

**REGULAR BOARD 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 at the Student Services Center on April 14, 2015 with a closed session at 5:30 p.m. and open session immediately following.

Members present: Tognazzini, Karamitsos, Perez, Palera, Garvin (for closed session only)

**OPEN SESSION**

Mr. Tognazzini called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were no public comments and the meeting was immediately adjourned to closed session.

**RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

The board reconvened and Mr. Tognazzini called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Jhaicelle Laron, Student Representative from Righetti High School, led the flag salute. Mr. Tognazzini reported that Dr. Garvin attended closed session but would be excused from open session due to a prior commitment.

**ANNOUNCE CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS**

Dr. Richardson reported that all certificated personnel actions were approved as submitted. On the motion of Dr. Karamitsos, seconded by Ms. Perez and by a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to place a certificated employee on Education Code section 44904(a) mandatory leave. On the motion of Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Perez and by a vote of 5-0, the Board voted to terminate a certificated employee pursuant to Education Code section 44836 based on his felony conviction of offenses identified in Education Code section 44010.

Also in closed session, the Board had a conference with the attorney regarding Real Property Negotiations.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Dr. Richardson introduced staff members LeeAnne Del Rio/ERHS, Autumn Jennings/SMHS, Melissa Johnson/ERHS, George Karamitsos/PVHS and Merrie Okie Golden/SMHS to present and discuss the mural in the board room. Ms. Del Rio and Ms. Johnson joined via skype from a conference.

Mrs. Okie Golden explained that she was contacted by Dr. Richardson about a mural project in the new board room. She then introduced Mrs. Jennings to explain how they came up with the mural.

Mrs. Jennings said they were emailing pictures back and forth to each other of what they wanted to communicate with the mural. She had the idea of an aerial view and had a dream about it. They sat down and discussed it on the first day of working together. All of them have strong opinions and they were not sure how the collaboration would go. They spoke for two hours and the collaboration was fabulous. They worked really well together

and it was exciting and fun. They liked it so much that they want to do more murals for the district. The mural is a nice modern contemporary piece of art that matters to them.

Mr. Karamitsos was reluctant because it is not easy to work with five artists and they were amazed at how well it went. It was like magic. He has worked in the district for 18 years and this was the richest relationship he has had with his colleagues. He left energized and very hopeful that this will lead to a stronger district art program.

Mrs. Okie Golden explained that they all speak the same language and it was great that they got to sit together and talk. Once they started painting they could start discussing which artist meant a lot to them and inspired them.

Ms. Del Rio said it represented a shared vision and they infused a lot of their own styles and visions because they worked together. They got to know each other and to build art for the community. It was a wonderful, inspiring event. She would love to see this throughout our community.

Ms. Johnson shared that she appreciated getting to know her colleagues and it was a wonderful experience.

Dr. Richardson commented that the district is excited about the work they have done. Now we have our own piece of art in the SMJUHS building and look forward to having more around the district.

Dr. Karamitsos said that everyone could tell they had a lot of fun and it is great that everyone will be able to enjoy it year after year. She thanked them for what they do with their students in celebrating the arts.

### **Transportation Update**

Mr. Sitton thanked the board for letting him present the transportation update. He presented information on the drastic cuts in 2009 and how that affected over 1200 students. The district feared that it would affect ADA (Average Daily Attendance) but it did not. ADA stood consistent throughout.

He went on to explain the new boundary changes and how that will affect bussing. He described the two areas ("U" area and the "Strip" area) that will be added to the bus route in 2015/2016. If we add these areas to the routes it will mean purchasing an additional bus and hiring an additional driver. The "U" area covers students that will be going to Righetti High School due to the boundary change. It will involve over 200 students. The "Strip" area includes students that are farthest out and will now be transported to Pioneer Valley. This would also involve a little over 200 students.

A year and a half ago there was a bad bus accident and in the wake of that they have decided that they need more information (accurate information as to who is actually on the bus). From there they came to the board and asked for equipment to track the buses and students as they enter and exit the bus. In 2016, they hope to have it up and running and have analytical information to see who is actually riding the bus. They will be able to track

the buses with confidence. It will help the department tremendously. Next year the student ID tags will be coded to the bus they ride. They will be able to see who is being transported and when they are actually riding the bus. They will then be able to see how best to utilize the equipment and buses that they have.

