING FORMAT "A"**

March 1, 2018

. CLOSED SESSION

Minutes:

Dr. Tahvildaran-Jesswein called closed session to order 4:30 p.m.

.I. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEMS ONLY

.II. CLOSED SESSION

**.II.A. Government Code 54957 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE / DISMISSAL /
RELEASE (20 min)**

**.II.B. Government Code 54957.6 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (20
min)**

- Agency Designated Representative: Dr. Ben Drati
- Employee Organizations: SMMCTA

. OPEN SESSION

.I. CALL TO ORDER

Minutes:

Dr. Tahvildaran-Jesswein called open session to order at 5:37 p.m.

.I.A. Roll Call

- Present Oscar de la Torre
- Present Craig Foster
- Present Jon Kean
- Present Maria Leon-Vazquez – *arrived at 4:50 p.m.*
- Present Laurie Lieberman
- Present Ralph Mechur – *arrived at 4:37 p.m.*
- Present Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

.I.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

PTA Council President Jennifer Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

.II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion Mr. Foster and a second by Mr. Mechur. The board agreed to move general public comments to immediately follow the superintendent's report.

- Yes Oscar de la Torre
- Yes Craig Foster
- Yes Jon Kean
- Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez – *not present*
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

.III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

.III.A. Approve February 15, 2018, Minutes

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the February 15, 2018, regular meeting minutes. Passed with a motion by Mr. de la

Torre and a second by Mr. Mechur. Mr. de la Torre clarified that he had recused himself from Item No. VI.C.9 because Orbach, Huff, Suarez & Henderson LLP had made a donation to the Pico Youth and Family Center.

- Yes Oscar de la Torre
- Yes Mr. Craig Foster
- Yes Jon Kean
- Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez – *not present*
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

.IV. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

.IV.A. Women's Herstory Month (15 min)

Minutes:

Time start: 5:40 p.m. Time end: 5:47 p.m.

Dr. Samarge-Powell announced that this item not only celebrated Women's History Month, but also highlighted our VAPA program, specifically the Samohi marching band, which launched this season's theme of Empower at the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association (SCSBOA) Division Field Championships. She introduced Band Director Mr. McKeown, who shared the rationale behind the theme selection and introduced four of his students: Isabella Chuecos (Asst. Drum Major), Natalie DiMundo, Michelle Garcia, and Felix Audelo-Ruiz. Ms. Chuecos remarked on her experience as a female student in a leadership role. Mr. McKeown shared a video of the marching band's performance at the competition.

.IV.B. Ballroom Dance Program (10-15 min)

Minutes:

Time start: 5:47 p.m. Time end: 5:54 p.m.

Dr. Mora introduced SMC Professor Judith Douglas, Chairperson of the college's Dance Department. She explained the purpose of the Ballroom Dance program and explained the many steps that lead to the culminating event each year. She introduced dance instructor Bill Bush, who said it was a pleasure teaching the fifth graders and expressed his appreciation to the school district for its commitment to the arts. They explained that the program not only teaches students how to dance, but it also teaches them how to interact with their peers in a respectful manner. They shared a video of the students dancing.

.V. STUDY SESSION

.VI. COMMUNICATIONS

.VI.A. Student Board Member Reports (15 min)

.VI.A.1. Santa Monica High School

Minutes:

Time start: 5:55 p.m. Time end: 5:56 p.m.

Mr. Schmelzer reported that play "How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying" opened last weekend. Open House was on Tuesday, and parents had the opportunity to see what their students had been working on. Tomorrow is the annual teacher-student basketball game for the Make a Wish Foundation. The last pep rally of the year will be on March 22, during which ASB will be showcasing seniors before they leave for college or other post-graduation plans. Mr. Schmelzer reported that both the JV and varsity cheerleading teams won Nationals in Anaheim.

.VI.A.2. Malibu High School – *absent*

.VI.A.3. Olympic High School – absent

.VI.B. SMMCTA Update (5 min)

Minutes:

Time start: 5:57 p.m. Time end: 5:58 p.m.

