

North Monterey County Unified School District  
8142 Moss Landing Rd.  
Moss Landing, CA 95039

Board of Trustees  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
March 18, 2010  
5:30 p.m.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the North Monterey County Unified School District held on March 18, 2010.

Board Members Present

Mr. Gary De Amaral, Mrs. Diana Jimenez, Mr. Manuel Osorio, Mr. Sam Laage, Mrs. Polly Jimenez

Administration Present

Mr. Sergio Montenegro, Superintendent; Ms. Monica Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Business, Yvette Padilla, recording secretary, were present.

Others Present

Carol Bunczewski, C. Thompson, Sue Flowers, Dennis Goodline, Maria Rodriguez, Sarah Turner, David Milam, Eloise Milam, D. L. Johnson, Kate Dixon, Dean Lines, Cindy Rustler, Frank Rodriguez, Alice Soliven, Marilyn Mcloughlin, Birch Badger, Liz Gomez, Julie High, Carolyn Fulmer, Aaron Keller, Joey Hayes, Savannah Skelten, Temo Trujillo, Cindy Rustler, Yolanda Rodriguez, Terri Gill

Closed Session

The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:30 p.m.

Reconvene to open session

The Board reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Reports of Actions Taken in Closed Session

There were no actions taken in closed session.

Adoption of the Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. D. Jimenez, seconded by Mr. Osorio to adopt the agenda.

Business from the Floor

Mr. DeAmaral explained that process of business from the floor and stated that it is limited to 3-minutes per person and the Board is not allowed to discuss personnel issues.

Mr. Denise Goodline, VP Sales and Development Consultant, gave a brief presentation on LED Lighting and stated that the district could save a lot of money, so it could save jobs. He stated that he would like to offer LED lights with no upfront fee and substantial savings for the district. He distributed in his bards and asked the district to contact him if their interested.

Ms. Carol Fullmore, former district speech therapist from 1970-2003, expressed that she would like to speak in behalf of a wonderful man, Mr. John Simpson. She expressed that he has wonderful qualities what we would attribute to an ideal leader. She also expressed that he is strong with a calming influence which made everyone stronger. She added that she has worked with 29 principals and Mr. Simpson was number one.

Mr. Aaron Keller, 2008 high school alumni, expressed that Mr. Simpson is the best human being he has ever meet and he was also able to help him along the way. He added that North County is known for their excellent leadership and Mr. Simpson is the best for the high school.

Mr. Joey Hayes, former student, expressed that at first he misjudged Mr. John Simpson but got to know him his freshman year at the high school. He stated that he has never met an administrator that has shared personal stories about his family and also was very involved with the ASB. He added that Mr. Simpson's number one priority are the students and asked the Board to reconsider their decision.

Ms. Savannah Skelten, student at high school, expressed that she has known Mr. Simpson for the last 4-years and stated that he is respectable and has influenced all students. She added that the day of the student walk out he asked students to get back to class. She asked the Board to reconsider their decision.

Mr. Temo Trujillo, teacher at high school, expressed that he spoke last week on behalf of Mr. Simpson, but wanted to reiterate that it was not an attack on high school principal Ms. Teri Gill as he feels that she is doing an amazing job. He expressed that on behalf of Mr. Simpson there has to be another way to deal with it and does not know the reasons why he was fired, but can't think of a reason.

Ms. Cindy Rustler, Middle School Counselor, expressed that on a personal level she was hired to this district because of Mr. Simpson taking a risk and hiring her. She expressed that students hearts were broken when he left Gambetta Middle School. She added that she agrees with everything everyone is saying and Mr. Simpson's means a lot to her.

Mrs. Yolanda Rodriguez, retired employee and parent, expressed that he is an excellent administrator, the very best the district could get and asked the Board to reconsider their decision. She also expressed that he's the kindest, high morals, and a very rare person to work for. She added that he was at all functions and cared about the person as a whole.

