

**Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 29, 2019**  
**Room 305 at 5:30 P.M.**

OPEN SESSION

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER** by Board President  
*Meeting called to order at 5:34pm.*
  
- 2) **ROLL CALL:**

Robert Feinberg (RF), Board President (2022)	x
Elizabeth Dowhower (BD), Secretary (2020)	<i>arrived 6:47</i>
Meg Rydman (MR), Member at Large (2021)	x
Kevin Donnelly (KD), Member at Large (2021)	x
Debbie Trujillo (DT), Middle School Teacher Rep. (2019)	x
Eugenia Pappas (EP), Elementary Teacher Rep (2019)	x
Byranie Thomas (BT), Member at Large (2021)	x
Kelly Kay (KK), Member at Large (2021)	x
Maurene Donner (MD), Superintendent College School District	x

OTHER ATTENDEES:

John Dewey (JD), Executive Director	x
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- 3) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** for October 29, 2019  
*Motion to approve agenda: BT*  
*Second: KD*  
*Discussion: None*  
*Vote: Approved 8-0-0*

OPEN SESSION

- 4) **Public Comment**  
*RF read welcome/guidelines*  
  
*Public Comment was offered by the following:*  
*Calisse Courtney, Elizabeth Newnham, Ingemar Axelsson, Heather Wood, Sally McNamara, Ian Morse.*
  
- 5) **Consent Agenda**
  - a. Approval of Minutes for Meeting September 24, 2019  
*Motion to approve minutes: KD*  
*Second: DT*  
*Discussion: None*  
*Vote: Approved 8-0-0*
  
  - b. Approval of Minutes for Special Meeting October 23, 2019  
*Motion to approve minutes: KD*  
*Second: DT*  
*Discussion: None*  
*Vote: Approved 6-0-2*
  
- 6) **Standing Reports**
  - a. Treasurer's Report  
*Report included in packet. No questions, comments, or discussion.*

b. Director's Report

*Report included in packet. JD highlighted the following: Busy last few weeks; Annual appeal - 25% participation; Field trip donations 6-8 - commitments from 90% of families; RFP for legal services - no responses received yet, deadline is Thursday; 3rd grade collecting shoes - received good media coverage; 4th grade teacher - efforts to support, opening is posted - options include long term sub or permanent replacement - currently day-by-day - plan to have consistent substitute by Monday - have met with many parents, met with RF, met with MD - put a lot of energy into the situation - 4th grade staffing is a separate agenda item; Local indicators - separate agenda item; 7th & 8th grades are at Astro Camp - all reports are good; Training in new science curriculum and Lexia core 5, participated in valleywide PD on mental first aid training - KK asked who determines topics. MD said superintendents decide together. KD asked if Board could get a summary? EP gave a summary. KD asked to bring back for a bit more info at a future board meeting; MS conferences; Gardening projects - planting irises, renovating the kinder garden area; Two tours to Ballard school parents - KK asked for which grade level? JD replied 7th grade next year; working on 20th anniversary fundraising event.*

c. PTSO Report

*Meeting minutes dated 10-1-19 included in packet. MR asked if car raffle tickets went home. Not yet.*

d. Teachers' Report Tri 1

*Written reports from teachers included in packet. BT expressed disappointment that there were missing reports. The 4th grade report is attached. JD will follow up with missing grade levels (2nd, 7/8 Math/Sci) for December agenda.*

7) **Informational/Discussion**

a. Discipline Policy review

*Potential to create committee in agenda item 9b.*

Public comment on agenda item 7)a.

