



**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.

**FEBRUARY 12, 2003
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
ADOPTED MINUTES**

District Office Boardroom
292 Green Valley Road
Watsonville, CA 95076

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

1.1 Call to Order

President Nichols 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

2.1

Public Employee Appointment: Certificated, Classified

New Hires

- 2 Elementary Teachers
- 2 Secondary Teachers
- 21 Substitutes

Rehires

- 1 Elementary Teacher

Administrators

- 1 Administrative Reassignment
- 1 Interim Assistant Principal

Transfers

- 1 Migrant Education Teacher

Promotions

None

Extra Period Assignments

- 13 Coaches

Permanent Appointments

- 1 Instructional Support Aide

1 Registration Specialist I

Additional Assignments

None

Return to Work

None

Extra Pay Assignment

None

Extra Periods

None

Leaves of Absence

- 1 Elementary
- 1 Migrant Ed Teacher
- 1 Categorical
- 1 AVCI Teacher
- 2 Special Education Specialist
- 2 Bus Driver
- 1 Cafeteria Manager II
- 1 Custodian II
- 1 Groundskeeper II
- 1 Health Services Assistant
- 1 Instructional Support Aide
- 1 Instructional Support Specialist IV
- 3 Office Assistant II
- 1 Translator

Resignations/Retirements /Terminations/Release

None

Supplemental Service Agreements

- 48 Teachers

Miscellaneous Action

- 1 Accounting Specialist II
- 1 Attendance Specialist
- 1 Groundskeeper II

Limited Term – Project

- 1 Administrative Secretary II
- 21 Enrichment Specialists
- 28 Instructional Support Aide
- 4 Instructional Support Specialist I

- 4 Office Assistant II
- 1 Office Manager
- 1 Parent Education Specialist

Limited Term - Substitute

- 1 Cafeteria Assistant
- 1 Groundskeeper
- 2 Instructional Support Specialist II
- 3 Office Assistant II

Provisional

None

Exempt

- 4 Special Project – PUPILS

Students

- 9 Migrant OWE Students
- 9 Student Helpers
- 1 Workability Student

Separations from Service

None

Industrial Leaves

None

Tenures

None

Rescinds

None

Non-Reelects

None

2.2 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Leaves

2.3 Personnel Evaluations

2.4 Claims

2.5 Pending Litigation

2.6 3 Expulsions

3.0 OPENING CEREMONY – MEETING OF THE BOARD IN PUBLIC – 7:00PM

President Nichols called the meeting of the Board in public to order at 7:10 pm.

3.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Roberts led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.2 Welcome by Board President

Trustees Rhea De Hart, Sharon Gray, Dan Hankemeier, Carol Roberts, Evelyn Volpa, Willie Yahiro, and President Sandra Nichols were present.

4.0 ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION

Action on Expulsions

02-03-44 Trustee Gray moved to approve the disciplinary action as recommended by the panel. Trustee Hankemeier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

02-03-45 Trustee Gray moved to approve the disciplinary action with Board recommendation as follows: suspended expulsion with conditions to be met for reenrollment into Adult Education. Trustee Hankemeier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

02-03-46 Trustee Gray moved to approve the disciplinary action as recommended by the panel. Trustee Yahiro seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Trustee Hankemeier moved to approve the agenda. Trustee DeHart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Yahiro moved to approve the minutes for January 29, 2003. Trustee Hankemeier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7.0 CITY OF WATSONVILLE REPORT

- Proclamation Regarding National School Counseling Week. Report by Antonio Rivas, City Council, District 3.

Catherine Hatch, Assistant Superintendent, Central Zone, reported that the Proclamation by the City of Watsonville was in recognition of School Counselors Week. She proceeded to read a portion of the proclamation.

Trustee DeHart commented on a letter from Migration and Adaptation in the Americas (MAIA) supporting the proclamation from the City Council. The letter asked the District to protect counselor positions through the budget crisis, highlighting the need of counselors to encourage higher education.