Kristi, a student at the high school, sadly expressed that students at the high school were shocked to find out Mr. Simpson was reinstated to the classroom. She added that he is there to help students when they have family problems, he's involved and he is perfect for the job. She asked the Board to re-consider their decision.

Ms. Alice Soliven, stated that all her kids went to the high school because of students, teachers and parents. She expressed that Mr. Simpson is the best thing for students and they should consider placing him somewhere else as a vice principal. She added if we want students to succeed, they need to be able to trust and asked that the Board put that trust back into Mr. Simpson.

Mr. D.L. Johnson, Part-time band Director at the high school, reported that this past Friday met with Assemblymember Ana Caballero and Assemblymember Jeff Denham and expressed to them that he was really upset with the high school being on the list for Persistently Lowest Achieving Schools List and 2-days later was taken off the list. He expressed to Assemblymember Caballero that their needs to be change in labeling school and added that the high school has hard working employees. He added that Mrs. Caballero was upset. He also reported that there are two bills coming up and they are to change the physical education code to allow marching band and cheerleading for physical education credit.

Mr. Tom Cho, reported that he visited the district office this morning and asked to see the past 7-years of agenda and minutes. He stated that Ms. Yvette Padilla asked him to make an appointment and expressed that he did not feel welcome. He stated that he then saw Superintendent Montenegro and he also told him that he needed to make an appointment. He expressed that as a tax payer he should be able to see minutes and agenda under the Public Records Act and that ever person should have that right. He added that the access should be immediate and that he was willing to wait, but was denied. He then read a quote from Gandhi.

#### Board Reports

Mrs. D. Jimenez reported that the Annual Fiesta of Hope will be on May 20, 2010 at Embassy Suites in Seaside and stated that it sheds light on people with mental health issues. She also announced that there will be free parenting classes in Spanish for free at the Family Resource Center on March 30<sup>th</sup> and on April 17, 2010 at 10: 00 a.m. at Castroville Library CHP will be hosting the Start Smart Program a safety class for teens.

Mrs. P. Jimenez reported that the Girls Inc graduation will be held on April 20, 2010.

Mr. De Amaral reported that he attended the North County High School Athletic Boosters and expressed that they did a great job in fundraising.

#### Communications

There was nothing to report.

#### Consent Calendar

It was moved by Mr. Laage, seconded by Mrs. P. Jimenez to approve the consent agenda.

- Approval of March 4, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes.
- Approval of March 8, 2010 Special Board Meeting Minutes.
- 2009-2010 Extended Field Trip Requests.
- Graduation Dates .
- Western association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Three-Year Progress Report for North Monterey County High School.
- Approval of Warrant List.
- Approval of employment of the following listed certificated employees: Juliette, effective 2/25/10; Gaylord Smith, effective 2/10/10; Meghan Story, effective 2/16/10; Karla Tabag, effective, 2/10/10. approval of the following employment of the following listed classified employees: Mary Ellen Huff, effective 2/25/10; Karla Munoz, effective 2/3/10.
- Approval of Ryan Morley as Speech/LanguageTherapist-Variable Term waiver.

Motion Carried 5-0.

### DISCUSSION AGENDA

#### GENERAL

##### Update on Revenue Enhancement Committee: Budget Development Process

Superintendent Montenegro reported that there were 50 focus groups which formed a budget advisory process for long range funding and ideas are being implemented. He added that the district is in the process of looking into an asset management plan.

##### Update on Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools

Dr. Julie High, Director of Program and Assessment reported that as of yesterday (March 17, 2010) she was given the latest information on how each school was ranked. She reported that the schools were identified through their three-year average proficiency rate for English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics on CST's computed for all schools. She expressed that she was surprised that they ranked on that criteria.

Dr. High gave an explanation on why North Monterey County High School (NMCHS) was on the Tier III list. She explained that Title 1 schools that were not on the Tier 1 list, but were lower performing than schools on Tier II list were placed on the Tier III list. Higher performing schools-like NMCHS, which were subsequently dropped from the list. She also stated that there is a Tier III list and stated that there are 2, 54 3 Title I schools that are in Program Improvement but are not on their Tier 1 list, including Echo Valley, Elkhorn, and Prunedale elementary schools, and North Monterey County Middle School. She added that they may apply for SIG funding, but CDE does not anticipate having enough money to fund Tier III schools.

Dr. High reported that the school's principal on Tier I could remain if they have been with the district less than two years or less by start of the 2010-2011 school year. She added that the statue requires Tier I and Tier II schools to implement a reform mode does not stipulate a timeline or sanctions for noncompliance. Additional legislation may follow.

Superintendent Montenegro reported that the district is working closely with the county to plan out a process with community and staff on how we are going to proceed with what model should be implemented.

### Update on Process and Impacts Regarding Potential Change to High School Schedule

Mrs. Terri Gill, high school principal, gave a brief background on performance data at the high school for 2008-09 and stated that overall our students are showing no growth and have decline in the last three years. She proposed that the school must provide 6 hours of instructional time a day and proposed a 6/7 period day.

Mrs. Gill reported that there are list of consequences of not addressing the proposed changes; Continued challenges of being able to meet annual academic performance targets; expanded instructional support; instructional minutes compliance challenges; potential WASC accreditation challenges; possible impact on long-term district enrollment; and detrimental impacts on inter-district transfers. She addressed the potential consequence: Possible union/contractual issues; student sentiment regarding longer school day; impact on family-related daily scheduling; additional costs; and limited elective choice for certain students. She addressed the potential impacts on the other district schools: change in start and end time; possible impacts on bus routes/schedules; impact on general budget; potential improvement to district-wide API score.

Mrs. Gill gave a brief overview on the NMCHS Program Improvement Survey-Parent Version and stated that majority of parents would like their child to attend a 4-year college and overall parents would like them to be academically successful and on time every day. It's also important for parents to be academically successful in a vocational elective, AP classes, Visual and performing Arts, and extracurricular activities. She also reported on the percentage of parents that would like their child to have yearlong classes and 55% stated it's very important, 31% somewhat important. and 5% not important at all.

Mrs. Gill gave a brief overview on NMCHS Program Improvement Survey-Student Version and stated that more than 80% of students are planning on attending a 4-year college or community college, almost 90% of students believe it's important to have good attendance, more than 90% of students believe it's important to have vocational elective classes, almost 80% of students believe it's important to have AP classes, performing arts classes, and extracurricular activities, and over 70% of students believe it's important or somewhat important to have yearlong classes and 20% believe it's not important at all to have yearlong classes.

Mrs. Gill presented the proposed bell schedule for a 6-period day with a start time of 8:10 a.m. and end time of 3:10 p.m.

Mrs. Gill gave an overview on the transportation options and stated Transportation Option #1 consists of discontinued bus service for high school students. The Pros: flexibility with bell times and cost savings. The Cons: possible loss of ADA, hardship on parents, increased traffic congestion at site and increased student tardiness. Transportation Option # 2 consists of combination of middle and high school AM routes. The Pros: cost savings with regards to reduced mileage, allows increased participation in early activities, and maintains current elementary bell schedules. The Cons: student may complain about earlier start time, increased discipline management of middle and high school students riding together, childcare issues (high school students care for siblings), possible future addition of buses depending on passenger counts (capacity issues), and purchasing of updated digital video camera systems in order to more closely monitor student activity during bus rides. Transportation Option #3 consists of beefing up 0 block with current 3:15 p.m. dismissal. The Pros: No additional costs for transportation and minimal/schedule time changes for students. There are no Cons. Transportation Option #4 consist of beefing up 0 Block with two dismissal times. There are no Pros. The Cons: To accommodate multiple bell schedules at all sites, twelve (12) additional buses would be added to the fleet, an appropriate number of school bus drivers and substitutes hired, trained and certificated, additional vehicle maintenance costs for an expanded fleet and operational mileage, addition of one (1) equipment mechanic with salary and benefits, and additional driver training hours to meet regulatory mandates and train new employees.