Ms. Braff thanked the administrative team for listening to the union’s request to improve communication. She said there has been improvement throughout the district, which helps with the teaching and learning in the classrooms. Ms. Braff reported that she traveled with staff to Santa Barbara and Fresno to tour interest-based learning (IBL) schools.

.VI.C. SEIU Update (5 min) – absent

.VI.D. PTA Council (5 min)

Minutes:

Time start: 5:58 p.m. Time end: 6:04 p.m.

Ms. Smith reported the position the State PTA has taken regarding gun violence. The State PTA supports federal and state gun restrictions that protect children, and they encourage the state and federal government to enact legislation to reduce gun violence. Regarding the planned student walkouts, the SMMUSD PTA is appreciative of the district’s support. The PTA will be holding a series of districtwide parenting nights this month at various sites. At the last PTA Council meeting, Sustainability Coordinator Caroline Coster presented our district’s sustainability plan. On Tuesday, Ms. Smith met with parents who are advocating for healthier food for our district. The five-week Summer Adventure program is gearing up. PTA Council has extended an open invitation to parents for the special education parent resource network to help expand parent involvement and create inclusive environments. Ms. Smith responded to the Samohi marching band video that was shown at the beginning of the meeting, saying that her son plays with the band and the presentation this year was spectacular.

.VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Minutes:

Time start: 6:04 p.m. Time end: 6:09 p.m.

Dr. Drati addressed the tragic incident that occurred in mid-February in Florida. He said that a national walk-out had been organized for March 14 at 10:00 a.m., and that the district respects students’ rights. District office leadership has been working the site principals, who have been working closely with their students who show an interest in participating in the walk-out. Dr. Drati reported that he has received some emails expressing concern that by respecting students’ rights staff is taking a position on this issue. He clarified that all sides of the issue will be respected. Site and district office staff have been in communication with local authorities to ensure student safety during the walk-out. Dr. Drati also shared that when he has been in communication with his fellow superintendents, and they are also discussing school safety. He encouraged families that if they hear or see or suspect anything, they can contact their school principal. District office and site leaders are constantly evaluating safety protocols to determine ways to improve upon existing practices. Dr. Drati said that our hearts go out to families in Florida. He added that we should not have to be having these conversations in education.

.VIII. CONSENT CALENDAR

Passed with a motion by Mr. Foster and a second by Mr. Mechur.

Yes Oscar de la Torre

Yes Mr. Craig Foster

- Yes Jon Kean
- Abstain Maria Leon-Vazquez
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

Minutes:

The board approved Item Nos. A.1-A.4, B.2, C.1-C.9, and D.1-D.3 listed under the Consent Calendar. The board pulled Item Nos. B.1 C.10 and voted on them separately.

Time start: 6:20 p.m. Time end: 6:24 p.m.

.VIII.A. Curriculum and Instruction

- .VIII.A.1. Approval of Independent Contractors**
- .VIII.A.2. Conference & Travel Approval/Ratification - 2017/2018**
- .VIII.A.3. Overnight Field Trip(s) 2017-18**
- .VIII.A.4. Special Education Contracts (17/18)**

.VIII.B. Business and Fiscal

.VIII.B.1. Award of Purchase Orders - 2017-18

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the attached Purchase Orders and Changed Purchase Orders from February 8, 2018, through February 22, 2018, for fiscal / 18. Passed with a motion by Mr. Foster and a second by Ms. Lieberman.

- Yes Oscar de la Torre
- Yes Mr. Craig Foster
- Recuse Jon Kean
- Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Mr. Kean recused himself, as he is listed in the Purchase Order list as a reimbursement. The board requested that staff get a legal opinion on whether or not board members should be recusing themselves on an item in which they are being reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses.

