

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

Manhattan Beach, CA
October 20, 2010

The Board of Trustees of the Manhattan Beach Unified School District held a regular Board meeting on Wednesday, October 6, 2010, at 325 S. Peck Avenue, Manhattan Beach, California. The following were present:

Members of the Board

Ida VanderPoorte, President
Amy Howorth, Vice President
Bill Fournell, Clerk
Ellen Rosenberg, Member
Penny Bordokas, Member
Dr. Michael Matthews, Superintendent
Sierra Bloodgood, Student Board Member
Emily Goldenberg, Student Board Member

District Personnel

Carolyn Seaton, Ellyn Schneider, Steve Romines, Kathy Hall,
Nancy Bogart, and staff

Call to Order

Ms. VanderPoorte called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., and recessed to closed session to discuss:

1. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation, pursuant to subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9. Case nos. 2010090275 and 2010090235.
2. Conference with district labor negotiator Steve Romines regarding CSEA negotiations, per Government Code section 54957.6.
3. Conference with district labor negotiator Steve Romines regarding MBUTA negotiations, per Government Code section 54957.6.
4. Public Employee Performance Evaluation, Superintendent, per Government Code section 54957.

Open Session Reconvened

Open session was reconvened at 6:36 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Tim Lilligren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report of Action Taken During Closed Session

No action was reported.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Howorth moved approval of the agenda as presented. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fournell and unanimously approved by the Board.

Public Comment

The following community members addressed the Board regarding the 3rd Grade math program:

Greta and Alex Horowitz
Media Sabbe
Tom Sabbe
Maureen Gold
Kelly Thormodsguard
Andrea Ramey
Tim Lilligren
Kim Leserman

Public Hearing

A Public Hearing was held on Resolution 2010-14, regarding the assurance that each pupil in each school in the District has sufficient textbooks or instructional materials, or both, in each subject, that are consistent with the content of the curriculum frameworks adopted by the California State Board of Education.

MBEF Pledge Day

Lease Ireland informed the Board about MBEF's Pledge Day on November 4, from 3:30 – 5:00 at Metlox Center. This event is designed to bring together the schools and members of the community.

Recognition

Grant Johnson, a 10th grade student at Mira Costa High School, was recognized for winning the U. S. National Yo-Yo Competition in Chico and he provided a demonstration.

La Vista Newspaper

Adam Robak, Leo Shaw, Daina Rama and Jason Boxer, members of LaVista Newspaper demonstrated the new online version of the newspaper via a PowerPoint presentation.

**Board Member
Announcements**

Board members shared announcements of interest.

Moment of Silence

A Moment of Silence was held for Richard Dale, Principal Ben Dale's father, who recently passed away.

**Student Board Member
Report**

Sierra Bloodgood and Emily Goldenberg, student Board members, discussed student topics at Mira Costa High School, elementary schools, and events and activities in the District. Dana Sheckter reported on activities at Manhattan Beach Middle School.

**Update on Implementation
of the 2008 Saxon
Mathematics Program in K-
3rd Grade**

Dr. Matthews thanked the parents who addressed the Board and the elementary principals for attending this presentation. He noted that it was only the seventh week of school, but it was not too early to look at the math program and make adjustments if needed, but it was too early to evaluate the program's overall effectiveness.

Mrs. Seaton discussed the history of the Saxon math program and the rationale for adoption of the new program. She announced that approval for a national Saxon trainer to present a full day of advanced implementation training for all 3rd grade teachers, would be brought for approval by the Board at the first meeting in

November. Both Dr. Matthews and Mrs. Seaton said options for enrichment activities would continue to be investigated and implemented.

**Impact of Recently
Approved California
Budget**

Dr. Matthews said the California State Budget was adopted on October 8, 2010, which was 100 days late, surpassing the previous record of 85 days late. He said the District's budget is built on guesses because of the late state budget, which has an approximate \$19 billion deficit. He reviewed the impact of the California budget on MBUSD and said that Prop 98 has been officially suspended, which means that the state can enact further cuts to K-12 education. Dr. Matthews said the experts ACSA feel that districts should be prepared to see a proposal for mid-year reductions.

Ms. VanderPoorte called the Consent Calendar and asked if any member of the audience or staff wished to pull an item and there were none. She asked if any member of the Board wished to pull an item and there were none. Mrs. Howorth moved approval of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Mr. Fournell. Board members voted unanimously to:

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

General

1. Adopt Resolution 2010-14, Regarding Sufficiency of Instructional Materials, and Resolution 2010-15, Certification of Provision of Standards-Aligned Instructional Materials.
2. Approve field trip request for sixth grade Science School at Pali Mountain Institute on March 28, 2011, through April 1, 2011. Four Hundred and sixty-seven students and 14 district employees will travel via bus to Running Springs, CA. Camp chaperones will also be provided.
3. Approve agreement for California Physical Fitness Test Scoring and Reporting Services between the Manhattan Beach Unified School District and Evalumetrics, Inc., for 2010-2011. The estimated \$600.00 cost qualifies as a mandated cost item and is reimbursable through the state's mandated cost program, should that program be reinstated in the future. These funds will be paid from Educational Services Testing acct., #01.0-00000.0-15000-31600-5890-0000112.

