



## PAJARO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District is to educate and to support learners in reaching their highest potential. We prepare students to pursue successful futures and to make positive contributions to the community and global society.

### SEPTEMBER 18, 2002 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING ADOPTED MINUTES

District Office Board Room  
294 Green Valley Rd.  
Watsonville, CA 95076

And

Holiday Inn Express, Room 131\*  
1655 E. Jackson Street  
Macomb, IL 61455

\* Pursuant to Section 54953 of the Brown Act, Trustee Gray will be participating in this Special Board Meeting telephonically from this location. This agenda has been posted at that location, which is accessible to the public.

#### **1.0 OPENING CEREMONY - MEETING OF THE BOARD IN PUBLIC - 6:00PM**

##### **1.1 Call to Order**

President Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the District Office at 292 Green Valley Road, Watsonville.

##### **1.2 Public comments on closed session agenda.**

None.

#### **2.0 CLOSED SESSION**

Trustees Yahiro and Volpa were not present for closed session; Trustee Gray was present telephonically.

##### **2.1 Public Employee Appointment:**

###### **2.1.1 Superintendent**

###### **2.1.2 Certificated, Classified (See attached Closed Session agenda)**

A. Appointments

1 Administrator

#### **3.0 OPENING CEREMONY – MEETING OF THE BOARD IN PUBLIC – 6:30 PM**

President Roberts called the meeting of the Board in public to order at 6:30.

##### **3.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

Carolyn Savino, President of PVFT, led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3.2 Welcome by Board President**

Trustees Roberto Garcia, Sandra Nichols, Dan Hankemeier, Evelyn Volpa, Willie Yahiro, and President Carol Roberts were present. Trustee Sharon Gray was present telephonically.

### **4.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

President Roberts moved to approve the agenda. Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **5.0 VISITOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Juan Carlos Fonseca, educator, congratulated the District for the Groundbreaking Ceremony of Pajaro Valley High School and noted his concern for having had employees participate at the ceremony while getting paid for working, and the number of people who should have been invited but were not.

Mary Anne Gomez, CSEA President, commented on classified workers' effort to move buses out of the County's property to avoid being trapped in the County employees' potential strike. She congratulated bus drivers for their work and for thinking about the wellness of students.

President Roberts thanked Darlene Insley and Susan Lopez for their work during with the relocation of the buses.

Judy Fuller, CSEA Secretary, said that classified employees need and deserve a raise.

Rodney Brooks, community member, read an unpublished letter submitted to the Register Pajaronian, a rebuttal to an article written by Sylvia Previtali.

### **6.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **6.1 Certificated/Classified Approval (See Closed Session agenda).**

Trustee Garcia moved to approve this item. Trustee Hankemeier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **7.0 ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

#### **7.1 Report, discussion, and possible action to approve Contract and Appointment of the Superintendent. Report by Carol Roberts.**

President Roberts announced that the Board had selected Dr. Mary Anne Mays as the new superintendent. She presented work experience Dr. Mays has in education and noted that she is fully credentialed in California. She added that Dr. Mays would relocate to live within the district.

Trustee Hankemeier commented that his first impression of Dr. Mays was that she is in control and that she wants to do the right thing for children. He added that Dr. Mays would be a very good leader.

Trustee Gray commented she knew of Dr. Mays from the time she was a superintendent in Long Beach. She said she is impressed with her work in that area, where she brought in reading programs that were instrumental in increasing test scores. She added that she has a proved track record.

Trustee Yahiro noted his opposition to the selection and questioned why the Board had decided to shortcut the selection process. He said that with past superintendents, the District has sent teams of people to visit and verify whether the selected person would be a good match or not. He requested the process be stopped and the proper process be done.

Dorma Baker, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, commented that the Board had made this decision based on the specific placement of the candidate, and that legally it is not required to perform site visits.

