



BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
UNAPPROVED MINUTES

November 30, 2016 6:00 PM
Hillview Middle School
Performing Arts Center (PAC)
1100 Elder Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Attendance Taken at 6:08 PM:

Present:

Jeff Child
Maria Hilton
Stacey Jones
Joan Lambert
Terry Thygesen

I. 6:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Minutes:

Board President Jeff Child called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. All members of the Board were present.

President Jeff Child opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending and newly elected Board member David Ackerman for participating at the Board's table. The other newly elected Board member, Caroline Lucas, chose to participate tonight as a community member and not sit at the Board's table.

II. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Quick Summary:

Under Comments from the Audience, a community member may address the Board on any subject. An individual may only address the Board once under this item. Three (3) minutes are allotted to each speaker but can be extended by a Board member if so desired. Please note that speaking time cannot be delegated to another person. The Board cannot act on non-agenda items and cannot respond to issues other than to provide general information. However, Board members will take any comments under advisement and can give direction to the Superintendent to follow up if warranted. We request that an individual fill out a speaker card and provide his/her name and address before addressing the Board; however this is not required.

Minutes:

Video of entire Board meeting is available on District website.

There were no public comments for items not on the agenda.

III. Superintendent Ghysels will continue to address options for expenditure reductions and present a draft Resolution for a possible parcel tax revenue enhancement measure to preserve District standards and financial stability.

Quick Summary:

The Board continues to discuss options for expenditure reductions, as well as possible parcel tax revenue enhancement measures to preserve District standards and financial stability. Staff will present the following which was directed by the School Board at the November 17 Board meeting: various parcel tax scenarios and potential impacts to District reserve levels for a possible March 2017 parcel tax election draft language for a potential parcel tax input to date from the community survey (Panorama Education) Also at this meeting, the Board will receive consultation from Whitehurst/Mosher, the District's communications and strategy consultant. The Board will continue to inform the public, seek input, and engage in a discussion process resulting in directions for staff regarding next steps to address the District's Structural Deficit. For more information about the process, please visit the District's website and scroll to the "Announcement" section for Board meeting videos and presentation decks.

Minutes:

Superintendent Ghysels welcomed everyone and introduced John Whitehurst from Whitehurst/Mosher and William Tunick from DWK Law. Both firms are working with the District regarding the possibility of a parcel tax election.

Superintendent Ghysels presented a Board Report: Parcel Tax Options. The following information was included in the report (Presentation is available on MPCSD's Agenda OnLine.):

- Planning Process and Recap
- Background from Past to Present
- Initial Parcel Tax Options and Directions
- Reductions Review
- Outcomes for Tonight
- Board Directions from November 9 and 17, 2016
- Summary of Panorama Survey
- Parcel Tax Amounts/Reductions
- Timing Options
- Proposed Parcel Tax Language
- Next Steps/Board Direction

Assistant Superintendent Erik Burmesiter updated the Board on the community survey results, and reviewed the potential parcel tax language and a draft of a resolution.

Chief Business and Operations Officer Ahmad Sheikholeslami continued the presentation explaining the budget slides.

Mr. Tunick from DWK introduced himself and explained his role and purpose in the process of a parcel tax.

Mr. Mosher from Whitehurst/Mosher explained the importance of the 75-word language.

Following the presentation, feedback from staff, and information from Whitehurst/Mosher and DWK, the Board had a lengthy conversation about a potential parcel tax; election timing, tax size and term and the 75-word ballot language. The Board asked staff clarifying questions.

The following members of the audience addressed the Board:

Scott Saywell
Todd Rose
Mary Beth Suhr
Andrea Luskin

Assistant Superintendent Erik Burmeister summarized what the Board is asking from staff for the December 5 Special Board meeting.

(The video of this meeting will be available on the District's website within 5 days of the meeting.)

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Board President/Vice President

Superintendent