Mr. David Burke, expressed that he supports the high school proposed 6-period schedule, but expressed concerns in regards to students being unsupervised after school.

Mr. De Amaral asked if it's possible to purchase books on CD's. In response, Ms. Williams stated that the cost is similar. In response, Mr. De Amaral encouraged to explore this option as many students could take advantage. Superintendent Montenegro added that we should also look into the Williams Act on being compliant with text books.

Mrs. D. Jimenez thanked Ms. Gill and expressed that 55% of students thought a 6-period class was somewhat important and would like to know the additional textbook cost. In response, Ms. Williams stated that the budget for next year is \$100,000 a one-time expense and stated that option #2 would help savings due to transportation. She added that this savings could help fund site campus supervisors, added security and camera upgrades.

Mrs. D. Jimenez asked how many middle school and high school students ride the bus, referring to transportation option #2. In response, Mrs. Gill responded that there are 500 high school students and Mrs. Gannon responded that there are 400 middle school students. Mrs. Gannon added that staff helped map out the transportation route and added that it may seem complicated but it's manageable.

Mrs. D. Jimenez asked for further explanation on the early start time, making it a longer school day. In response, Mrs. Gill stated that the earlier start time will open up more electives, remedial classes and activities such as marching band time. She added that she is currently working on the master schedule which has to be implemented this August.

Mr. De Amaral asked if the middle school start would need to be changed. In response, Mr. Burke stated that it would be the same start time with an earlier bus arrival of 5 minutes.

Mrs. Jimenez asked why it's a union issue in regards to a 6-subject schedule vs 7-subject schedule. In response, Mrs. Gill expressed that it's a violation of their contract on how many student contacts per day.

Mr. D.L. Johnson expressed that he has concern in regards to the time of morning for outside activities and expressed his concern for the flooded football field.

Ms. Laurel Gast, high school teacher, expressed that it's very important to improve the high school library. She then expressed that the new schedule gives eight late start days which gives them time for staff development. She added that this schedule is a positive thing.

Mrs. Gill explained that the district will see test scores raise could students will now have year round classes. She added that teachers will also have more time for staff development which will then help them do better in the classroom.

Mr. Burke asked how would this affect students A-G university requirements. In response, Mrs. Gill stated that it would not affect student's transcripts.

Mr. Carlos Moran, Central Bay High School Teacher, expressed what would students do when their bus arrives an hour before start time. In response, Mrs. Gill stated that the library would be open, some teachers will already be on campus and they will have an option to have a complete breakfast. Mrs. Williams added that she has already talked to the Director of Nutrition Mrs. Cunnane and she is already in agreement with the earlier start time.

Ms. Jennifer Foreman, high school teacher, added that the computer lab would be open so students could finish assignments.

Mr. Osorio asked how are you planning on informing the Spanish speaking community. Mrs. Gill expressed that she has had some presentation with parents, LULAC/MECHA and high school teacher Mr. Mercado has helped translated, and parents were excited about new schedule. She added that she is looking at all students and is geared for every child.

Mrs. Jimenez asked on how are we going to convey impacts of bus schedules and the benefits of early start time. She expressed that she wants the high school to reassure parents that everything is going to be okay. In response, Mrs. Gill expressed that information will be distributed through the district newsletter, high school newsletter, community meetings, informational nights and individual parent meetings. She added that she is planning on advertising soon.

It was moved by Mrs. D. Jimenez, seconded by Mrs. P. Jimenez to approve the 6-period day with the start time of 8:10 a.m.-3:10 p.m. and transportation option #2. Motion Carried 5-0.

#### Update on Echo Valley Water

Mrs. Lisa Gannon, Director of Transportation and Maintenance, reported that they are still working with a contract with Dougherty and continue to work with the county and waiting to receive final test results. She added that the district is still mandated to provide bottle service.