.VIII.B.2. Acceptance of Gifts - 2017/2018

.VIII.C. Facilities Improvement Projects

- .VIII.C.1. Amendment #06 to Agreement John Adams Middle School Performing Arts Complex Project Geotechnical Services - Converse Consultants Measure ES**
- .VIII.C.2. Amendment #10 to Agreement Olympic High School - Window, Paint, Floors & Doors Project - Architectural Services dsk Architects Measure ES**
- .VIII.C.3. Amendment #01 to Agreement - Santa Monica High School Discovery Building Project Installation of Classroom Audio Visual Technologies in the Interim Housing Classrooms IVS Computer Technology Measure ES**
- .VIII.C.4. Amendment #12 to Agreement - Architectural Services - Santa Monica High School Sealy Field Project Chan Young Architects Measure ES**
- .VIII.C.5. Credit to Award of Contract Santa Monica High School Discovery Building - Elite Modular Measure ES**
- .VIII.C.6. Amendment #13 to Agreement - Architectural Services - Santa Monica High School Samohi Campus Plan Project (SCP) - Site**

Design Guidelines and Signage/Wayfinding Project Chan Young Architects Measure ES

- .VIII.C.7. Accept Work as Completed Santa Monica High School Interim Repairs and Upgrades Project EasyTurf Measure ES**
- .VIII.C.8. Award of Contract Pt. Dume Elementary School Window, Paint, Floors & Doors Project, HVAC Project & Fire Alarm Project Bid #18.07.ES The Nazerian Group - Measure ES**
- .VIII.C.9. Amendment #50 to Agreement Malibu Middle & High School Campus Improvement Project Arborist and Avian Monitoring - Psomas Measure BB**
- .VIII.C.10. Amendment #03 to Agreement - Extension of Construction Management Services California Construction Management Measure BB**

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Contract Amendment #03 with California Construction Management (CCM) for Construction Management Services in an amount not to exceed \$151,200.00 for a total contract amount of \$2,322,118.36. Passed with a motion by Mr. Mechur and a second by Mr. Kean.

Recuse Oscar de la Torre

- Yes Mr. Craig Foster
- Yes Jon Kean
- Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Mr. de la Torre recused himself, as this company made a donation to Pico Youth and Family Center in 2010.

.VIII.D. Personnel

- .VIII.D.1. Certificated Personnel - Elections, Separations**
- .VIII.D.2. Classified Personnel - Merit**
- .VIII.D.3. Classified Personnel - Non-Merit**

.IX. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Minutes:

Time start: 6:09 p.m. Time end: 6:20 p.m.

Public Comments:

- Trisha Roth, Julie Pearl Slater, Jane Schmitz, and Maria Loya encouraged the district to examine the possibility of “cooking from scratch” at the school sites.

.X. DISCUSSION ITEMS

.XI. MAJOR ACTION ITEMS

.XI.A. Adopt Resolution No. 17-23 - Recognizing Women's Herstory Month (5 min)

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 17-23 – Recognizing Women’s Herstory Month. Passed with a motion by Ms. Lieberman and a second by Ms. Leon-Vazquez.

- Yes Oscar de la Torre
- Yes Mr. Craig Foster
- Yes Jon Kean
- Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Time start: 6:46 p.m. Time end: 6:49 p.m.

Ms. Lieberman suggested calling it History/Herstory Month. The board agreed.

.XI.B. Adopt Resolution No. 17-24 - National Middle Level Education Month (5 min)

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 17-24 – National Middle Level Education Month. Passed with a motion by Ms. Leon-Vazquez and a second by Mr. Mechur.

- Yes Oscar de la Torre
- Yes Mr. Craig Foster
- Yes Jon Kean
- Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Time start: 6:49 p.m. Time end: 6:51 p.m.

.XI.C. Adopt Resolution No. 17-25 - Recognizing César Chávez Day (5 min)

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 17-25 – Recognizing César Chávez Day. Passed with a motion by Ms. Leon-Vazquez and a second by Mr. Mechur.

- Yes Oscar de la Torre
- Yes Mr. Craig Foster
- Yes Jon Kean
- Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Time start: 6:51 p.m. Time end: 6:52 p.m.