Trustee Nichols commented that a site visit would not be productive in this case because Dr. Mays has not been a superintendent in recent years. She added that she was convinced that the Board was provided with very thorough information from the consultants. She said that Dr. Mays will be a wonderful addition to this district and that the District should welcome her.

Trustee Volpa asked whether any Board member's mind would be changed if a site visit would be made, adding that hers would.

Trustee Yahiro noted that he could not support anyone that had not been verified by the process.

Trustee Garcia commented that Leadership Associates had presented to the Board a thorough resume, letters of support, and work history. He added that he was satisfied that all candidates were treated fairly and the District followed due process. He said that everyone worked hard to come to a consensus and that it would be costly to go back and begin again.

President Roberts allowed for public comment.

Carolyn Savino, PVFT President, spoke of her concerns in regards to process, the candidate's current working location, and the timeline.

MaryAnne Gomez, CSEA President said that the District did not have money to make a visit. She expressed her concern for the various paid expenses included in the contract.

Donna Blasé, Teacher, spoke of her disappointment with the process.

Barbara Sawyer, Teacher in the district for 22 years, expressed her concern and disappointment for not conducting a proper check and reminded the Board of when the District had to buy Merrill Grant out and the amount of money it cost to do that.

Alanna Alter, Teacher, asked the Board to choose a proven and admired candidate instead of one that the District really does not know much about.

Julianne Tullis-Thompson, Teacher, spoke of her disappointment with the process.

Graciela Vega, Teacher, questioned the process and the lack of input for the selection from District staff.

Donna Schipper, Teacher, asked the Board to postpone decision until a recommended committee is appointed and due process is followed. She noted that this would be the first time a woman is appointed to this position.

Tim Moore, community member, spoke of his disappointment for not selecting candidates from within the district.

Alex Solano, community member, spoke of the possibility to afford a trip to understand more about the applicant. He noted his surprise to learn the Board selected a candidate prior to the Board meeting.

Jane Bundgard, Teacher, spoke of her concern for not following due process.

Martha Vasquez, Teacher, spoke of the qualities she hopes the selected candidates has, including interpersonal skills and a visionary leader.

Richard Detterman, counselor, spoke about a neighboring district that is successful whose current superintendent is someone who started from the custodial staff and moved up the system.

Leigh Hill, Teacher, said he was disappointed that process was not followed and noted his concern about rumors that Dr. Mays is very much standards based, and that if teachers could not raise the students' scores, they would be fired.

After public comment, President Roberts continued with Board comments.

Trustee Gray moved to approve the appointment of Dr. Mays stating that she is a team maker and that our district would be thrilled with the kind of leadership she will bring.

Trustee Hankemeier seconded the motion.

Trustee Yahiro commented that he would not support the motion and added that it was of outmost arrogance of the board to proceed without community and district staff to participation.

Trustee Nichols proceeded to dispel a few rumors. She added that the community did provide input early on in the process and that it was taken very seriously. She said that she had spoken with Diane Siri to discuss the process and to find out if it was done right and was assured that the District was following process. She continued to speak positively of Dr. Mays' experience with English Language Learners.

Trustee Garcia commented that he was looking for certain qualities and abilities from candidates, one of them being to provide proper support in the classroom. He felt optimistic that this candidate would be able to meet these qualities.

Trustee Volpa said that she was not convinced that this person is the best choice for this district and that going to the site and hearing about the candidate's accomplishments would help convince her.

President Roberts commented that the process was followed and that community input was part of that process. She added that this is an outstanding choice.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5/2/0 (Yahiro, Volpa).

## **8.0 UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

**8.1 September 25, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting, District Office Boardroom, 292 Green Valley Road, Watsonville, CA, 6:00 pm, Closed Session, 7:00 pm Open Session.**

**8.2 October 9, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting, District Office Boardroom, 292 Green Valley Road, Watsonville, CA 6:00 pm, Closed Session, 7:00 pm Open Session.**

**8.3 Items for Subsequent Board Meeting Agendas.**

## **9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

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Secretary