Personnel

4. Approve resignation of Costa, Stacia, Library Media Specialist, PK, effective 09/20/10.
5. Ratify change of status of classified personnel at effective dates listed:

Danaei, Maryam, EDP Teacher, Preschool, Perm., 62.5% to Preschool/MBMS, 100% time, effective 10/01/10 (Replacement)

Kahler, Amelia, Special Ed. I.A., Preschool, Perm., 50% to 56.25% time, effective 10/01/10 (Student needs)

6. Ratify employment of classified personnel to serve as substitutes, district wide, at effective dates listed:

Aguilar, Sara, effective 09/23/10
Hoffman, Heather, effective 09/20/10
Weekes, Nicholas, effective 09/01/10

Public and Staff Submitted Items

None.

Revised Board Policy 3220.1, Lottery Funds

Mrs. Rosenberg moved approval of revised Board Policy 3220.1, Lottery Funds. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fournell and unanimously approved by the Board.

Revised Board Policy 3314, Revolving Funds

Mrs. Rosenberg moved approval of revised Board Policy 3314, Revolving Funds. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fournell and unanimously approved by the Board.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Howorth moved approval of the minutes of the regular Board meeting of October 6, 2010, seconded by Mrs. Bordokas and unanimously approved by the Board.

Superintendent/Cabinet Report

Staff Development Day on October 11

Kindergarten Teachers and Special Education Teacher Support Assistants (TSAs), Intense Behavior Interventionists (IBIs) attended a training session about social skills in the natural setting for students on the autism spectrum, the principles of applied behavioral analysis (ABA), and data collection techniques.

Elementary Teachers of Grades 1-5

Elementary teachers were provided with a full day of SPARK (sports, play and active recreation for kids) physical education training paid out of a Beach Cities Health District grant. The grant also provided for SPARK P.E. equipment for each school and a SPARK curriculum binder of California standards-aligned lessons per grade level per school.

Illuminate Data and Assessment Training for MBMS and MCHS Teachers

Mira Costa and MBMS teachers were trained on our new Illuminate data and assessment system funded by federal ARRA monies. Several MBMS teachers are already using Illuminate's online gradebook as a result of their positive experience on Monday.

Special Education—K-12

Special education teachers and school psychologists attended training sessions in the Board Room. The first session focused on implementation of the Lexia online reading intervention program that was purchased through federal ARRA funds. Staff also learned how to administer and score the Wechsler Individual Achievement Test, third edition (WIAT III).

GATE—K-12

All teachers in the district were encouraged to enroll in this school year's GATE certificate program offered through our partnership with UC Irvine Extension.

Visual and Performing Arts—K-12

All visual and performing arts (VAPA) teachers in the District attended a session in the Pacific art room led by Michael Hayden, MCHS choral music director and 20% VAPA coordinator.

Elementary Science Specialists

Elementary science specialists met and discussed the common core labs that are taught for each grade level and other protocols.

Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce

We are very proud of our students' recent accomplishments on our test scores and so much more, and our community is very proud as well. Recently, our business community, represented by the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce, found a way to express that pride. The Chamber sponsored an Employee Appreciation Picnic. Approximately 250 MBUSD employees attended, ate wonderful food donated by the local restaurants, judged chili and apple pies made by our employees, played games and enjoyed a wonderful summer late afternoon day.

Disaster Preparedness Meeting

Dr. Matthews reported attending a meeting regarding disaster preparedness in Manhattan Beach. Dr. Matthews joined representatives of MBPD, MBFD, the City of Manhattan Beach, the Red Cross and so many others as we discussed our preparedness for disaster. The bottom line was that there is every belief that our city, our protective agencies, our schools and our neighborhoods are ready for a small-scale disaster. We will be there to assist each other and we have plans in place.

Here in Manhattan Beach Unified, there are plans in place as well. There are practice drills, safety plans, and coordination with MBPD and MBFD. MBPD and MBUSD representatives will attend a safety and crisis conference this Friday, and will return with the most updated requirements and recommendations, as we update our own safety plans. Those updates will be brought to the Board at the November 17 Board meeting.

Dr. Matthews said the point stressed repeatedly by all agencies was that if the big one hits and it devastates much of Los Angeles, we could be on our own for over a week. After a week, rescue efforts from other areas could trickle in. The bottom line: be prepared in your home. Be prepared for up to seven days. Thanks to all for the work and inspiration.

Drug Task Force Meeting

Dr. Matthews discussed the first meeting of the year of the Drug Task Force, led by Dr. Rocky Wilson and attended by counselors, parents, board members, students and MBUSD staff. He said the current programs were reviewed and recommendations made for the 2010-11 school year.

The goals of this committee are to:

Some of the goals discussed for this school year include:

- Implement the “Every Fifteen Minutes” program at Mira Costa
- Revise the Drug Task Force Printed Materials
- Expand the Canine Detection Program into classrooms
- Continue examining ways to provide parents with effective information

21st Century Teaching and Learning

This year, through a grant provided by the Windsong group through MBEF, we have been provided with additional resources in working on a vision for instructional strategies that address resources available in the 21st century that have never before been available, and the skills that our students will need as they prepare for life and work in the 21st century.

In the past few weeks, we have attended conference and met with key people who can help us think about this important subject. Staff would like to share some of these ideas with the Board in the form of a discussion item at a Board meeting or a Board workshop.

Public Comments

None.

Items Recommended for Future Board Discussion

Mrs. Bordokas requested an update on the activities of the newly hired Energy Consultant.

Adjournment

Miss Goldenberg moved to adjourn at 7:32 p.m., seconded by Miss Bloodgood and unanimously approved by the Board.

BILL FOURNELL, CLERK
Board of Trustees

MICHAEL D. MATTHEWS, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools