

**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
SANTA MARIA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District was held in the Support Services Center on February 13, 2013, with a closed session at 5:30 p.m. and open session at 6:30 p.m. Members present: Reece, Tognazzini, Garvin, Karamitsos and Walsh

**Open Session**

Dr. Karamitsos called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Closed Session**

The Board adjourned the closed session at 6:30 p.m. and reconvened for open session at 6:35 p.m.

**Open Session**

President Karamitsos called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Raul Macias, Student Board Representative, led the flag salute.

**Announce Closed Session Actions**

Student Matters: The Board approved the three student expulsions as recommended.

Certificated and Classified Personnel Actions: The Board approved hiring, transfers, promotions, evaluations, terminations, and resignations as presented.

Conference with Labor Negotiators. The Board was updated on the progress of the Faculty Association (California Teachers Association) and the California School Employees Association (CSEA).

**Items Scheduled for Information**

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Karamitsos was very excited to see so many people and welcomed everyone who attended the Board meeting.

Dr. Karamitsos provided some background information regarding the school board's role and responsibilities. The Board's structure of school government guarantees that the local community has oversight in their schools. There are five Board members who were elected to their positions and the authority granted to the Board members is to the group rather than to the individuals.

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The Board's job can be divided into five major responsibilities:

1. The Board sets the direction for the high schools in the District.
2. Establishes and maintains an organizational structure that supports and empowers our staff and our vision.
3. Supports the Superintendent and staff as they carry out the direction of the Board.
4. Ensures personnel, program and fiscal or financial accountability.
5. Acts as community leaders and advocates for the students, the school district's educational programs, and public education overall.

Dr. Karamitsos informed the audience that there would be time for public comment once the Board conducted their business. Each person was allowed three minutes to speak.

Dr. Karamitsos encouraged parents to write a letter or send an email to the Board if they did not wish to speak in public concerning any questions/concerns or comments they might have.

Dr. Karamitsos stated that none of the Board members are in support of Santa Maria High School becoming a Charter School. The Board has been informed by the Superintendent, parents, and staff that they too, do not support this option. The Board is confident that these issues will be resolved in a way that is productive and healthy for the schools, families, and community. It is very important that people be aware of the huge impact on every school, every child and every parent/guardian in the Santa Maria Valley, Los Alamos, Sisquoc, and Guadalupe should SMHS become a charter school. In addition, it would affect every employee at Santa Maria High. She wants everyone to focus their energy on making positive changes and find ways to promote improvement to our schools rather than making decisions that could potentially be destructive. Dr. Karamitsos wants everyone to understand that the Board is working through these issues. They need to be very careful with the decisions they make and would like parents to do the same, specifically when they are approached to sign something. Parents need to understand what they are signing.

### **Principal Reports**

Postponed

### **Student Reports:**

**Daisy Cervantes–Soria, DHS student representative:** In January check sheets were distributed to all students. Check sheets are used to inform Delta Advisors if a student needs classroom assistance. It is also used to recognize student's doing an outstanding job in class. Delta hosted their second Blood Drive on February 1, 2013. Twenty-seven students donated blood. On February 5, 2013, an assembly was held to recognize student attendance, academics, and to present students the Principal's Award. The Leadership class sold Candy Grams February 1–14 to raise money for Grand Night and Senior BBQ. February 12-15 will be Pink Week in support for breast cancer awareness. The M&M challenge was on February 1<sup>st</sup> —the Advisement with the most M&Ms won. February 2, 2013, was Burst of Love, students ran across the basketball court to pop a balloon before time ran out.

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**Raul Macias, SMHS student representative:** On January 28, twenty-four FFA students received State FFA Degrees at the Clark Center in Arroyo Grande. Valerie Canas was one of 40 Agriculture students in California selected for Sacramento Leadership. February 2nd, was Highway Cleanup— two Advisers and seven FBLA students cleaned a two-mile stretch on Highway 1. The Automotive Racing team held their 4<sup>th</sup> annual car show & BBQ; next race at Famoso Raceway in Bakersfield on April 19-21. The Boys' and Girls' basketball team competed in the Family Feud game show rally on February 7— the Girls won by a land slide. On February 12, twenty-five FFA members participated in the Santa Barbara Section Public Speaking Competition. SMHS Parent Teacher Night and the Saints Choir held their 8<sup>th</sup> annual Silent Auction, from 5:30–7:15 p.m. The Pennies for Patients campaign began on February 25th. The Close-up Club is heading to Washington DC and will visit the White House. February 28 SHARe sponsored an assembly for teachers during 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> block classes. The Saints Variety Show is scheduled for March 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium— tickets are \$5. The Ninth *Grade Welcome, Community Open House* was held on February 27<sup>th</sup> to "Showcase" Santa Maria High School Departments, Facilities, Clubs, Organizations and Athletic Teams.

