

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MANHATTAN BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Manhattan Beach, CA  
July 21, 2009

The Board of Trustees of the Manhattan Beach Unified School District held a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 21, 2009, at 325 S. Peck Avenue, Manhattan Beach, California. The following were present:

**Members of the Board**

Nancy Hersman, President  
Ida VanderPoorte, Vice President  
Bill Fournell, Clerk  
Amy Howorth, Member  
Joyce Fahey, Member  
Dr. Beverly Rohrer, Superintendent (Absent)

**District Personnel**

Janet Schwabe, Carolyn Seaton, Steve Romines, Nancy Bogart, and staff

**Call to Order**

Mrs. Hersman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Howorth moved to recess to closed session to discuss:

1. Conference with District labor negotiators, Janet Schwabe and Steve Romines, regarding MBUTA negotiations, per Government Code Section 54957.6.
2. Conference with District labor negotiators, Janet Schwabe and Steve Romines, regarding CSEA negotiations, per Government Code Section 54957.6.
3. Public employee discipline/dismissal/release, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.

This motion was seconded by Mrs. Fahey and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Reconvene Open Session**

Open session was reconvened at 6:53 p.m.

**Report of Action Taken During Closed Session**

No action was reported.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Nancy Rosenberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda**

Ms. VanderPoorte moved approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by Mrs. Fahey and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Board Member  
Announcements**

Board members shared announcements of interest.

**Moment of Silence**

A Moment of Silence was held for Rajesh Vashdev, an MBUSD parent, and Issac Sesay, a graduate of Mira Costa High School, who perished on July 15th in an airplane crash at the Hawthorne Airport.

**Declaration of Need  
for Fully-Qualified  
Educators**

Mrs. Hall explained why this form must be submitted annually. Ms. VanderPoorte moved approval of the Declaration of Need for Fully-Qualified Educators. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Howorth and unanimously approved by the Board.

**California Healthy  
Kids Survey**

Mrs. Seaton circulated copies of the California Healthy Kids Survey that was administered to students in grades 5, 7, 9, and 11. She explained the contents of the survey and said the results would be used to provide direction for the District's substance abuse prevention and education programs.

Lori Desmond, Second Grade Chair, reviewed the survey results for 2008-2009, with comparisons from prior years. Categories included the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs; violence and safety; breakfast consumption, and protective factors identified as caring relationships, high expectations, and meaningful participation.

Mrs. Seaton and Ms. Desmond responded to questions from the Board and noted their suggestions for revision and additional questions for future surveys.

**Restoration of  
Programs**

Dr. Romines provided a quick update on the state budget and how it impacts the District's budget. There was a discussion regarding possible mid-year cuts in 2009-2010. Dr. Romines responded to questions from the Board.

Mrs. Hersman reported receiving a letter from the Los Angeles County Office of Education regarding the District's budget, which Dr. Romines reviewed.

Mrs. Hersman mentioned the *Moving Children* program and counseling, which were previously discussed. Mrs. Schwabe reported that the principals were surveyed regarding spending money on *Moving Children* or if they preferred to keep the counseling program. She said the principals felt it was important to keep the counseling program.

Mrs. Hersman called the Consent Calendar and asked if any member of the audience wished to pull an item, and there were none. She asked if any member of the Board wished to pull an item. Mr. Fournell asked to pull Items E.24. and E.26. Mrs. Hersman asked to pull Items E.13. and E.27. Ms. VanderPoorte moved approval of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Mrs. Fahey. Board members voted unanimously to:

**E. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**General**

1. Ratify Student Services Consultant Agreement with Gregor Enterprises, dba Families First, to provide Educational Services from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. Not-to-

exceed \$3,000.00. Funds to be paid from Students Services Agreement for Services account #01.0-00000.0-00000-31100-5850-0000113. This item has been budgeted.

2. Approve Consultant Agreement for Connie Hatt to assist with vision and hearing screenings, from September 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010, to be paid at the rate of \$31.93 per hour, not-to-exceed \$1,800.00, charged to acct. #01.0-00000.0-00000-31400-5850-0000013, Consultant – Health Program.
3. Ratify the District Master Contract for Nonsectarian, Nonpublic Agency Services (NPA) with Resources in Autism Education. Contract is necessary to renew services for the 2009/10 fiscal year, as mandated by Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), and as per Compromise and Release Agreement Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) Case No. N2009040116. The Master Contract is effective from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. \$8,083.00 in funds to be paid from Nonsectarian, Nonpublic Agency Services account, #01.0-65000.0-57500-11801-5810-0000051; \$80,140.00, in funds to be paid from Nonsectarian, Nonpublic Agency Services account, #01.0-65000.0-57500-11801-5810-0000052. This item has been budgeted.
4. Ratify the District Master Contract for Nonsectarian, Nonpublic School Services (NPS) with Family Life Center, Inc., dba Larry M. Simmons High School. Contract is necessary to renew services for the 2009/10 fiscal year, as mandated by Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). The Master Contract is effective from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. \$41,584.00 in funds to be paid from Nonsectarian, Nonpublic School Services account, #01.0-65000.0-57500-11802-5810-0000053. This item has been budgeted.
5. Ratify the District Master Contract for Nonsectarian, Nonpublic School Services (NPS) with Heritage Schools, Inc. Contract is necessary to renew services for the 2009/10 fiscal year, as mandated by Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). The Master Contract is effective from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. \$28,072.00 in funds to be paid from Nonsectarian, Nonpublic School Services account, #01.0-65000.0-57500-11802-5810-0000052; \$24,072.00, in funds to be paid from Nonsectarian, Nonpublic School Services account, #01.0-65000.0-57500-11802-5810-0000053. This item has been budgeted.
6. Ratify Student Services Special Employment Agreement for 2009/10 fiscal year with Sonia Dickson-Bracks, Autism Specialist, to provide training for parents, general education teachers, and aides, and for the home program in the area of autism; and to provide after-school social skills groups and assistance for the development of programs for children on the autism spectrum. Contract is effective from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. Amount not-to-exceed \$88,200.00. Funds to be paid from Special Education account, #01.0-65000.0-57500-21000-5850-0000113. This item has been budgeted.
7. Approve Student Services Special Employment Agreement for 2009/10 fiscal year with Robin Shipley, M.S., Autism Specialist, to provide social skills training for students, parents, teachers, aides, and home program in the area of autism; and conduct social skills groups while providing assistance for the development of programs for children on the autism spectrum. Contract is effective from July 27, 2009, through June 30, 2010. Amount not-to-exceed \$46,800.00. Funds to be paid from Special Education account, #01.0-65000.0-57500-21000-5850-0000113. This item has been budgeted.
8. Ratify Student Services Special Employment Agreement for 2009/10 fiscal year with John Staubitz, M.S., Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), to provide behavior analysis and consultant services, from July 1, 2009, through July 16, 2009. Amount not-

to-exceed \$3,674.00. Funds to be paid from Special Education account, #01.0-65000.0-57500-21000-5850-0000113. This item has been budgeted.

9. Removed.
10. Ratify reimbursement to parents for educational costs of not-to-exceed \$483.04, incurred from April 3, 2009, through April 5, 2009, as per Individualized Education Plan (IEP) mandated visits, and in accordance with our visitation policy. Funds to be paid from Special Education Other Services account, #01.0-65000.0-57500-71101-5813-0000053. This item has been budgeted and accrued to 08/09 fiscal year.
11. Ratify agreement with Fagen, Friedman & Fulfroost, LLP, to provide legal services, eff. July 1, 2009. This item has been budgeted.
12. Approve participation in the Beachfront Consortium for the 2009-2010 school year.
14. Approve contract with West Coast Protection LLC, dba Interquest Detection Canines, from September 2009, through June 2010, in an amount not-to-exceed \$4,050.00, to be paid from a grant through Beach Cities Health District.
15. Approve recommendation that administrator contracts be extended as follows: Executive Director contracts (2) be extended an additional year, through June 30, 2011; and Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services contract be extended an additional year, through June 30, 2011; Board President and Superintendent to be authorized to sign contracts as amended.
16. Ratify consultant agreement for Gail Currey College Counseling LLC, a limited liability company, to provide the services necessary to serve as a College and Career Counseling Consultant from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010, to be paid \$71,500.00, for the 2009-2010 school year, charged to acct. #01.0-00000.0-00000-31101-5850-9000000. Funding is through Manhattan Beach Education Foundation at no cost to the District.

### **Personnel**

17. Approve/ratify layoff (due to lack of funds) of classified personnel at effective dates listed (see attached).
18. Ratify change of status of classified personnel at effective dates listed (see attached).
19. Ratify employment of classified personnel for summer 2009 (see attached).
20. Approve resignation of classified personnel at effective dates listed:  

Bell, Olin, Special Ed. I.A., MBMS, effective 06/19/09 (Resignation)  
Rocha, Joanna, EDP Assistant, Pennekamp, effective 06/19/09 (Resignation)
21. Ratify leave of absence for classified employees at effective dates as listed:  

Brown, Ronald, Operations Crew Leader, MCHS (Contract article 6) effective 07/06/09 – 07/31/09  
Maher, John Jr., Operations Worker, Pennekamp, (Contract article 6) effective 07/01/09 – 07/30/09

22. Ratify employment of Heather Hoffman as long-term substitute at current rate of pay eff. 6/9/09.
23. Revise Special Education Summer School funding at Mira Costa High School to include a planning period of one hour per day, 4 days per week, to be paid at the rate of \$31.83 per hour, for Tom Cox (6/22/09 – 7/30/09), Julie Hallgrimson (6/22/09 – 7/9/09), and Monica Pherson (6/22/09 – 7/9/09).

**Romines      Business**

25. Approve the rejection of all bids and authorize new bids for the Mira Costa High School Fire Life Safety project for the auditorium and gymnasium.
28. Ratify purchase orders to date.
29. Accept, with appreciation, gifts to the District from the Walsh Family.
30. Accept Developer Fee report for the month of June 2009.