Dr. Karamitsos asked if they have discussed other transportation times (like band or sporting events). Mr. Sitton explained that they will eventually.

Ms. Perez asked about the PVHS students taking SMAT. Will this affect those students? Mr. Sitton said that it will include some of those students.

Dr. Richardson thanked him for the presentation.

## **REPORTS**

### **Principal Reports**

Mrs. Herrera spoke about the new tablets. Pioneer Valley is very excited about implementing them at the school but she wanted to share some of the logistics of bringing it to a school site. At the last staff development day they brought articles from other schools that use tablets and had the teachers discuss what they want to do with them. The District Office has offered some great training already and PVHS has some teachers that are tech savvy and are training other teachers. They are thinking of how they will be incorporating the tablets into the classrooms. They want guidelines and expectations across the school so everyone will know what they are. It is exciting and they are moving forward. Each school has twelve departments and the Department Chairs meet with her regularly. They are discussing this and the list of how these departments will use the tablets for students and using the technology in the best way. Ms. Perez asked if the students will have social media access. Ms. Herrera confirmed that they will have access to social media.

Mr. Domingues congratulated the SMHS FFA Program for being named the Outstanding Large Agriculture Program in the South Coast Region for the 2014-2015 school year. The program set a record of 42 students earning their state degree. They have a competition Thursday in Fresno and he wishes them the best of luck. Shannon Powell, teacher and Sergio Ponce, FFA student were in attendance. Sergio thanked the board and the community for their support.

Mrs. Rotondi introduced Robert Garcia, VPA teacher and Nevada Gibson, student. Mr. Garcia spoke about the Film Festival that the students put on each year. This year marks the 18<sup>th</sup> Film Festival that Righetti has done. They use the money they make from this for scholarships that they hand out every year. Mr. Garcia explained that former students have earned fifteen Emmys and share in four Academy Awards. If you went to his class the computers have names of those students that have earned the awards (Wall of Fame). The program is working. Nevada Gibson has been the program for four years. She is an award winner. Nevada explained that she has learned the techniques from Mr. Garcia and the books. She has enjoyed learning techniques, expressing herself and telling stories. Film has been an outlet to express her creativity. She is president of the film club and they are getting donations of gift baskets to raffle off at the film festival. All the students pitch in

and they all work together. The students, parents and community love to come to the festival. It is put on completely by the students. They invited everyone to attend and passed out flyers and brochures. Mrs. Rotondi encouraged everyone to come. It is a great event.

### **Student Reports**

David Torres/PVHS: There hasn't been much going on this month due to spring break. Prom tickets are on sale. They had the Spring Faire and Car Show. Eighteen students returned from CASL (along with Righetti and SMHS students); the students are excited about what they can bring to the school. The Laramie Project for Drama went well. He said he asked around about what is the main issue at PVHS (homework assignment from last month) and said the discussion among seniors and parents is mainly graduation. They are concerned about all three graduations being at 1:00 p.m. and why seniors have school on the last day. Parents are concerned because they can't be at all three graduations (cousins, nieces and nephews). He said that students are getting used to the new bell schedule. Panther Forum is missed because it was easy to keep people in the loop; now announcements are 4<sup>th</sup> period and you can't hear it very well.

Mr. Tognazzini had Dr. Richardson explain the change in graduation. All staff can attend if we do it on the last day of school. Due to ADA rules seniors have to go to school (because you have to be in school 180 days). We discussed it previously and we will try it this year. If it doesn't work we will do something different as we go into the future.

Jhaicelle Laron/ERHS: Warrior Welcome was March 26 and they had a great turnout. Before spring break 17 ASB students attended CASL. Representatives will be at the May meeting to discuss it. Dance and Cheer tryouts are next week. Prom tickets go on sale next week and the Prom is May 16 at the Elk's Lodge. Powder Puff is scheduled for May 1. Hairspray will be performed on May 2 (by the RHS Actors Guild). Jhaicelle said it has been an honor to serve as ASB President, ASB Board Rep., SSC Rep. and SDMC Rep. and she has learned a lot. She shared that she feels it is important for all to remember to listen at the meetings and not to waste valuable meeting time.

Gerardo Nevarez/SMHS: Seniors are busy finalizing financial aid and picking their college choice. Prom tickets go on sale tomorrow. Grad night is in June. ASB donated over \$3,600 to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (exceeded their goal of \$3,000). They surprised Ms. Bahena, foodservice staff member with the "Dude Be Nice" project. Ms. Bahena is always nice to the students. ASB members traveled to the CASL conference, they will be at the next board meeting to present. They are working on Saint's Spring, a preview day of everything there is at SMHS (bringing the college environment to the high school) in May. Jazz Band received 1<sup>st</sup> place at Dos Pueblos Jazz Festival the band will have their concert May 1<sup>st</sup>. Race Team will be traveling to Bakersfield to compete in the season opener.

Mr. Tognazzini asked them to come back next month and share some of the issues that come up at ASB (with the addition of what is happening).

**Board Member Reports**

Mr. Palera: He attended the County School Board dinner and the speaker was Bill Cirone, County Superintendent. It was very informative for those in attendance. Testing information was shared. Very good information. Thanked Dr. Richardson for the governance team training. Very useful to get the board together and all the operations that go along with it. Thanks to everyone for attending and sharing information.

Ms. Perez: Thanked Joe Domingues and Pete Flores for attending the student summit at Hancock and informing them about cultural proficiency. She also had the opportunity to attend the Migrant Education meeting and learned about the placement and restructuring of placing students. Impressed with the cooperation of the staff. Happy to see the work being done. There are a lot of great things happening at the sites. It is exciting to keep up with. Everyone is working hard to support our students.

Dr. Karamitsos: The governance training was a rich experience. It is a pleasure to serve our community and participate in the growth of the beautiful students. She thanked all the student representatives for their participation and she encourages them to continue to participate in leadership. Be thoughtful about it but go with your heart and gut. She wished them the best of luck.

Mr. Tognazzini: He mirrored the comments on the training and the students. There will be a presentation at the board meeting next month from the County. He read some information from the brochure that Mr. Garcia handed out and it talks about collaboration. When we are talking about the Arts, we are talking about the dramatic arts, the mural project and music; working together in a collaborative way (which is necessary in the real world). We are all really thrilled by the mural project and for what you do for our students. Besides just the beauty of art; art and mathematics go hand in hand. He is pleased to have the great art and art teachers that we have in the district.

**ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION**

**INSTRUCTION**

**Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints**

Pursuant to Education Code Section 35168, the governing board of a school district must conduct a public hearing to report the quarterly report that was submitted in April 2015 on the Williams Uniform Complaints for the months of January – March 2015. Each school site has reported that there have been no complaints in the general subject areas of Text-books and Instructional Materials, Valenzuela/CAHSEE Intensive Instruction and Services.

A motion was made by Mr. Palera, seconded by Dr. Karamitsos and carried with a 4-0 vote to approve the Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints for the months of January – March 2015.

**BUSINESS**

**Approval of Authorization to Piggyback on Hemet Unified School District for School Buses District Wide for the Length of the Contract through June 30, 2015**

Yolanda Ortiz explained that Section 20118 of the Public Contract Code provides an alternative for obtaining supplies, furniture, and equipment, commonly referred to as “piggybacking”. Notwithstanding Section 20111 and 20112 of the Public Contract Code, the governing board of any school district without advertising for bids and with board determination that it is in the best interest of the district, may authorize the purchase of such supplies, furniture and equipment.

Hemet Unified School District has awarded their school buses bid to BUSWEST (Piggyback Bid #2014/15-22814, expires June 30, 2015). With Board approval the district may “piggyback” on their bid.

A motion was made by Dr. Karamitsos, seconded by Mr. Palera and carried with a 4-0 vote to grant approval to obtain school buses pursuant to a “piggyback” clause in the Hemet Unified School District bid.

**Authorization to Contract with Frank Schipper Construction to perform Preconstruction Professional Services for the Pioneer Valley High School Performing Arts Center project of the District’s Reconfiguration and Facilities Program**

On March 24, 2015 the board approved and prequalified four construction management firms to deliver services to the District for the Reconfiguration and Facilities Program.

A selection committee consisting of District staff has reviewed proposals for the Pioneer Valley High School Performing Arts Center project and interviewed firms interested in providing the district with preconstruction professional consulting services, and ultimately, Lease Lease-Back Construction Services. Of four proposals received, the selection committee is recommending the selection of Frank Schipper Construction to perform preconstruction services for the project. The preconstruction services include, but are not limited to, professional cost estimating, plan review, constructability review, value engineering and professional scheduling services.