An Echo Valley teacher expressed that during PE students are too far away from drinkable water and expressed that there has not been good communication on how the problem is going to be fixed. In response, Mr. De Amaral stated that the school will be on water bottle till the end of the school year. He went on to explain that they are currently working on correcting the problem and are waiting for additional information so the district could move forward. Mr. Osorio expressed that we need to come up with a solution to get bottled water to students. Dr. High, former Echo Valley Principal, expressed that there is a ball room by field and drinkable water could be stored there.

Mr. De Amaral expressed that he is hoping the problem is resolved by next year. Mrs. Gannon added that when the county is involved it a long process.

#### EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

##### Approve Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA) for the Mission Trails Regional Occupational Program

Ms Williams gave a brief background and stated that historically the agreement is approved annually. She also pointed out that some of the language was changed on the new agreement to: 1) "The term of this agreement shall be on a fiscal year basis to be automatically renewed from year to year subject to provisions herein contained." 2) "Reduction in Funding Allocation-The Board may apply a percentage decrease to all districts in the form of allocation or ADA CAP in response to a State ROP funding decrease." 3) "Withdrawal-It is hereby agreed that withdrawal by any participating district shall be on orderly basis. Land, improvements and equipment purchased from the occupational programs shall be the property of and remain with the withdrawing district. In the event that a participating district desires to withdraw from the program, the governing board of the participating district desiring withdrawal shall adopt a resolution to withdraw from the JPA, and give notice in writing to all other participating districts and Board, no later than October 1 of the fiscal year preceding withdrawal."

Ms. Williams added that Pacific Grove Unified withdrew from the effective with the 2009-10 school year.

Mr. Laage reported that he is part of the JPA Board for the past 6-months and stated that it has been tighten up and a lot of language was removed.

It was moved by Mr. Osorio, seconded by Mr. Laage to approve the amended JPA for Mission Trails Regional Occupational. Motion Carried 5-0.

#### BUSINESS SERVICES

##### Report on Discussions with Environmental Agencies Regarding the Football Field Renovations and the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) at North Monterey County High School

Ms Williams reported that on March 3, 2010 a conference call with environmental agencies was conducted to discuss the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and the District's need to move forward with repair of the high school football field. Participating on behalf of the district were Superintendent Sergio Montenegro, John Dominguez, John Gilchrist our environmental consultant and Bryan Mori, environmental biologist. Also participating were Chad Mitcham from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Linda Connolly from the California Department of Fish and Game.

Ms Williams reported that one of the purposes of this call was to reconcile the agencies environmental concerns with the District's need to maintain and repair its facilities, specifically the immediate need to repair the football field and track at North Monterey County High School. The agency representatives were receptive in allowing the District to move forward with the project as long as no "take" occurs. We are currently developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the engineering plans to implement the project. The agency representatives agreed that the installation of a SLTS fence along the eastern boundary of the field is needed in order to prevent any "take" of

salamander species during construction. Prior to the installation of the fence the site will have to be surveyed to determine that there are no burrows in the vicinity and it is not a potential salamander breeding site.

Ms. Williams read an email from Mr. Dominguez conveying Mr. Gilchrist's concern on the level of restrictions being imposed by Ms. Linda Connolly with California Department of Fish and Game. Mr. Gilchrist felt that the district may have to take the issue to a supervisory level at the Fresno California Department of Fish and Game. Ms. Williams distributed the species avoidance plan as developed by Mr. Gilchrist.

The Board expressed concerns regarding the estimated \$200, 000 cost particularly in light of all of school site facility needs. The district will explore other options to make the field usable for both athletics and instructional purposes.

Ms. Williams reported that included in the discussion were the construction fences at the former middle school site. Both USFWS and DFG concurred that since the fences were not placed at the site due to the presence of the salamander population, they could be removed. They expressed concern for the potential District liability because of the current condition of the property. Their environmental concerns were dumping and improper use of the site, threatening the salamander population. It was recommended that the site have "No Trespassing" and "Protected Habitat" signs posted, should the district choose to remove the fences. In addition, the site should be monitored for any trespassing.

