

**Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Tuesday, December 12, 2017**  
**Room 304 at 5:30 P.M.**

OPEN SESSION

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER** by Board President  
*Meeting called to order at 5:47pm.*
  
- 2) **ROLL CALL:**

Robert Feinberg (RF), Board President (2019)	x
Meg Rydman (MR), Secretary (2018)	x
Heather Fletcher (HF), Treasurer (2018)	_____
Mark Swanitz (MS), Member at Large (2019)	_____
Melanie Sutton Hodgdon (MSH), Member at Large (2018)	x
Elizabeth Dowhower (BD), Member at Large (2020)	_____
Linda Mayer (LM), Elementary Teacher Rep (2018)	X (left at 6:49pm when closed session was called to order)
Debbie Trujillo (DT), Middle School Teacher Rep. (2018)	X (left at 6:49pm when closed session was called to order)
Jim Brown (JB), Superintendent College School District	_____

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Mark Palmerston (MP), Executive Director	x
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- 3) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** for December 12, 2017  
*Motion to approve the agenda: MR*  
*Second: MSH*  
*Discussion: None*  
*Vote: Approved 5-0-0*

OPEN SESSION

- 4) **Public Comment**

*RF read an email from Tyson Swing to Mark Palmerston dated December 9. He would like to meet with the Director in January to discuss his concerns, but asked his letter be read at tonight's meeting. He expressed concerns about science instruction and math instruction.*

*RF read a letter from Jodi Axelsson dated December 11. She expressed concerns about middle school science, specifically timeliness of grading, attention to behavior in class and grading, and instructional content. She also expressed concern about the upcoming health elective.*

*LM read an email from a former student to Mrs. Usher expressing gratitude for high quality math instruction s/he received while attending SYVCS.*
  
- 5) **Consent Agenda**
  - a. Approval of Minutes for Meeting November 14, 2017  
*Motion to approve the minutes: LM*  
*Second: DT*  
*Discussion: None*  
*Vote: Approved 5-0-0*
  
- 6) **Standing Reports**
  - a. Teachers' Report  
Kindergarten  
*Kindergartners are preparing for the winter show. In language arts, they are working on the alphabet, capitalization, and punctuation. In math, they are working on number sequence, numbers 1-10, and place value.*  
  
First Grade  
*First grade moved to their new classroom.*  
  
Second Grade  
*Second graders are preparing for the winter show. They are studying money, Hour of Code, continents, and oceans.*  
  
Third Grade

*Third graders are preparing for their play in the winter show. In math, they are studying place value and addition and subtraction with regrouping. In language arts, they are reading a book about the Chumash ancestors. They continue their study of Chumash history, language, and culture.*

#### Fourth Grade

*Fourth graders are working on evaluating texts, finishing their personal narratives, and multiplication. Ms. Ackermann attended a math conference and has implemented some of the new things she learned in her classroom.*

#### **Middle School**

##### Language Arts

*Fifth graders are reading Tuck Everlasting and looking at advertising strategies.*

*Sixth graders completed an explanatory essay related to Sign of the Beaver.*

*Seventh graders completed an argumentative essay connected to Stargirl.*

*Eighth graders are reading The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.*

##### Mathematics

*Fifth graders are studying place value.*

*Sixth graders are studying area and using area models to understand the Distributive Property.*

*Seventh graders are studying adding integers, modeling and understanding standard algorithms for multiplying fractions and mixed numbers, and creating accurate graphs.*

*Eighth graders are studying exponents and scientific notation.*

##### Social Studies

*Fifth graders are studying the Age of Explorers and beginning settlements in the New World. They began research for their country reports.*

*Sixth graders are learning about the beginnings of societies and early cities.*

*Seventh graders are learning about the rise and expansion of Islam.*

*Eighth graders are finishing their unit on the US Revolution.*

##### Science

*Fifth graders were introduced to chemistry, including chemical reactions, solutions, compounds, physical and chemical properties, elements, and the periodic table.*

*Sixth graders are learning about geology, including rocks and minerals, the rock cycle, and the internal structure and processes within the Earth that drive plate tectonics.*

*Seventh graders are discovering the microscopic inner workings of cells, including structure and function, energy transfer, and mitosis.*

*Eighth graders are developing their understanding of chemistry, including elements and the periodic table and atomic structure and bonding.*

#### b. PTSO Report

*Two 8th grade student council members attended the PTSO meeting to advocate for bringing back the carnival. PTSO is open to the idea, and they are making a plan to see how the two groups can work together to achieve this goal.*

#### c. Treasurer's Report

*No report.*

#### d. Director's Report

*MP acknowledged the successful winter show. It serves as evidence of the school's dedication to the arts, and it was an amazing display of student and staff talents. He expressed thanks to the Auction Committee, whose hard work resulted in funds to purchase a new sound system.*

*MP will be presenting reports to the College School District Board in the new year.*

*MP shared about the decision to close school due to poor air quality and all the unforeseen details and tasks required to close the school for such an extended period of time.*

*Negotiations will be addressed later in the meeting.*

*MP showed the Board the information recently made public on the California School Dashboard. He reviewed some of the elements of the Dashboard and the data it presents.*

*MP mentioned the school's participation in the holiday gift basket program.*

*MP highlighted a certificate of recognition for CALPADS data management awarded to Ms. Mercedes. her efforts to keep our state submissions up to date, accurate, and submitted on time are much appreciated and deserving of recognition.*

7) **Discussion Items**

a. Budget Presentation-3-Year Budget Assumptions (Revenue)

*MP reviewed information presented last month to the Board to further its understanding of the 3-year budget development process. He reviewed a variety of assumptions, prompting the Board to keep in mind the question, "Are these good starting points?" The assumptions included enrollment assumptions and revenue assumptions. He recommended the Board review these areas more closely, in preparation to study them more closely at the next meeting.*

b. Advanced Planning for Board Retreat-February 3, 2018

*The date for the retreat was confirmed. It will take place from 9:00am-3:00pm. The Board discussed ideas for locations and ideas for agenda items.*

8) **Action Items**

a. Acceptance of Audit Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017

*Motion to accept the audit report: MSH*

*Second: LM*

*Discussion: MP pointed out that there were no findings for this year and that corrective actions were implemented as requested for previous year's findings. He also highlighted sections regarding funding, ADA, spending, assets, and the school's financial position.*

*Vote: Approved 5-0-0*

b. Review and Approval of Employment Agreement with Certificated Staff

*No agreement has been reached to bring for approval at this time. No action was taken.*

9) **Next Board Meeting Date**

a. Regular Board Meeting January 23, 2018

10) Public Comment on Closed Session Item

*None.*

**CLOSED SESSION**

*Closed session was called to order at 6:49pm.*

1) PERSONNEL MATTERS PURSUANT TO GOV CODE 54957

2) CERTIFICATED TEACHER NEGOTIATIONS

3) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION-Executive Director

*Closed session adjourned and open session resumed at 8:02pm.*

**OPEN SESSION**

11) Report out from Closed Session

*MP provided the Board with an update on personnel matters, teacher negotiations, and he presented the Board with a draft of his goals to be reviewed and discussed at next meeting.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.*