



BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

December 05, 2016 6:00 PM

Hillview Middle School
Performing Arts Center (PAC)
1100 Elder Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Attendance Taken at 6:06 PM:

Present:

David Ackerman
Stacey Jones
Joan Lambert
Caroline Lucas
Terry Thygesen

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

Minutes:

Superintendent Ghysels called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. All members of the Board were present.

II. SCHOOL BOARD'S ANNUAL ORGANIZATION MEETING

II.a. Election of the Officers of the Board of Education (Effective until December 2017)

Quick Summary:

Call for nomination for the offices of President and Vice President/Clerk of the Governing Board.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: The Board elects its President and Vice President/Clerk effective until December 2017.

Motion Passed: It was moved/seconded (Lambert/Thygesen) to nominate Stacey Jones as Board President. Passed with a motion by Joan Lambert and a second by Terry Thygesen.

Yes David Ackerman
Yes Stacey Jones
Yes Joan Lambert
Yes Caroline Lucas
Yes Terry Thygesen

Motion Passed: It was moved/seconded (Lambert/Lucas) to nominate Terry Thygesen as Board Vice President/Clerk.

Passed with a motion by Joan Lambert and a second by Caroline Lucas.

Yes David Ackerman

Yes Stacey Jones

Yes Joan Lambert

Yes Caroline Lucas

Yes Terry Thygesen

Minutes:

It was moved/seconded (Lambert/Thygesen) to nominate Stacey Jones as Board President.

It was moved/seconded (Lambert/Lucas) to nominate Terry Thygesen as Board Vice President/Clerk.

The Board voted unanimously (5/0) to elect Stacey Jones as Board President and Terry Thygesen as Board Vice President/Clerk effective until December 2017.

Board members and Superintendent Ghysels thanked Maria Hilton and Jeff Child for their years of service on the Menlo Park City School District Board of Education.

New Board President Stacey Jones reviewed best practices as she learned from her colleagues and CSBA's information for Board Presidents:

- Start and end on time
- Strive to work together as a team to complete our business by 10:00 p.m.
- Review the order of agenda items
- Actively listen to presenters
- Public comment only 3 minutes per speaker
- Be civil and respectful
- Board members must be present

President Jones stated she attended the CSBA conference and learned many valuable things such as; Board meetings are meetings of the Board (the Board's work) and here for the kids.

President Jones invited the community to the Board's retreat on Saturday, January 21 at 9:00 a.m.; meeting will be agendized and open to the public.

Superintendent Ghysels's reiterated the Board's retreat is to review the District's Strategic Directions that align with the District's vision and mission.

II.b. Election of Board Representative to the San Mateo County Committee on School District Organization (Effective until December 2017)

Quick Summary:

Call for nomination for a MPCSD Board Representative to the San Mateo County Committee on School District Organization. RECOMMENDED ACTION: The Board elects its Representative to the San Mateo County Committee on School District Organization.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Terry Thygesen and a second by Joan Lambert.

Yes David Ackerman
Yes Stacey Jones
Yes Joan Lambert
Yes Caroline Lucas
Yes Terry Thygesen

Minutes:

It was moved/seconded (Thygesen/Lambert) to nominate David Ackerman as the Board's representative to the San Mateo County Committee on School District Organization. The Board voted unanimously (5/0) to approve David Ackerman as the Board's representative to the San Mateo County Committee on School District organization.

II.c. Board Member Committee Assignments (Effective until December 2017)

Quick Summary:

The Board will review and update School Board committee assignments effective until December 2017.

Minutes:

Board members explained the current practice for Board Committees and discussed the difference between Board Committees and Superintendent Advisory Committees. The Board agreed to table this discussion until the Board Retreat on Saturday, January 21.

III. 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:

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

IV. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED QUALIFIED SPECIAL TAX

Quick Summary:

The Board will hold a public hearing pursuant to Government Code section 50077 on the issue of calling an election on March 7, 2017, to impose a qualified special tax ("Parcel Tax") on all parcels of taxable real property in the District's boundaries. At the hearing, public input will be solicited concerning the proposed Parcel Tax measure.

Minutes:

Video of entire Board meeting is available on District website.

The Public Hearing on a Proposed Qualified Special Tax was declared open at 6:46 p.m. by Board President Stacey Jones.

The following members of the audience addressed the Board:

Vic Vuchic
Allen Weiner
Jeff Child
Jennifer Bestor
Brian Yick

After hearing from members of the audience, President Jones declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:03 p.m.

V. RESOLUTION NO. 16.17.08 CALLING FOR A PARCEL TAX ELECTION

Quick Summary:

Superintendent Ghysels will present to the Board the proposed Parcel Tax Resolution No. 16.17.08 (attached) for the recommendation of Board approval, along with information for the Board's discussion on district finances related to reductions and parcel tax options, and an update on the community-wide Panorama Survey.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: The Board adopts Resolution No. 16.17.08 Calling for a Parcel Tax Election.

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by David Ackerman and a second by Stacey Jones.

Yes David Ackerman
Yes Stacey Jones
Yes Joan Lambert
Yes Caroline Lucas
Yes Terry Thygesen

Minutes:

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

- The Need for a New Parcel Tax
- Planning Process
- Board Directions from November 30, 2016
- Outcomes for Tonight
- Update Panorama Survey
- Parcel Tax Amounts/Reductions
- Proposed Parcel Tax Resolution Review
- Public Comment
- Deliberation and Action

Assistant Superintendent Erik Burmesiter presented updated results of the community-wide Panorama Survey.

Chief Business and Operations Officer Ahmad Sheikholeslami reviewed financials and answered clarifying questions from the Board

Video of entire Board meeting is available on District website.

Assistant Superintendent continued the presentation, read an announcement as incoming Superintendent, agreed with Superintendent Ghysels on the need for a parcel tax, reviewed the draft resolution and highlighted the ballot measure language, and noted the recommended changes by the San Mateo Elections Office.

The following members of the audience addressed the Board:

Alex Keh
Allen Weiner
Kate Kennedy
Carolyn Kryger
Scott Saywell
Neil Swartzberg
Jarrod Coombes

Following public comment, the Board reviewed Resolution 16.17.08 and began their discussion. Board members suggested changes to the draft, and a motion from Board member David Ackerman to increase the amount proposed from \$350. to \$360. Board President Jones seconded Mr. Ackerman's motion.

Assistant Superintendent Erik Burmeister summarized the Board's proposed changes to the resolution:

- extending the term from six years to seven years
- change suggestions from the Election's office (3 issues)
- proposed ballot language changes such as change last part to read "exemption for seniors"
- change amount from \$350. to \$360.

It was moved/seconded (Ackerman/Jones) and the Board voted unanimously (5/0) to adopt the Resolution No. 16.17.08 Calling for a Parcel Tax Election. A roll call vote was taken for Resolution No. 16.17.08.

(The final Resolution 16.17.08 and the video of this meeting will be available on the District's website within 5 days of the meeting.)

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 p.m.

Board President/Vice President

Superintendent