Ms. Williams added that the concept of creating an outdoor classroom was also discussed. This received a favorable reaction from both the State and Federal agency representatives, pending review of more detailed information and how the endangered species would be protected.

#### Proposal from California Financial Services for a Long Range Funding and Asset Management Profile for Capital Facilities Projects

Ms. Williams reported that at the March 4, 2010; Dan Santo, Managing Director, Educational Services, Patricia L. Paulsen, CPS, Managing Director, Program Administration, and John H. Raymond, CPM, Construction Field Manager from California Financial Services presented information regarding a Long Range Funding and Asset Management Profile for Capital Facilities Projects (the "Profile").

Ms. Williams reported that the district had just received the complete service agreement. It will be reviewed by district staff and by our attorney and return to the Board the second meeting in April for potential action.

#### Financial Update on Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB)

At the August 20, 2009 meeting the Board approved Resolution 2009-1008 authorizing filing an application for a Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB). Prior to the August 25, 2009 deadline we filed the application with the California Department of Education (CDE). On August 28, 2009 the CDE held a lottery from all applications received to create an eligibility list. We were number 19 of 231 applications drawn in this lottery. The first 43 were awarded. We were given authorization for up to \$10 million.

Investors have not shown much interest in purchasing the QSCB's. Due to the lack of interest, at the November 19, 2009 meeting the Board approved applying for the 90 day extension. Extensions were considered on a case-by-case basis. The California Department of Education (CDE) granted 39 extensions, including ours. Four districts withdrew from the program.

Currently potential California QSCB issuers are waiting for State or Federal legislation. Both of these pending pieces of legislation address the procedural issue of CDE administering the program. HR 2847 is Federal legislation that would allow QSCB to be sold as Build America Bonds (BAB). This would potentially open up the market as BAB's are a known product providing a larger investment base. SB 205 is State legislation that adds 120 days to the deadline for issuance, giving districts until July 31, 2010.

We do not know when the legislation will be enacted; however, we hope the State will act prior to the current March 31, 2010 deadline. There is no action required by the District at this time.

#### Update 2010-11 State Budget

Ms. Williams reported that the State fiscal year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> each year. In early January the Governor released a State Budget proposal for the 2010-11 fiscal year. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's State-of-the-State address on January 6, 2010, stated "...education funding would be protected." However, the Governor's proposed 2010-2011 budget that was released just a few days later included significant on-going reductions to all School District revenues. The Governor's proposed budget impacts will further reduce our district's revenue by approximately \$950,000 per year. This will require our district to identify additional drastic budget cuts when we were already facing a \$1.8 million on-going annual reduction now totaling \$2.75 million.

Monterey County Office of Education (MCOE) hosted a State Budget Update and School District Impact presentation by Robert Miyashiro of School Services of California on March 10, 2010. Sergio Montenegro, Monica Williams and Betty Santos attended this presentation. Ms. Williams reported that Mr. Miyashiro presentation included on the depth of the hole in the California budget and stated recovery makes extend well into 2015.

Ms. Williams stated that MCOE is requiring us to use the Governor's proposal when doing our required multi-year financial projections at 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim. Due to the impact of the Governor's Budget Proposal on our District's budget staff is working closely with MCOE in developing our 2<sup>nd</sup> interim multi-year projections and certification.

Ms Williams stated she will continue to bring budget updates to the Board as we go through our budget development process and information becomes available.

#### Superintendent Report

Superintendent Montenegro reported that he attended Monterey County School Services, High school/middle school band competition, Castroville Rotary, High School Boosters Casino Night fundraiser, LULAC Meeting, Superintendent County Meeting and Monterey County Chamber mixer. He also met with the Revenue Enhancement Committee, US Wildlife, Mr. Larry Calhoun and had a conference call with the California Department of Education regarding Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.