8.0 SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND CONCERNS

3 minutes each

8.1 Employee Organizations - PVFT, CSEA, and PVAM

PVFT, Carolyn Savino, president, commented that the union appreciates the openness of the district when addressing approaching potential cuts. She added that cuts must be measured in terms of how they will affect students.

CSEA, Mary Ann Gomez, president, commented on how creative CSEA members have been when presenting ideas to protect jobs. She added that CSEA needs assurance that classified employees will be protected from potential lay offs.

PVAM, Bob Rasmussen, commented that management is also seeking ways to reduce costs. He added that the organization trusts that the board and leaders will help staff get through these times.

8.2 Student(s) Trustee Report

President Nichols introduced Leticia Suarez, student trustee for Renaissance High.

Leticia Suarez, Renaissance High Student Trustee, spoke of upcoming activities for clubs and sports. She thanked Scolders Surf Club for the free surf equipment donation to Renaissance. She concluded by noting that students are planning a trip to Disneyland for the end of the school year.

Meds Stockwell, Aptos High Student Trustee, commented that due to the recent student protest, forums touching the various issues that students are concerned about, including parking, open campus, increasing number of water fountains, bus accommodations, and sanitary conditions are being held. He noted that their website has a new program, a bulletin board addressing and commenting any issues that are of interest to students. He added that in regards to Liz Modena's redirection, a lot of people are happy that Mrs. Fraser is available to help AHS.

8.3 Governing Board Comments

Trustee DeHart commented that she was a guest at the 5th Annual New Teacher symposium, which was offered by the New Teacher Project (NTP) Center in San Jose. She said that PVUSD was well represented and that Ellen Moir, Director, recognized PVUSD for partaking in spearheading the NTP, *Transforming the Profession Through Teacher Inductions*.

Trustee Volpa reported that Aptos High had lost Tim Miller, a volunteer, who had recently passed away.

8.4 President's Report

President Nichols reported that the website has a new page that includes letters to the legislators to voice concerns for cuts in education. She invited all to participate in the letter-writing campaign informing legislators of the importance of education.

8.5 Zone Administrators' Reports

Catherine Hatch, Assistant Superintendent, Central Zone, thanked Watsonville City Council for the approval of their portion of the partnership with the Watsonville Wetlands Watch, adding that three MOUs for the project have been approved. She commented on the equity team training.

Christine Amato-Quinn, Assistant Superintendent, North Zone, commended the Aptos High assistant principals, staff, students and parents for their support. She invited all to attend the grand opening of the All-weather track on March 1 at AHS. She reported that the administration is looking to have graduation held at the AHS campus this year. She concluded by stating that she would recommend naming the Aptos Junior High baseball field after Mr. Tim Miller.

Ylda Noguera, Assistant Superintendent, South Zone, commented that inter-assessments are taking place. She added that the homework center for all students is still moving forward.

Dr. Nancy Bilicich, Assistant Superintendent, Alternative Ed & Charter Schools, invited all to the Academic Learning Center graduation for AHS and WHS.

8.6 Associate Superintendent's Report

Terry McHenry updated the Board on the progress of Radcliff School. He commented that PVUSD budgeted \$3.8 million for this project and that one bidder came in at \$3.5 million and others at 4.0 million. He added that the lowest bid had to be withdrawn due to a clerical error on behalf of the bidder. Further, he noted that the project might need to be revised to be able to afford it. He also reported that the re-bid for Pajaro Valley High School is going well.

8.7 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mays spoke of a visit administrators made to a school site outside the district. She said that the visitation has helped in moving forward in student achievement with a common vision of what can happen in the classrooms.

9.0 VISITOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Dan Hernandez, community member, spoke about his concern for safety issues at Pajaro Middle School relating to students safely crossing the busy street to access the school. He added that a pedestrian bridge is needed at that location. In reference to the budget, he suggested to go to a 4-day week to ease costs.