**Stephany Rubio, PVHS student representative:** The Sadie Hawkins dance was held on February 9 and over 180 couples attended. ASB held their annual Dating Game on February 14. Pennies For Patients and Free the Children hosted "Lt. Dan's Creature Feature" on February 16 from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at PVHS. Academic Awards Night was held on February 14 in the gym at 6 p.m. The Drama Club production of "Almost Maine" was on February 14-16 at PVHS. Parent-Teacher Night was held on February 22. The book fair was held February 19-22. Raising Student Voice and Participation (RSVP) leaders will be training before the end of the year and their first summit will be in September or October of next school year.

**Ryland Towne, ERHS student representative:** Diversity Day took place on January 30. The workshop led by Calvin Terrell examined bullying, prejudice, and diversity. A workshop for teachers was held January 28, 2013 and two school-wide assemblies were held on January 29— seventy-five parents attended a community workshop that evening. One hundred students, recommended by teachers, attended an intensive training on January 30. This experience inspired students to acknowledge, appreciate, and respect their peers. Four Warrior athletic teams which include Girls' Water Polo, Girls' Soccer, Boys' Soccer and Boys' Basketball are entering the first round of CIF. Prizes were awarded to students who received the most Act of Change cards during January as well as the students who won the raffle. The theme for the Spring Club day event is Fun in the Sun. Sign-up forms were distributed at the ICC (Inter-Club-Council) meeting.

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**Reports from Employee Organizations**

Lisa Walters, Faculty Association representative, reported that on January 29, 2013, teachers held a parent meeting at Santa Maria High School with 700 parents in attendance. She informed the audience that the majority of parents were appalled to hear that an outside force was brought in to take over the school that is the heart of our community. If this petition goes forward, it will eliminate the local voice at our oldest school.

Clint Hinkle, Ernest Righetti High School teacher, informed the audience that this group was asked to stop these petitions, but was told that they would continue gathering signatures until they reach 50 percent +1. It is known that once the Parent Revolution has acquired the necessary signatures, the parent committee is set aside and the Parent Revolution continues with its own goals.

Mark Goodman thanked the Board for stating that the Charter would be destructive. Since the Faculty Association was informed of this situation (January 14, 2013), approximately 25-30 meetings have been held with Dr. Reece, Dr. Karamitsos, Mr. Tognazzini, Mr. Romero, Mr. Ceja and Mr. & Mrs. Galvan. Mr. Goodman wants everyone to know that Santa Maria, Pioneer Valley, and Delta High Schools have had the highest Academic Performance Index (API) growth in the last few years. He thanked the staff, students and Board for their hard work.

There are various proposals being circulated and there are concerns by several parent groups. These proposals are being taken very seriously and are being looked at by the Faculty Association and the District through negotiations. They are working together to solve these issues. Although it is very difficult when an outside entity like Parent Revolution comes in with the intention of changing Santa Maria High School to a charter school, we want to move forward and ask that parents refrain from supporting these petitions.

Mr. Goodman thanked Dean Reece and Jerry Walsh for being instrumental in development of the Shared Decision Making (SDM) committee. SDM has been a great group and was developed to improve our schools. The Faculty Association would like to maintain the integrity of this group.

Stacia Malm, CSEA Treasurer reported that negotiations are moving along with the District. A third meeting is scheduled for February 15. The CSEA board is very concerned about the issue with Santa Maria High School and is working with CTA to come up with a solution. On February 12, 2013, CSEA had a chapter meeting where staff had several questions and shared concern about their future. She reported emotions are running high and staff was asked to stay focused on the jobs they were assigned, which is helping students. Staff is looking forward to a resolution.

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#### **Board Member Reports**

Mr. Tognazzini welcomed everyone. He was very happy to see everyone at the Board meeting. Parents, district staff, students, and the Board have a common bond; we have the responsibility to help all the young people in the community to obtain the best education possible in this country. He thanked all the parents for the interest they've shown for their child's education.

Dr. Reece realized as he listened to student reports the number of years he has been a part of this District; in August he will begin his 50<sup>th</sup> year. He listens to all the student activities every month and asks himself how many more activities can they do? This is a reflection of the great student advisors, club advisors and leadership teachers, as well as great support from the community. Dr. Reece wants to remind everyone that we are here because of and for the students.

Dr. Karamitsos was born and raised in Santa Maria and attended Ernest Righetti High School. She is the mother of three children. Her oldest daughter graduated from Santa Maria High School; she currently has a daughter attending Ernest Righetti High School and her youngest son will be enrolling into Santa Maria High School. She has a great love for this community.

