

REGION 9 BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 25, 2014
REGULAR MEETING
Minutes

Attendance: Region 9 Board of Education members: Colangelo, D'Agostino, Gombos, Hocker, Johnston, King, Lewis

Administration: Josefsberg, McMorran, Pierson Ugol, Czudak, Geraghty, Sheehy, Pin

Others: two members of the community and staff, a representative of the Redding Pilot/Easton Courier and videographer

Mr. Hocker called the meeting of the Region 9 Board of Education to order at 7:03 pm in the Joel Barlow Media Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the minutes of the October 21, 2014 meeting as submitted. Gombos, D'Agostino. Approved. 6-0-2. Hancock, Johnston abstain.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON CAPITAL PROJECT INVOICES

The final invoice for the Roof Project from Tremco/WTTI was presented for approval. Prior to the meeting, the invoice was approved in a joint meeting of the Building Committee and Financial Advisory Committee.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve payment of the final invoice from Tremco/WTTI for \$613,090.86, subject to receipt of the Certificate of Occupancy from the Redding Building Official. Hancock, Lewis. Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION OF FUNDING FOR THE SEALING OF BRICK WALLS

Mr. Czudak reported there is some seepage of water through the brick walls of the building. This was not within the scope of work for the Roof Project. He estimates the cost to seal the brick walls using Barlow staff is \$20,000. Board members asked that the administration review the cost and project and come back with a recommendation of whether the repair is a capital or operating budget item.

PRESENTATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE DATA ANALYSIS AND COLLEGE ADMISSIONS UPDATE

Dr. McMorran provided the report on Student Performance Data Analysis and an update on college admissions. A brief discussion followed. Mr. Lewis requested the full report that is supplied to the Board each year. Dr. McMorran will forward the full report to the Board.

PRESENTATION FROM CHRISTOPHER POULOS

Mr. Poulos, a Barlow Spanish teacher, is working part time at Barlow and part time for the State Department of Education. This arrangement began last year, and has continued in the current school year. Mr. Poulos described the work he is doing with the State Department of Education and the how it relates to Barlow.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON 2015 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The schedule of board meetings for 2015 was reviewed. Mrs. Gombos suggested that the August meeting be moved from August 18 to August 27.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education accept the 2015 schedule of board meetings as amended to change the August 18 to August 27, 2015. Hancock, Gombos. Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: move that the FAC (Financial Advisory Committee) set a calendar of meeting dates for 6:30 pm on the same dates as Region 9, with the exception of the joint budget meetings. Lewis, Hancock. Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON BOARD POLICY

Policy 3542.31: Electronic Communications Use and Retention: A change in the final sentence was suggested by Mr. Lewis. Mr. D'Agostino suggested that board members use a district email address rather than their personal email for board related matters. District email addresses will be created.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education accept Policy 3542.31, as amended, for a second and final reading. Hancock, D'Agostino. Approved. Unanimous.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Assistant Superintendent, Head of School: Dr. McMorran provided a written report. He noted the display of trophies won by the Debate Team and an athletics award.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction: Mrs. Pierson Ugol submitted a written report for review. She described the vertical alignment work being done by staff and the work being done on World Language curriculum.

Director of Finance and Operation: Mrs. Sullivan was not present, but the reports were provided for review. In addition, the Prowda Enrollment Projection was discussed. It was noted that this is a peak year for Barlow, and there is projected to be a steady decline to just under 700 by 2024.

Superintendent: Dr. Josefsberg announced that schools would be closed tomorrow (November 26) due to the impending snow storm. He reported that responses to the Superintendent Search have been good. Focus groups have been planned, and a community meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2015.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities and Fields Committee: Mr. D'Agostino reported that the committee is working with Mrs. Sullivan to refine the Capital Plan.

Audit Committee: Mr. King reported that he and Mr. Johnston reviewed the draft of the audit report and plan to schedule a meeting with the auditors to discuss the audit. The report will be presented at the December board meeting. Mrs. Gombos asked that a representative of the auditing firm be present for the meeting.

Curriculum Committee: Mr. Lewis and Mr. D'Agostino reported on the review of new course proposals. The Committee recommended a new course for next year, Advanced Engineering Robotics, a one-semester class. Discussion of the course followed.

Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education approve the addition of a course, Advanced Engineering Robotics for inclusion in the Joel Barlow High School curriculum for next year. Lewis, Gombos. Approved. Unanimous.

The Committee also discussed changes to the language in the Program of Studies with regard to credit for offsite courses at local colleges. Further action on this was deferred to the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dana Gray, Redding: Mrs. Gray requested information on the college acceptances. She asked why students were required to take AP exams, when it is typically an option at other schools. Dr. Josefsberg indicated this was a philosophical decision. Mr. Lewis added that students generally take the course more seriously if they have to take the exam. Mrs. Gray also questioned why the freshmen did not participate in Career Day. Mrs. Pin responded that there is a plan for the career planning program, and that both freshmen and seniors had different activities related to career planning.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Lewis commented on the successes of the Debate Team.

Mr. D'Agostino complimented the students on the production of Oliver. He also asked that board members be added to the Listserv to receive the school notifications that parents receive.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: move that the meeting be adjourned. King, Colangelo Approved. Unanimous.

The meetings were adjourned at 8:54 pm

Submitted by Catherine Gombos, Board Secretary
Recorded by Mary Maday