Mrs. Howorth moved approval of Item E.13., seconded by Mr. Fournell. Mrs. Hersman asked a question regarding the chaperone form, which Mrs. Seaton explained. Mrs. Hersman called for the question, and Board members voted unanimously to:

13. Approve an overnight field trip for the Mira Costa High School Girls' Tennis Team to travel to La Quinta High School and Palm Desert High School tennis matches, on September 25-26, 2009. The students and chaperones will leave on Friday afternoon, September 25, and return on Saturday afternoon, September 26. There will be ten female students and two chaperones. Transportation will be by van rental.

Ms. VanderPoorte moved approval of Item E.24., seconded by Mr. Fournell. Mr. Fournell asked about this technology, which both Mrs. Howorth and Dr. Romines explained. Maintenance was also discussed. Mrs. Hersman called for the question, and Board members voted unanimously to:

24. Adopt Resolution 2009-20, Authorizing the Purchase of Smart Technologies from California Western Visuals Off the California Multiple Award Schedule (CMAS).

Mrs. Howorth moved approval of Item E.26., seconded by Ms. VanderPoorte. Mr. Fournell asked about savings the District might realize with this review. Mr. Gene Yee responded companies typically credit a district for unused benefits. Dr. Romines said the District would not look to an employee for any errors made. Mrs. Hersman called for the question, and Board members voted unanimously to:

26. Approve the professional consulting agreement for Keygent LLC, to perform a Recovery Max Benefit Eligibility Review. There is no cost to the District.

Ms. VanderPoorte moved approval of Item E.27., seconded by Mrs. Howorth. Mrs. Hersman asked if the price increases were necessary, which Dr. Romines explained. There was a discussion regarding free and reduced lunch prices. Mrs. Hersman called for the question, and Board members voted unanimously to:

27. Approve increase in school lunch prices as follows:

Elementary lunch price increase from \$3.00 to \$3.25  
 Middle School and High School lunch price increase from \$3.50 to \$3.75  
 Secondary breakfast price increase from \$1.75 to \$2.00

Reduced breakfast price increase from \$0.00 to \$.30  
Adult lunch increase from \$4.00 plus tax, to \$4.25 plus tax

The \$.30 charge for the reduced breakfast is the minimum charge set by the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

The tax added to the adult lunch is a recent requirement for all non-student “hot prepared meals” per the State Board of Equalization code section 1603 taxable sale of food products.

**Public and Staff  
Submitted Items**

None.

**Administrative  
Regulation 5131.9,  
Academic Honesty and  
Exhibit 5131.9, Point  
System Ethics Policy**

Board members expressed concern with various aspects of this Administrative Regulation and Exhibit and made suggestions/corrections, which were noted by Mrs. Schneider. Ms. VanderPoorte moved to adopt Administrative Regulation 5131.9, Academic Honesty, and Exhibit 5131.9, Point System Ethics Policy. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Fahey and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Revised Board Policy  
and Administrative  
Regulation 5144.1,  
Suspension and  
Expulsion/Due Process**

Mrs. Hersman noted that this policy quoted much Education Code, which she felt was put together piecemeal. She said she had been trying to sort through to make sure all the information was included. Mrs. Hersman asked about what type of changes could be made to the policies, which Mrs. Schwabe explained. Mrs. Schneider responded to additional questions from Board members. Mrs. VanderPoorte moved approval of the revised Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5144.1, Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Fahey and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Superintendent/Cabinet  
Report**

Leadership Forum

Mrs. Seaton discussed the meeting to be held on August 24th for administrators to look at the upcoming school year, and the District budget.

New Employee Orientation

Mrs. Hall talked about the new employee orientation to be held of August 25th in the boardroom. She informed Board members that no refreshments would be served this year due to budget cuts.

Special Education Summer School

Mrs. Seaton talked about visiting the pre-school site and said everything was going well. She said she planned to visit again on Thursday.

**Public Comments**

None.

**Items Recommended for  
Future Discussion**

Mr. Fournell asked to survey ninth and fifth grade parents whose students have left the District to attend private or parochial schools.

Mrs. Fahey stated that she had not heard the audience being asked if they wanted to pull an item from the Consent Calendar. Mrs. Hersman stated that the invitation to speak was read from the statement included in the Consent Calendar.

Mrs. Hersman asked about the high school survey results. Ms. VanderPoorte and Mrs. Fahey reported receiving the results several months previously.

Mrs. Hersman asked to talk about approving Administrative Regulations, which do not need to be approved by the Board. She also suggested the Board look at the District's vision, philosophy, and goals. Board members discussed holding this discussion in a workshop format. Board self-evaluation was also discussed.

Mrs. Hersman stated that student board members could make motions on matters before the Board, with the exception of matters dealing with employer/employee relations. She said that the student board members could also cast preferential votes on all matters except those subject to closed session.

**Adjournment**

Mrs. Howorth moved to adjourn at 9:27 p.m., seconded by Ms. VanderPoorte, and unanimously approved by the Board.

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BILL FOURNELL, CLERK  
Board of Trustees

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JANET SCHWABE  
Deputy Superintendent of Schools