#### **Items Scheduled for Action**

##### **Instruction**

#### **Proclamation Declaring February 4-8, 2013 as National School Counseling and Guidance Week**

National School Counseling and Guidance Week was celebrated February 4-8, 2013, to focus public attention on the unique contributions of professional school counseling and guidance staff members in our schools and across the country. The National School Counseling and Guidance Week, sponsored by the American School Counseling Association (ASCA), highlights the tremendous impact school counselors and guidance staff can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

Counseling and guidance staff teams at each of our schools participated in a Counseling and Guidance Summit on September 24-25, 2012. Site goals and action plans have been developed to enhance counseling and guidance services for our students and families.

District-wide follow-up activities are scheduled in March, 2013.

A motion was made by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Reece and carried with a 5-0 vote to adopt Resolution 17-2012-2013 declaring February 4-8, 2013 as National School Counseling and Guidance Week.

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Roll Call:

Dr. Garvin	YES
Dr. Karamitsos	YES
Dr. Reece	YES
Dr. Walsh	YES
Mr. Tognazzini	YES

**Santa Maria Joint Union High School District**  
**Resolution Number 17– 2012–2013**

*Proclamation*

*National School Counseling and Guidance Week February 4-8, 2013*

WHEREAS, counseling and guidance staff members are employed in our schools to help students reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, counseling and guidance staff members are actively committed to helping students explore their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents as these traits relate to career awareness and development; and

WHEREAS, counseling and guidance staff members help parents focus on ways to further the educational, personal and social growth of their children; and

WHEREAS, counseling and guidance staff members work with teachers and other educators to help students explore their potential and set realistic goals for themselves; and

WHEREAS, counseling and guidance staff members seek to identify and utilize community resources that can enhance and complement comprehensive school counseling programs and help students become productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling and guidance programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school;

Therefore, the Board of Education of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District do hereby proclaim February 4-8, 2013, as National School Counseling and Guidance Week.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Karamitsos, Reece, Walsh, Tognazzini, Garvin

Noes:

Absent: None

Abstain: es

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Board of Education President/Clerk/Secretary  
Santa Maria Joint Union High School District

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**General**

**Board Policies**

The administration has reviewed the following amended or new Board Policy/Administrative Regulation, aligned with California School Boards Association updates, which are provided as education codes and laws change.

The sections of proposed amendments were presented in Appendix C for the board's review and adoption. These policies/regulations will be included in the existing sections upon adoption.

**Community Relations – Series 1000**

Uniform Complaint Procedures

BP/AR 1312.3

A motion was made by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mr. Tognazzini and carried with a 5-0 vote to approve the proposed Board Policies/Administrative Regulations as presented.

**Board Direction on Strategic Planning**

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of developing and implementing a long-range Strategic Plan to focus the entire District on the actions necessary to ensure all students meet the high standards we have established.

Consequently, the Board charges the Superintendent with the responsibility of developing a Strategic Plan and bringing a draft to the Board for review by June, 2013. The Board requests that in developing the plan the following parameters be observed.

The planning process should include:

1. A review of the effectiveness of the District's current planning processes.
2. A strategic analysis which looks at data describing District strengths and challenges (internal scan) and data focusing on present and future developments at the regional, state, national and global levels which may potentially impact the education of district students. This data will be used to identify the major issues which will confront the District in the years ahead.
3. The development of profiles of a successful graduate and a high performing district.
4. A review and update of existing documents related to the District's vision, mission, and core values/beliefs.
5. Development of strategic goals.
6. Identification of initiatives (key improvement strategies) which will be undertaken to achieve the vision, mission, and strategic goals.
7. Metrics to determine the degree to which the goals are being accomplished and the strategies are effective.
8. A process for engaging key stakeholders from the community and staff in the development of components for items 1-7. This process should include en-

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agement of staff, parents, and students at the school and District levels as well as engagement of a larger group of stakeholders from the community at large, including:

The following is the focus group configuration:

- students: 1 from each school site
- teachers: 1 from each school site
- classified: 1 from each school site
- parents: 1 from each school site
- Principal or Vice Principal from each school site
- community at large: 3
- higher education: 1
- city and county: 2
- feeder districts: 3
- District office: 5

The facilitator will be James Brown from Leadership Associates. They are scheduled to meet with our focus groups to discuss issues related to the District on April 15, 2013 and May 3, 2013. We will be working through the site principals, associations, and community leaders to help identify people that will be participating in these groups. We are looking for the cross section of the community so all voices can be heard.