Rosalinda Ortega, PVUSD employee, commented that the Board is making an effort to work with the staff and that whatever may come, working together is key to getting through it.

Maryann Gomez, PVUSD employee, spoke of the concerns from classified employees. She commented on a recent workshop that suggested secretaries to take more responsibilities, adding that they need to be compensated accordingly.

Sylvia Previtali, retired teacher and member of the Committee for Safe School Sites, commented if the District could be transparent, everyone could know the problems and provide solutions. She spoke about the 70,000 cubic yards of clay off of the PVHS site, noting that the County has paid for clay of the same quality about \$1.70 per cubic yard. She asked that the District should try to get that money for the clay. She asked if there would be a follow up session with FCMAT so they can assess whether or not their suggestions are being implemented.

Juan Carlos Fonseca – community member, welcomed Dr. Mays to the community and proceeded with an anecdote about good communication with the community.

Kris Kirby, parent, spoke in support of keeping athletic directors and of the benefits these staff provide to students.

Joanne Burton, parent, spoke in support of athletic directors.

John Sargent, treasurer for MAIA foundation, gave a brief background on the purpose of MAIA and the importance of education. He proceeded to speak in support of the counselors and asked the Board to look at equitable ways to carry out the reductions needed.

Kate Connor, parent, spoke of her concern for the lack of notification to the community about budget committee meetings, stating that a more widely notice process should be undertaken. She also spoke of how the cuts disproportionately affect schools more than the district offices; she asked that the Board postpone budget decisions until the budget process is more public.

Robin Butterworth, PVUSD employee, reminded the Board that while considering cuts it seems that the District is still contracting out special groups. She thanked the Board for being so inclusive in the process and for being very open this time.

10.0 CONSENT AGENDA

10.1 Approved Purchase Orders – 1/24/03 to 2/6/03

10.2 Approved Warrants – 1/24/03 to 2/6/03

10.3 Approved donation from Ms. Salli Parvu of the Reading Device and TV for the Visually Impaired, valued at approximately \$3,000.00.

10.4 Approved donation from Ronald and Caryl Matusich of \$2,000 to the Lori Mausich Scholarship Fund.

10.5 Approved Carl D. Perkins 2002-2003 Vocational Education Application.

10.6 Approved award of Construction Contract for Radcliff Elementary Reconstruction.

10.7 Approved Community Advisory Council (CAC) Membership.

10.8 Certificated/Classified Approved (See Closed Session Agenda).

Trustee Volpa moved to approve consent agenda, deferring item 10.6, and adding blue-sheeted items to 10.8. Trustee Yahiro seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11.0 DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS

10.6 Approve award of Construction Contract for Radcliff Elementary Reconstruction.

Trustee Volpa moved to reject all bids for Radcliff Elementary reconstruction. Trustee Roberts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

12.0 ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

12.1 Report and discussion on Rural Technology and Information Project (RTIP). *Report by Ylda Nogueta, South Zone Superintendent.*

Ylda Nogueta provided a brief update on the bilingual RTIP, stating the Latino Issues Forum (LIF) created it to provide access to technology for low income families and students. She welcomed Ana Montes, Director of Telecommunications for LIF, and asked her to elaborate on the project.

Ana Montes thanked trustees for supporting the project since its inception in 1999. She spoke of the accomplishments of RTIP, noting that parents train for 12 hours to learn how to use technology to assist in helping their children with homework. She added that the project is a school-community project, intended to be a permanent service to this community. She added that when a parent completes the training, they are sent home with a loaned computer so they can utilize it regularly.

Francisco Rodriguez, President of Association of Mexican-American Educators, commented that RTIP is looking to bring together various sectors of the community to make sure all students have digital equity.

Michael Jones, Alianza principal, commented on the success of the program, noting that the potential is that it can grow and create a cyber community, allow for parent empowerment and assist in student achievement. He added that Alianza is very fortunate to be part of it and that the leadership from the LIF, and their bringing together the City and business sectors is invaluable.

