

Mill Valley School District Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting No. 7 – January 14, 2009

MINUTES

Trustees Present: John Duncan, Janet Miller, Paula Reynolds, Steve Sell, Judy Sherman
Administrators Present: Ken Benny, Superintendent

Kerri M. Mills, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
Michele Rollins, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent Business Services
Terry Kritsepis, Director of Technology
Tim Ryan, Director of Maintenance & Operations
Matt Huxley, Mill Valley Middle School Principal
Jane McDonough, Old Mill School Principal
Leslie Thornton, Strawberry Point School Principal
Lisa Zimmer, Edna Maguire School Principal

CALL TO ORDER

The Mill Valley School District Board of Trustees, acting as the Governing Board of the Mill Valley School District, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2009 at the Mill Valley School District Administrative Office, 411 Sycamore Avenue, Mill Valley, CA. President Steve Sell called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and announced that Trustee John Duncan will be a few minutes late.

AGENDA & OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Sell welcomed those in attendance and outlined the major items for the meeting.
M/S/C Reynolds/Sherman (4-0) to approve the Agenda, with Communications to the Board portion of the meeting to precede Board Recognitions.

Duncan present COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Duncan arrived at 6:08 p.m.
Mr. Sell provided some background and context for making public comments to the Board. A parent spokesperson for many in the audience read a statement in support of a teacher who is on paid administrative leave. Several current and former parents and a student spoke on the teacher's behalf; others addressed District test preparation and procedures. Mr. Sell thanked all for their comments and spoke of next steps to be taken. He reported that the Superintendent's recommendation for the teacher to be placed on paid administrative leave followed seven weeks of investigation and was supported by the Board. Superintendent Ken Benny said that the District is continuing with a thoughtful, thorough and deliberate investigation into possible testing irregularities; that it will be completed as soon as possible; and that there is no recommendation for Board action at this time.

In response to comments that the Board should reconsider approving a Consent Agenda action to enter into an agreement with Lozano Smith, Superintendent Benny said that the agreement involves a particular highly respected attorney that the District and the Marin County Office of Education have worked with for many years. Mr. Benny also clarified for the record that the speaker's comments regarding the ethics of an administrator did not involve any administrator in our District.

Recess RECOGNITIONS

- Funding partners
 Kiddo! and PTAs
- Honor Board

The Board recessed the meeting from 6:55 – 7:00 p.m.
In recognition of the great support received by the District from Kiddo!, our schools foundation, for over 25 years, Executive Director Trisha Garlock was presented with a certificate expressing the District's gratitude for the continuing support and especially for the additional support for this year. Also recipients of certificates from the Board, with appreciation for continuing funding support, were the PTAs from each school and It Takes a Village PTA. The funding partners support many programs in the District and provided additional support at a time when state funding for schools continues to be cut. Also recognized during this month honoring school boards was the District Governing Board: Kiddo! presented each trustee with a gift remembrance; and appreciations were also were extended by Principal Jane McDonough on behalf of the Administrative Council and by PTA Council President Robin Moses.

BOARD REPORTS SUP'T REPORT

Ms. Sherman, as Board Liaison reported on Edna Maguire activities.
Superintendent Ken Benny reported on the Mill Valley Middle School breakfast honoring students for achievement and improvement; that the January 26 county-wide staff development day will be at eight sites; and that he attended a meeting regarding youth athletics in southern Marin.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C Reynolds/ Miller (5-0) to approve Consent Agenda, as follows:

<p>SCHOOL PROGRAMS IDTS for 2009/10</p> <p>BD OPS; Minutes: 12/10/08</p> <p>BUSINESS/FINANCE Warrants</p> <p>Payroll Certifications</p> <p>Gifts: EM PTA; PK PTA; Anonymous</p> <p>Cons. App – Part 2 Actuarial Study: Milliman Consultants & Actuaries</p> <p>Legal: Lozano Smith Revised Audit Services</p> <p>PERSONNEL; PA #0809-6 REGULAR AGENDA BUSINESS & FINANCE Audit Report</p> <p>Motion: Audit Report 2008-09 MVSD re-opener w/ CSEA: Public Hearing</p> <p>Res. #7-08/09: Mandated Cost Settlement: Behavioral Intervention</p> <p>- Motion: Res. #7-08/09</p> <p>Budget Update</p> <p>BOARD OPERATIONS BP 3100 – Budget; Revision Discussion</p>	<p>- <i>Approval of employment-related interdistrict transfers for 2009-10: R. Conklin (K; Erin Conklin) from West Contra Costa USD; and D. Watenpaugh (K; Lynne Watenpaugh) from San Francisco USD.</i></p> <p>- <i>Minutes Regular Meeting of December 10, 2008.</i></p> <p><i>#0283-8758/8800, dated 12/05/08, for \$66,256.25; -9075/9092, dated 12/10/08, for \$26,962.92; -9614/9662, dated 12/12/08, for \$34,095.74; #0284- 0104/0122, dated 11/17/08, for \$38,831.25; -0843/0893, dated 12/19/08, for \$52,680.98; -1800/1840, dated 01/09/09, for \$259,902.00.</i></p> <p>- <i>November 2008: Mid Month, dated 12/4/08, for \$62,270.89; December 2008: End of Month, dated 12/15/08, for \$1,577,924.50.</i></p> <p>- <i>Gifts – For benefit of Edna Maguire School, \$49,152.81, for laptops; \$250.00 for Classroom Funds; \$14,000.00 for Grade Level Funds; \$2,350.00 for New Teacher Funds, from EM PTA; for Park School, \$25,500.00 for PK Tech Fund, from PK PTA; for Tam Valley, \$10,000.00, from anonymous donor.</i></p> <p>- <i>2008-09 Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Aid Programs –Part II.</i></p> <p>- <i>Milliman Consultants & Actuaries to perform an actuarial valuation of the District’s Retiree Health Plan as of January 1, 2009, in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB 45); study required every two years.</i></p> <p>- <i>Agreement with Lozano Smith for legal services, effective December 1, 2008.</i></p> <p>- <i>Revised audit services related to Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 45 for 2008-09.</i></p> <p>- <i>Personnel Agenda #0809-6.</i></p> <p>Stephen Roatch of Stephen Roatch Accountancy Corporation presented the District audit report for the 2007-08 fiscal year. He reviewed the highlights of the report. He said that supporting entities’ (Kiddo! and PTAs) contributions are not included in this report as his agency does not audit them. The District received an “unqualified report”, which is the best possible; and there were no findings this year. Discussion followed, including the reserves set aside in Fund 20 in for Other Post-Employee Benefits (OPEB) obligations in preparation for GASB 45 requirements that will be included in audit report next year. Appreciation was expressed to Mr. Roatch and to Assistant Superintendent – Business Services Michele Rollins.</p> <p><i>M/S/C Reynolds/Sherman (5-0) to approve District Audit Report June 30, 2008.</i></p> <p>Dr. Michele Rollins, Assistant Superintendent – Business Services, reviewed the District’s re-opener for 2008-09 negotiations with California School Employees Association (CSEA) – Ch. 360: Article 16.1, as presented December 10, 2008. Mr. Sell opened a public hearing regarding the re-opener. As there was no public comment, the hearing was closed. Negotiations for 2008-09 with CSEA will now begin.</p> <p>Dr. Kerri Mills, Assistant Superintendent, provided background for a lengthy dispute with the State of California regarding funding for costs associated with behavioral intervention plans for special education students required by the Hughes Bill Statute and regulations under State law, which exceed requirements based in federal law. A funding settlement has been reached contingent upon 85% of the districts, county offices of education, and special education local plan areas agreeing to the terms in this resolution. The settlement will bring the District approximately \$34,676 annually for the six-year period beginning 2011-12 through 2016-17. The Marin Special Education Local Plan Area fiscal allocation plan will also receive additional funding, which will increase Mill Valley’s base funding by \$25,312 for the 2009-10 school year.</p> <p><i>M/S/C Miller/Sherman (5-0 by roll call vote) to adopt Resolution #7-08/09: Behavioral Intervention Plans Mandated Cost Claim Settlement.</i></p> <p>Dr. Michele Rollins, Assistant Superintendent – Business Services, provided a District budget update and reviewed the 2009 School District and County Office Financial Projection Dartboard – Governor’s Budget Proposal as prepared by School Services of California. Dr. Rollins said that the overall news is dismal from the state level and that 24-36 months is projected for the state to get through the economic crisis. She noted our basic aid status and said that enrollment has been increasing.</p> <p>As this item on the agenda relates to the previous budget discussion, President Sell asked the Board to consider this board policy out of its scheduled order on the agenda. He provided some background of discussion with the Community Financial Advisory</p>
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Commission (CFAC), saying that school boards have been advised to increase their reserves because of economic uncertainties. With the District now a basic aid district, it is advisable to review this dated policy, especially regarding the reserve. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to have CFAC review the policy, develop different scenarios regarding the reserve and then bring back to the Board.