In addition, the Board requests that the following issues be addressed by the Superintendent, his staff, and the stakeholders in developing the plan.

1. **How well is the District preparing every student for college, career, and life? How do we:**
  - a. Focus every department and individual on supporting high academic achievement for every student.
  - b. Provide an equitable learning environment that challenges and supports academic excellence for every student.
  - c. Foster a barrier-free environment where all students, regardless of their race, class or other personal characteristics have the opportunity to meet the standards we have established.
  - d. Provide every student with a relevant and differentiated education that includes teaching 21st Century skills: critical thinking and problem solving, creativity and innovation, communication and collaboration, information literacy, media literacy, flexibility and adaptability, initiative and self-direction, social and cross-cultural interaction, productivity and accountability.
2. **How can we better engage our parents and community?**
  - a. Strengthen family engagement through transparent communications.
  - b. Continue to build partnerships with city, business and community leaders that support student achievement.
3. **How can we secure sustainable funding to support our schools?**
  - a. Secure a sustainable level of funding for our schools to support their success and allow flexibility and innovation.



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- b. Identify and prioritize opportunities to improve operational efficiency and organizational performance, including identification of externally provided services that can be renegotiated.
4. **How can we support excellence in organizational performance?**
  - a. Recruit
  - b. Build positive relationships through honesty
  - c. Implement an information and communication technology infrastructure and environment that enhances teaching

The District's goal is to have a draft of this plan for review to the Board in June, receive feedback from the board and have a completed Strategic Plan for the beginning of the next school year.

Dr. Karamitsos stated that this is a good time to have a strategic plan and a formal evaluation of our current plan.

A motion was made by Dr. Reece, seconded by Mr. Tognazzini and carried with a 5-0 vote to approve the Strategic Plan as presented.

### **Business**

#### **Proposition 39/C2004 Bond Audits for the Year Ended June 30, 2012**

In accordance with Proposition 39 Bond Funding Requirements, an independent audit of the financial statements of the proceeds and expenditures from the issuance of the C2004 Bond was conducted for the year ended June 30, 2012. The audit was completed by the firm of Christy White Accountancy Corporation. The audit report was presented to the Board of Education for review and acceptance.

The report states: "There were no audit findings or recommendations related to the 2011-2012 Measure C2004 Bond Building Fund Financial and Performance Audits."

Upon acceptance of this report, it will be forwarded to the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee. Copies of the report are on file at the District Support Services Center for review by the public.

A motion was made by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Reece and carried with a 5-0 vote to approve the C2004 Bond Project Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2012.

#### **Performing Arts Center Update**

In addition to the regular monthly facilities report, Gary Wuitschick, Director of Support Services along with BCA architect, Paul Bunton and Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Yolanda Ortiz, provided a short presentation on the status of the Performing Arts Center located at Pioneer Valley High School. The presentation also included estimated costs of two design options which the Board may consider to address.

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Yolanda Ortiz, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, updated the Board on the activities that have taken place regarding the Performing Arts Center at Pioneer Valley High School. Several meetings have been held with all stakeholders who have provided valuable information and design options to be presented at tonight's Board meeting. The original plan was to simply build a Performing Arts Center. However, the stakeholders have been working with the architect to come up with an opportunity to maximize bond dollars and provide additional classroom space. This opportunity will allow the District to seek funding from the state to help offset the cost of the project

Gary Wuitschick, Director of Support Services, is responsible for reporting on new constructions throughout the District. He introduced the BCA architects. Although the Performing Arts Center is located at Pioneer Valley High School, it is a District Performing Arts Center and will be available for use to all schools district-wide as well as community groups.

Paul Bunton, President of BCA Architects, presented two schematic designs that have been prepared over the last six months and after meeting with various user groups. They have been working with the theater, music, folk dance groups from the different schools, City Planning, Parks and Recreations Departments, AHC and other community groups. There have been studies on the various sizes of the theater in order to meet the needs of stakeholders. After a review of theaters with a capacity of 200-500 it determined to settle on a theater that accommodates 294-300 seats.

Scheme #1 is a theater that is connected to an existing music building and scheme #2 has three additional classrooms. The architectural expression is important in order to create a theater for the District that is contextual with Pioneer Valley High School, but also reflects the community. The booklet provided showed various images of 3 dimensional models as well as the budgets for both schemes. Scheme #1 is estimated to cost approximately \$8 million; with the eligibility for \$354,213 in state funding (when available), which brings the total cost to \$7.6 million. Scheme #2 with the three additional classrooms will cost \$9.6 million, with the eligibility for state funding of \$1,526,000 (when available) which brings the cost to the district to \$8.1 million. This project is estimated to be completed by June 2015.