Ana Montes continued by presenting certificates of appreciation to board members as well as to Roberto Garcia for his advisory role to LIF's board members.

Roberto Garcia, former Board member, thanked the Board for allowing him to participate in this project and noted that it has empowered a lot of families.

President Nichols asked whether other sites besides Alianza were or would be involved.

Ana Montes said that starting in September RTIP would be working with three other schools.

Trustee Yahiro inquired about future funding for the project.

Ana Montes commented that fundraising would be done by LIF by brining in the various sectors of the community.

12.2 Report and discussion on District Budget Update. Report by Terry McHenry, Associate Superintendent.

Terry McHenry recapped the governors proposal, noting that the legislation passed their bill and sent it to the governor who was not willing to support part of it (vehicle license fee bill). He estimated that reductions would be felt most in categorical and/or support programs. He said that the impact will be about \$800,000 out of the current budget, but the discussion for next year is still up in the air, and that next key budget issue in the State will not be heard until May, but guessed that there won't be a definitive budget from the governor or legislators before September. He commented that the Budget Committee is receiving a lot of input from various sources for cost reductions, and that the committee would be meeting to discuss the list of possible reductions. He added that preliminary cost- reduction actions need to be taken to keep options open.

Trustee Volpa inquired whether the District would consider some type of a district "block grant" to go to a school site that would allow for flexibility, given that there are different needs across the district.

Trustee DeHart spoke of the committee's composition, noting that all zones and both bargaining units are represented. She added that the committee made a conservative estimate of eliminating 38 positions, including classified and certificated. She said she was interested in some of the suggestions being brought forth, including furloughs and calendar changes. She added that the community may be looking at a parcel tax and that if there is no community trust, there is no support; she concluded by stating that the District needs to send a message to this community that all of our programs and all of our employees are valued, and that we will be innovative.

President Nichols commented that our budget situation seems to be better than many. She said that the "Wall of Silence" term used in the facilitation process should not be used for the budget. She further commented on budget reductions stating that in the current school year positions eliminated were: 2 administrators, 11 certificated, and 11 classified. She agreed with Trustees Yahiro and Volpa comments, recognizing the uniqueness to the needs of each site and/or zone, noting that strong community representation and teaching staff on the Budget Committee should serve to address the unique needs of the different schools and zones.

Trustee Yahiro commented that the more local control the easier it would be to obtain support for aide, adding that zones are very strong and they should be making decisions.

Dr. Mays commented that the District is looking at how much flexibility each zone can have.

Mary Ann Gomez, CSEA president, reminded the Board of the last budget crisis, when twenty-two instructional assistants were let go, and how that affected students. She added that classified employees care and that they are at the heart of working with students.

13.0 ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

13.1 Report, discussion and possible action to approve Budget Committee Setup. Report by Dr. Mary Anne Mays, Superintendent, Terry McHenry, Associate Superintendent, and North, Central and South Zone Superintendents.

Dr. Mays provided a brief budget committee background, stating it was established as a Superintendent's committee with an advisory function to the Board. She said that the

composition and attendance of the committee has vastly improved. She noted that the District is looking at ways to listen to everyone. She commented that the Board should think about adding another board representative to this committee.

Trustee Hankemeier noted that there were always two board members on the committee but that once former Board member Jane Barr left no one replaced her.

Trustee Gray commented she would like to see up to a total of three Board representatives on the committee.

Trustee Volpa noted that the Board has to approve the final budget and that Board members should be sitting members in that committee, not voting members. She added that her concern is that board members must vote on any budget reductions and board members should not be sharing ideas at the committee level, but should be doing so in the open forum of a board meeting. She felt that there could be the appearance of impropriety by board members working at the committee level on the budget and then voting on that same budget. Further, she added that having three Board members with so much information could be a disadvantage for other board members who are not getting the same information.