**STUDENT LEARNING
MVMS 08-09 Site Plan**

Matt Huxley, Mill Valley Middle School Principal, reviewed the school's Site Plan for 2008-09, including background on how developed and the four areas of focus for the year. Board questions and comments followed.

- Motion; MVMS Site Plan

M/S/C Duncan/Sherman (5-0) to approve the Mill Valley Middle School Site Plan for 2008-09.

Technology Report

Director of Technology Terry Kritsepis and Superintendent Ken Benny presented a technology report. They provided a summary of completed infrastructure projects, including the most recently finished VOIP phone system, plans for 'School Messenger', an emergency notification and general communications system. They also reviewed the current status of the District's hardware inventory across the district and the support of that inventory.

**BD OPERATIONS (cont)
Wms. Complaints
BP 0510: SARC**

Superintendent Ken Benny presented the Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints for October-December 2008, saying that no complaints were received.

All requirements for the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) are now in a simplified updated board policy. This policy reflects the new law that deletes specific items from the list of conditions that schools are required to report. It also adds language to the policy on the use of the California Department of Education template when developing the District's SARCs. Deletion of our current Policy and Regulation 0510 is recommended; and approval of the new Board Policy 0510.

**- Motion: Delete BP/AR
0510; Adopt BP 0510
2007-08 SARC**

M/S/C Sherman/Miller (5-0) to delete old Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 0510 and to approve new BP 0510: School Accountability Report Card.

A School Accountability Report Cards (SARC) is approved and published each year by February 1 providing information from the previous school year. The SARCs are then submitted to the state and are available for review on the District website

Motion: 2007-08 SARC

M/S/C Reynolds/Duncan (5-0) to approve the 2007-08 School Accountability Report Cards for 2007-08.

**BUILDINGS/GROUNDS
Facilities Master Plan
Update**

Tim Ryan, Director of Maintenance & Operations, and Judith Wallace, Vanir Construction Management, Inc. Vice-President and Area Manager, presented the monthly update on the Facilities Master Plan work, reviewing meetings held and next steps in the process.

Lease: Camp Galileo

Dr. Michele Rollins, Assistant Superintendent – Business Services, reported that most lease agreements were acted upon under the Consent Agenda. This agreement was being discussed as last summer was the first year for Camp Galileo in the District. Tim Ryan, Director of Maintenance & Operations, worked with the neighbors at Park School to address any concerns.

**-Motion: Camp Galileo
RECESS: CLOSED
SESSION
RECONVENE & REPORT**

M/S/C Sherman/Miller (5-0) to approve lease agreement with Camp Galileo.

As there was no public comment, the meeting was recessed to Closed Session at 9:30 p.m. for consideration of a personnel matter.

Mr. Sell reconvened the meeting to Public Session at 11:15 p.m. and reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sell announced that the next regular business meeting will be Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at Old Mill School and adjourned the meeting at 11:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Benny, Superintendent & Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Date of Approval: February 4, 2009

These are unofficial minutes subject to approval by the Governing Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.