Ms. Leon-Vazquez suggested that the school district recognize April 10 as Dolores Huerta’s birthday. Dr. Tahvildaran-Jesswein said board leadership would examine this request. Mr. de la Torre suggested that district leadership ensure classroom teachers have access to tools to teach about Mr. Chávez in their lessons.

.XI.D. Adopt Resolution No. 17-26 - In Support of Common Sense Gun Laws (20 min)

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 17-26 - In Support of Common Sense Gun Laws. Passed with a motion by Ms. Leon-Vazquez and a second by Mr. Mechur.

- Yes Oscar de la Torre
- Yes Mr. Craig Foster
- Yes Jon Kean
- Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Time start: 6:52 p.m. Time end: 7:28 p.m.

Public Comments:

- Jerry Rubin and Judson Yaker addressed the board regarding this item.

Mr. Mechur read a statement he had written and Mr. Foster read the resolution “Resolved” statements into the record. Ms. Leon-Vazquez wondered if the Health & Safety DAC could examine potential ways to address school safety. She also remarked on partnerships with community resources to further address mental health.

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education add a sixth “Whereas” to the resolution: “WHEREAS, since 1982, more than 62 youth have been murdered in the Pico neighborhood in Santa Monica as well as countless youth across the country as a result of gun violence.” Passed with a motion by Mr. de la Torre and a second by Ms. Lieberman.

Yes Oscar de la Torre
Yes Mr. Craig Foster
Yes Jon Kean
Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
Yes Laurie Lieberman
Yes Ralph Mechur
Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education add a phrase to the first bullet point of the fourth Resolved statement: “...and other lethally-enhancing devices for civilian use.” Passed with a motion by Mr. Kean and a second by Ms. Lieberman.

Yes Oscar de la Torre
Yes Mr. Craig Foster
Yes Jon Kean
Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
Yes Laurie Lieberman
Yes Ralph Mechur
Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

.XI.E. Adopt Resolution No. 17-27 Regarding the Release and Non-Reelection of Certificated Temporary Employees (5 min)

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 17-27 regarding the release and non-re-election of certificated temporary employees pursuant to Education Code Section 44954, effective June 2018. Passed with a motion by Mr. de la Torre and a second by Mr. Foster.

Yes Oscar de la Torre
Yes Mr. Craig Foster
Yes Jon Kean
Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
Yes Laurie Lieberman
Yes Ralph Mechur
Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Time start: 7:29 p.m. Time end: 7:30 p.m.

.XI.F. Adopt Resolution No. 17-28 Regarding the Non-Reelection of Certificated Probationary Employees (5 min)

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 17-28 regarding the non-re-election of certificated probationary employees pursuant to Education Code Section 44929.21(b), effective June 2018. Passed with a motion by Mr. Mechur and a second by Mr. Foster.

Yes Oscar de la Torre
Yes Mr. Craig Foster
Yes Jon Kean

Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
Yes Laurie Lieberman
Yes Ralph Mechur
Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Time start: 7:30 p.m. Time end: 7:31 p.m.

.XI.G. Adopt Resolution No. 17-29 May Release and Reassign Certificated Administrators (5 min)

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the attached Resolution No. 17-29 - May Release and Reassign Certificated Administrators pursuant to Education Code Section 44951 as indicated on the attached Resolution, effective June 2018. Passed with a motion by Mr. Foster and a second by Ms. Lieberman.

Yes Oscar de la Torre
Yes Mr. Craig Foster
Yes Jon Kean
Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
Yes Laurie Lieberman
Yes Ralph Mechur
Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Time start: 7:31 p.m. Time end: 7:32 p.m.

.XI.H. Adopt Resolution No. 17-30 Shall Release and Reassign Certificated Administrators (5 min)

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the attached Resolution No. 17-30 - Shall Release and Reassign Certificated Administrators pursuant to Education Code Section 44951 as indicated on the attached Resolution, effective June 2018. Passed with a motion by Mr. Foster and a second by Ms. Lieberman.