The Board was asked to make a selection between scheme #1 and scheme #2, approve construction of the new Performing Arts Center and to authorize to begin the Design Development Phase.

The three additional classrooms would be utilized primarily by the Visual and Performing Arts Department. The theater is being built with bond funds which can only be spent on these types of projects; funds are not allowed to be used for salaries or other consumable items.

Dr. Walsh made a motion to approve Scheme #2 with the three additional classrooms, seconded by Dr. Reece and carried with a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Dr. Reece and carried with a 5-0 vote to receive the Performing Arts Center update and provide direction to administration as needed.

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**Consent Items**

A motion was made by Mr. Tognazzini, seconded by Dr. Garvin and carried with a 5-0 vote to approve the following consent items as presented.

**A. Approval of Minutes**

December 12, 2012 – Regular Meeting

**B. Approval of Warrants for the Month of January 2013**

Payroll	\$4,989,484.22
Warrants	<u>1,224,847.83</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$6,214,332.05</u></b>

**C. Attendance Report**

Mrs. Yolanda Ortiz, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, was available to answer questions regarding the fifth month attendance report.

**D. Facility Report – *Appendix B***

**E. Acceptance of Gifts**

<b>Pioneer Valley High School Donor</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Kelly & Ellen Muldoon	Boys Wrestling	500.00
American Dream Foundation	American Dream	<u>3500.00</u>
<b>Total Pioneer Valley High School</b>		<b><u>\$4000.00</u></b>

**F. Student Discipline Matters**

Administrative Recommendation for Student Expulsion(s): Student #'s 339537, 334732, 336187

**G. Request for Travel**

Santa Maria High School	Amy Hennings	Close-Up Educational Program, Washington	2/17-22/2013
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All required paperwork is/will be on file at the school before departure. No student was excluded from the field trip due to lack of funds.

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### H. Approval/Ratification of Purchase Order

<u>P.O. #</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description &amp; Funding Source</u>
13-0973	Armstrong Security Center	\$60,403.50	Deferred Maintenance

### I. Textbook Discard

Righetti High School requested permission to discard the obsolete/damaged textbook listed below:

<u>Textbook Title</u>	<u>ISBN#</u>	<u>Copyright</u>	<u># of Copies</u>
Relationships and Family Living	821907514	1992	95

### Open Session Public Comments

The Board listened very closely to public comments, but did not respond. Each person was allowed three minutes to speak.

Parents, staff, community members and students made the following comments:

Following are concerns, comments and/or questions from parents, staff; community members and students concerning the possibility of Santa Maria High School becoming a charter school:

- Parents feel a climate of mistrust that has taken over our community
- A group of parents were only trying to get attention, but now it's become a wild fire
- Parent Revolution is attempting to convert Santa Maria High School into a charter school
- An outside agency is attempting to take away all the positive things happening at Santa Maria High School
- Teachers need the support of the parents
- Operating in collaboration and working together is very difficult when there is an element of terror
- Parents want to make it very clear that they do not want a charter school
- Parents want to have parent equality in the Shared Decision Making (SDM) committee
- Special programs will be lost if Santa Maria High School becomes a Charter school
- All staff at Santa Maria High School will lose their jobs
- Pioneer Valley High School and Ernest Righetti High School will also be impacted.
- Students will be affected by being relocated and/or not having the opportunity to participate in sports or special programs
- Parents want to work together with teachers to resolve this issue
- Parents want to have their concerns heard
- Parents want to be part of their student's education
- Teachers asked, "If there's never been a threat, why is there a petition for signatures?"

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- If charter is not the agenda, why has it not been clarified to the media?
- Parents feel they are being forced to sign a petition
- Parents and teachers should work together
- Sports and extracurricular activities will be taken away.

Jack Garvin requested the Shared Decision Making committee's configuration and bylaws be provided for review at the next Board meeting. He was appalled to hear that parents are asking for equality.

Dr. Karamitsos thanked everyone for coming and asked them to think of three things they are grateful for so they leave this meeting with positive feelings. She also asked parents to consider taking the opportunity to speak in a public forum at our next Board meeting.

### **Items not on the Agenda**

There were no items discussed which were not on the agenda.

### **Next Meeting Date**

Unless otherwise announced, the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on March 13, 2013. Closed session begins at 5:30 p.m. Open session begins at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District Support Services Center at 2560 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93455.

### **Future Regular Board Meetings:**

April 17, 2013	September 11, 2013
May 8, 2013	October 9, 2013
June 12, 2013	November 13, 2013
July 10, 2013 (if needed)	December 11, 2013
August 14, 2013	

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.