Trustee Yahiro agreed with Trustee Volpa's comments and concerns, especially regarding the spirit of conducting our business in front of the public, not at committee meetings.

Trustee DeHart noted that she had attended the past two budget committee meetings and that in prior years Trustees were observers. She also mentioned that in the last couple of meetings the committee is not voting but rather looking at various ideas and prioritizing issues. She said that committee members report back to their zone on what went on at the meeting. She added that both bargaining units are well represented. She said that for her it is important to hear a discussion before making a decision, and suggested a process of trustees alternating attendance to these meetings as Trustees need to see the committee as it operates.

President Nichols commented that if Trustees were more involved as the decisions are being made, it would be less likely to disagree with the eventual recommendation of the committee, and that participation reflecting the three zones is very important. She said that Trustees that attend the meetings could share what they learn at the committee meeting. She expressed her discontentment to see on an official list of previous budget committee members many administrators, one Board member, and two parent representatives from the south and north zones, but none from the central zone. She stated that the Central zone wants to immediately fix the problem and have full participation in the budget decision-making process, mentioning that she and Catherine Hatch were taking steps to remedy the situation.

Trustee Roberts stated that since this committee makes recommendations on the budget process, three Board members possibly participating at the committee level would not make a good precedence. She added that having Board representation at the budget meetings and then reporting to the Board would be most effective.

Trustee DeHart commented that one solution could be for someone to take minutes and share them with the Board.

Dr. Mays said that Trustees Yahiro and Volpa comments were well taken as in the meeting where people will cast votes and prioritize budget issues, Board members need to be careful about supporting one program and not another. She added that the more information the board has the better decision they will be able to make and suggested that

that the Board has *ex-officio* members that do not vote. Further, she supported that idea of rotating Board members' attendance to the meetings.

Sylvia Previtali, visitor at the Budget committee meetings, spoke of her impressions of the budget committee make up, noting that membership in the committee representing the entire district would be appropriate. She expressed her concern that as employees of the district, some members of the committee would not be able to speak up.

Trustee Volpa moved to keep the committee as a Superintendent's committee, that board members may attend but may not participate in the discussion, and that it should be coordinated through the superintendent's office to make sure that only three members attend at one time.

Trustee Yahiro seconded the motion.

Trustee DeHart requested that minutes be kept for these meetings.

Trustee Volpa added that amendment to her motion and Trustee Yahiro amended his second to reflect Trustee DeHart's request.

Dan Zumaran, committee member, asked that in terms of minutes people could take a tape recorder. He added that it took a lot of effort on behalf of the committee to arrive to a decision, and that there is no intimidation when board members or the superintendent attend the meeting. He added that Terry McHenry lets visitors and members of the committee speak and voice their opinion. He concluded by stating that the process is working, that there is good representation, and that it is good to see Board members and the Superintendent attend the meetings.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 6/1/0 (Hankemeier).

13.2 Report, discussion and possible action to approve temporary borrowing district funds in order to meet the cash-flow needs of district. Report by Terry McHenry, Associate Superintendent.

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

14.0 UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

14.1 February 19 Special Board Meeting on Budget, District Office Boardroom. Meeting begins at 6:00 pm.

14.2 February 26, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting, District Office Boardroom, 292 Green Valley Road, Watsonville, CA. 6:00 pm, Closed Session, 8:00 pm Open Session.

14.3 March 12, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting, District Office Boardroom, 292 Green Valley Road, Watsonville, CA. 6:00 pm, Closed Session, 8:00 pm Open Session.

14.4 March 19, Special Board Meeting on Governance, District Office Boardroom. Meeting begins at 6:00 pm.

Trustee Volpa requested that the governance session be held somewhere other than the Boardroom.

14.5 Items for Subsequent Board Meeting Agendas.

Sylvia Previtali, community member, asked that an agenda item regarding computers and their access to the internet be discussed.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 pm.



Secretary