



## Fiscal and Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes of the Committee - March 1, 2011

Committee members attending: Carol Ortiz, Francisco Rodriguez, Jack Carroll, Briton Carr, Danny Zumaran, Chris Hertz, Ian MacGregor, Elaine Legorreta, Michael Jones, Sarah Ringler, Jenny Sarmiento, Rhea DeHart, Sharon Gray, Bill Beecher, Kevin Jeffery, Jim Lalanne, Rich Puente, Christopher Hertz

District members attending: Brett McFadden, Rick Mullikin, Helen Bellonzi, Murry Schekman, Kathy Fuentes

Members absent: Nubia Padilla

Brett McFadden, Chief Business Officer welcomed the committee members to the first Fiscal and Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting. He thanked members for volunteering to participate and asked for introductions. Members represented were district employees, management, certificated and classified, community members, former board members and parents.

Brett explained that the committee would be permanent and stressed an emphasis on courageous conversations with open and respectful dialogue. He explained that he doesn't intend to push for consensus, but over time, it may develop. He would like the committee to name a chair and be run by members planning agendas and leading discussions. Bill Beecher, community activist, added that communication should be constructive. The committee will meet on the third Monday of each month from 3:30 – 5:00 pm except during the months of June and July.

Brett said the board established the committee because he advised we needed community stakeholders in our budget decision making process. He felt like greater dialogue was needed in the district in order to advise the board and administration on fiscal and facility issues on a

permanent basis. Duties of the committee would be to examine current district issues and needs and make recommendations to share with the board.

Jim Lalane, community member, asked if we are measuring against pre-determined priorities or advising on what the priorities should be. He also wanted to know if board members should be involved. Brett explained that meetings are open and though board members would not be directly involved, they should be aware of the issues. He said we need big suggestions for big budget problems. Although administration has identified \$3,500,000 million in cuts in response to the budget crisis, the actual gap could be almost \$6,000,000 dependent upon the election.

A question was asked about how we communicate to the board on issues. Brett said through testimony either written or verbal and through individuals or entities such as unions. Sharon Gray wanted the group to see a couple of years back of budgets and what was spent.

Brett went through the budget development process reviewing COLA, funding and revenue limit for the last couple of years. He said we are actually being funded on 05-06 levels at this time. He reviewed two different scenarios dependent on the election passing. One scenario is a loss of about \$19.00 per student for a loss of approximately \$400,000 if the election passes. If the election doesn't pass we are looking at a loss of about \$350.00 per student for a total loss of about \$6,000,000. So much is dependent upon the election.

Brett also went over our budget reporting to the county. A positive certification indicates we meet our obligations for the current fiscal year plus two more, a qualified certification means we meet the budget for two years and may meet it the third year. If we certify negatively, we are required to do a third report. The county provides fiscal oversight and requires us to keep a 3% reserve which is approximately \$5,000,000 in case of emergency.

Brett concluded by saying that at the March 21 meeting we will discuss our facilities condition and propose a tour for the group. He said we look forward to meeting with the group again at that time.