*Public Comment was offered by the following:*

*Mercedes Valencia, Sarah Ollenburger, Clarisse Courtney, Sally McNamara.*

*RF - Discipline policy needs re-work.*

*KD- Committee - can it include parents?*

*MD - Suggests JD starts by talking to staff. Discuss what is happening in classrooms, reinforcing positive behaviors. Have staff draft something up, then involve parents to get insight and feedback. School has some good things in place, but needs tweaking. Some elements are very punitive.*

*KD - How would that look?*

*JD - Will bring up at next available teacher meeting. Teachers could have their own subcommittee.*

*MD mentioned grade level spans - will look different at different grade levels, what happens. MD emphasized communication is important.*

*KK asked about restorative circles.*

*MD described, mentioned good training at county.*

*RF - Changes in policy to give Director the tools to be able to function but don't want to see it be so rigid that certain actions have to be taken. Give ability to make decisions based on infractions.*

*MD - Try to make it as equitable and fair as possible. May have different consequences depending on student's situation/circumstances.*

*BT - Policy outlines steps so teachers know what options are available and parents know what kinds of things would/could happen.*

b. 4th Grade Support/Staffing

*JD - Initially put on agenda to suggest hire aide for 4th grade, have put aide in place temporarily.*

Public comment on agenda item 7)b.

*Public Comment was offered by the following:*

*Mercedes Valencia, Sarah Ollenburger, Clarisse Courtney.*

*MR - Asked to clarify what purpose of agenda item is.*

*JD - Now have different issues, need to fill position.*

*With 6 students less in 4th grade, 1 left in another class, this amounts to approximately \$65,000-\$70,000 in lost income. Already deficit spending approximately \$30,000.*

*KK clarified idea of extra consultant, plus new teacher/long term sub, plus an aide - hard to crunch numbers on the spot.*

*MR suggested filling position from within.*

*JD - Goal would be to hire from outside and ask for internal person to fill position until hire can be made.*

*KD - Could adjustments be made to budget to accommodate filling position with loss of students?*

*JD - Not really, would dip into reserve.*

*KD - Need to continue to pursue all avenues.*

*KK - Significant budget problem. Reduced deficit quite a bit, but have a situation that needs attention. It's worth it to take the hit.*

*MD - Advertised to hire teacher or long term sub?*

*JD - Teacher*

*MD - Could cast a wider net if look for long term sub. Also reduces employment costs.*

*BT - A known quantity may be available in January, could fill in until that time.*

*JD - Exploring every avenue.*

*RF - No action necessary. JD has direction where to go.*

c. Smarter Balanced Test scores

*Scores for ELA and math grades 3-8 included in packet.*

*JD highlighted increases since 2017. Increases can be attributed to various factors, including dedicated teaching.*

*Discussion followed regarding curricular adoptions and standards implementation, in terms of impact on students' in various grade levels and their performance on the tests.*

8) **Board Business**

a.

*None.*

9) **Action Items**

a. Approve Local Indicators (State Accountability)

*Motion to approve Local Indicators: KD*

*Second: BD*

*Discussion: JD explained that the local indicators require Board approval for submission to Dashboard by 11/1 deadline. JD briefly described the priorities. The responses based on student and teacher surveys. JD pointed out that professional development in the area of social studies needs attention, and students indicated their lowest responses to the question about having input.*

*Vote: Approved 9-0-0*

b. Approve committee to review and make recommendations on Discipline Policy

*Motion to table action in lieu of giving direction to Executive Director: BD*

*Second: EP*

*Discussion: Board directed JD to reach out to staff and bring back a draft version of discipline policy to the Board in January. JD will gather parent and student input, too.  
Vote: Approved 9-0-0*

- 10) **Future Agenda Items**
  - a. Board Meeting December 10, 2019
- 11) Public Comment on Closed Session Items

*JD - Clarified that this evaluation is an annual evaluation.*

*Open session ended at 7:13pm. Board took a 5-minute break.*

#### CLOSED SESSION

*Closed session was called to order at 7:18pm.*

- 12) Personnel as authorized by Government code 54957: Executive Director Evaluation

*Closed session adjourned and open session resumed at 8:49pm.*

#### OPEN SESSION

- 13) Report out from Closed Session  
*The Board discussed the Executive Director's evaluation processes and timelines. The Board approved the establishment of personnel sub-committee including members KK, BT, and BD.*

#### ADJOURNMENT

*Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.*