Abstain Oscar de la Torre
Yes Mr. Craig Foster
Yes Jon Kean
No Maria Leon-Vazquez
Yes Laurie Lieberman
Yes Ralph Mechur
Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Time start: 4:30 p.m. Time end: 4:35 p.m.

Time start: 6:24 p.m. Time end: 6:46 p.m.

Public Comments:

- Christian Smith, Jayden Smith, Lupe Ibarra-Smith, Nancy Gutierrez, Juanita Devis, Claudia Tomayo, Laura Hernandez, Ana Garcia, Perla Garcia, and Maria de Luna addressed the board regarding this item.

.XI.I. CSBA Delegate Assembly Election (5 min)

Motion Passed: It is recommended that the Board of Education vote for no more than eight candidates to serve on the CSBA Delegate Assembly (Region 24). Passed with a motion by Ms. Leon-Vazquez and a second by Mr. Foster.

Yes Oscar de la Torre
Yes Mr. Craig Foster
Yes Jon Kean

- Yes Maria Leon-Vazquez
- Yes Laurie Lieberman
- Yes Ralph Mechur
- Yes Dr. Richard Tahvildaran

Minutes:

Time start: 7:32 p.m. Time end: 7:35 p.m.

Ms. Leon-Vazquez suggested that the board voted for the seven incumbents. The board agreed. She also suggested the eighth vote be a write-in candidate: Margie Garrett, the Clerk of the Compton Unified School District, who reached out to the board and asked them to consider voting for her. The board agreed.

.XII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

.XIII. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

.XIV. REQUESTS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC OR DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

.XV. CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Minutes:

Time start: 7:39 p.m. Time end: 7:43 p.m.

Public Comments:

- Ericka Leslie asked how the Olweus anti-bullying program could be strengthened and when social justice standards will be implemented at elementary school level. She also asked that absentee letters be suppressed due to the flu epidemic. She remarked that Black History Month needs to be celebrated without parents having to initiate it at the various school sites.

.XVI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Minutes:

Time start: 7:35 p.m. Time end: 7:39 p.m.

- Mr. de la Torre reported that he accompanied staff to tour CART, a CTE-focused high school in Fresno. He would like to incorporate aspects of this model into SMMUSD schools. Mr. de la Torre also announced that the Pico Youth and Family Center's Annual Art for Hearts event will be tomorrow evening at Bergamot Station.
- Mr. Kean asked about an update from the interest-based learning (IBL) field trips in which staff and a couple board members participated. Dr. Drati replied that there is an IBL discussion item scheduled for the next board meeting.
- Ms. Leon-Vazquez reported that she visited Santa Barbara HS with staff to see an IBL model, and that she also toured SMMUSD sites with Carey Upton to see recent construction projects. She encouraged the district to examine incorporating the manufacturing aspect of CTE into the curriculum in order to better prepare students for 21st Century jobs.
- Ms. Lieberman echoed Mr. de la Torre's remarks about the CART school. She wondered how board members could share what they learn about teaching and learning models with their peers to have robust conversations.
- Dr. Tahvildaran-Jesswein reminded his peers that the March 15 regular meeting and March 20 special meeting will both be very substantive in content.

.XVII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

.XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Mechur, seconded by Mr. Foster, and voted 7/0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 15, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. in the Malibu City Council Chambers: 23825 Stuart Ranch Road, Malibu, CA.

Approved: _____

President

Superintendent

**The live stream of regular board meetings in progress are available online.
Meetings in Malibu City Hall: <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofMalibu>.
Meetings at the district office: <https://www.youtube.com/user/Citytv16santamonica>.
Meetings held at the District Office and in Malibu are taped and rebroadcast in Santa Monica on CityTV2, Cable Channel 20 – Check TV listing. Meetings are rebroadcast in Malibu on Government Access Ch. 3 every Saturday at 8pm.**