A motion was made by Dr. Karamitsos, seconded by Ms. Perez and carried with a 4-0 vote to enter into a contract with Frank Schipper Construction to perform preconstruction services for the Pioneer Valley High School Performing Arts Center project.

**Public Hearing for Acquisition of Real Property**

On April 16, 2014 the District opened escrow for the purchase of property identified as APN No. 107-150-013. Education Code section 17211 provides that a school district, prior to the commencing the acquisition of real property shall evaluate the property at a public hearing using site selection standards established by the California Department of Education (CDE) pursuant to Section 17251. The District has determined that the parcel complies with the CDE Title 5 Standards established and has completed all of the CDE re-

quirements for a site approval of the parcel pursuant to Education Code section 17251.

Mr. Tognazzini opened the public hearing regarding APN No. 107-150-013.

Public Comment: Shelley Klein had a list of questions about the district purchasing the property. She handed the list to Dr. Richardson. Her questions included survey of employers in the area, partnerships with employers in the Ag industry and whether partnerships have been developed with Allan Hancock College. Other questions/comments included the plan for a 4<sup>th</sup> comprehensive high school, transportation of students, security and the safety of the animals.

No other comments were made so the Public Hearing was closed.

**Approval of Resolution No. 18-2014-2015**

In compliance with Education code 17211 the board is requested to consider and approve resolution 18-2014-2015. The district has determined that the parcel is in compliance with CDE Title 5 Standards and has completed all CDE requirements for a site approval.

A motion was made by Dr. Karamitsos, seconded by Ms. Perez and carried with a 4-0 roll call vote to approve Resolution No. 18-2014-2015 as presented.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Mr. Tognazzini	Yes
Dr. Garvin	Absent
Dr. Karamitsos	Yes
Ms. Perez	Yes
Mr. Palera	Yes

**Authorization to Contract for Architectural Services for a potential new Center for Career Technical Education and Applied Agricultural Sciences Facility**

On September 23, 2014, the Board approved and prequalified five architecture firms to deliver services to the District for the Reconfiguration and Facilities Program. On February 27, 2015, the District released a Request for Proposals to each of the prequalified firms soliciting proposals for a new Center for Career Technical Education and Applied Agricultural Sciences Facility. Two firms responded and participated in a presentation of their proposals along with an interview and were evaluated by the selection committee on the merits of their presentation and the quality of their proposal. After a comprehensive and competitive evaluation of proposals, a Selection Committee consisting of District staff, selected PMSM Architects as the top-ranked proposal for a new Center for Career Technical Education and Applied Agricultural Sciences Facility.

The District seeks the approval of the Board to authorize district administration to enter into a contract with PMSM Architects for a new Center for Career Technical Education and Applied Agricultural Sciences Facility, subsequent to acquisition of property.

A motion was made by Dr. Karamitsos, seconded by Mr. Palera and carried with a 4-0 vote to approve a contract with PMSM Architects for architectural services for a potential new Center for Career Technical Education and Applied Agricultural Sciences Facility, subsequent to acquisition of property.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

A motion was made by Dr. Karamitsos, seconded by Mr. Palera and carried with a 4-0 vote to approve consent items as presented.

**REPORTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS**

Tami Contreras/CSEA: Apologized for missing last month. She had minor surgery and could not attend. On May 20th the District will be participating in CSEA’s ACE program (shadowing classified employees in their jobs). Just finished the re-classification process (new process this year); interviewed the different employees and met three times. It made the process better. Also mentioned that Delta earned Model School last month.

Karen Draper/Faculty Association: The Association is working on compiling the sunshine list and should have it wrapped it up in the next few weeks.

**OPEN SESSION PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bert Johnson: He spoke about the parking at Righetti High School per the Reconfiguration and Facilities Program. He is a resident near Righetti High School. He could not find the parking issue addressed in the CFW report. He is requesting a formal parking report be done and have the county review it so the residents in the area are not inconvenienced.

**ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

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

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

Unless otherwise announced, the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on May 12, 2015. Closed session begins at 5:30 p.m. Open session begins at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the District Support Services Center.

**FUTURE REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2015**

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|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Tuesday, June 9, 2015  | Tuesday, August 4, 2015    | Tuesday, October 13, 2015  |
| Tuesday, July 14, 2015 | Tuesday, September 8, 2015 | Tuesday, November 10, 2015 |
|                        |                            | Tuesday, December 8, 2015  |

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.