

# HOPE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The monthly meeting of the Hope School District Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on February 12, 2007, in the Hope District Board Room. All members were present except Elizabeth Owen. The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:05 p.m. The Board reconvened in a Public Session at 7:10 p.m. The following is a brief outline of the actions and discussions addressed by the Board.

## ***The Meeting Reconvened at 7:10 p.m.***

During closed session, the Board accepted the resignation of the head custodian at Hope School and consulted with legal counsel regarding anticipated litigation. Elizabeth Owen joined the board by conference call from Warwick New York, 65 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Phone: (212) 247-2700

## ***Correspondence***

Superintendent Fausett reported that a parent had called regarding the safety of buses without seatbelts that are used to transport students to CIMI and other field trips locations. Ms. Fausett contacted Santa Barbara Transportation and found out that school buses built after 2006 must have seatbelts and they currently have two buses with seatbelts. Coach USA is not required to have seatbelts on their buses because they primarily transport adults. An audience member mentioned that a bus with a bathroom is preferred for long trips and that private buses usually hold more people than school buses.

## ***Public Comment***

An audience member asked if the district does not plan to allow any summer camps on campuses this year. The superintendent responded that teachers will be changing classroom and campuses this summer, custodians will need time for summer cleaning, and the low rental amounts that have been charged to camps could all be reasons why camps would not be held on campuses this summer.

A Monte Vista parent asked for information on plans to replace Patrick Plamondon as principal. Nancy Lorenzen will serve as temporary principal for the remainder of the year and a search for a new principal will begin in March. He asked if this change would cause any changes in district future plans and was assured that the three schools will continue with a principal in each school.

A Hope School parent asked if there was any feedback from the attorney regarding the specialist payment issue. The superintendent

reported that a special board meeting is planned for March 19 at Vieja Valley with a presentation by Attorney Mary Dowell regarding employment law and this issue.

An audience member asked how parents could provide input about the special education program. Mr. Plamondon had served as the special education coordinator and the superintendent will take over that task for the remainder of the year. One of the goals is to develop a process for parent communication.

## ***Consent Items***

The following routine consent items were presented to the Board for approval: The Board approved (3 ayes; 1 abstain; 1 absent) the minutes of the regular board meeting of January 8, 2007; approved (4 ayes; 0 noes; 1 absent) the commercial warrant registry sheets for December 28, 2006, January 12, January 19, January 26, and February 2, 2007.

## ***Action Item***

Approval of Resolution 06/07-04 Authorizing the Borrowing of Funds for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 and the Issuance and Sale of a 2007-2008 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note (TRAN) and Participation in the California School Cash Reserve Program and Requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County to Issue and Sell the Note. Business Manager Julie Wood presented Resolution 06/07-04 to the Trustees for adoption. This resolution allows the District the ability to request and authorize tax and revenue anticipation notes during periods of cash flow restrictions and is an annual adoption. The Board of Trustees approved (4 ayes; 0 noes; 1 absent) adoption of Resolution 06/07-04.

## ***Discussion Items***

### ***Cafeteria Program***

Business Manager Julie Wood discussed the district lunch program and the cost of school lunches. She presented a budget update

on the cafeteria program and information on the cost of lunches in other county school districts. A question was asked about contracting out for lunches and it was explained that our district is too small to interest private companies. A proposed increase in lunch prices will be brought to the board at a later meeting.

### ***District Planning Committee***

Superintendent Fausett reported on her plan to organize a committee to include representation from the three schools and business community

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to explore the desires and needs of the Hope School District community in the next 5 years. Basic aide status will begin to benefit the district in 08-09 and this committee will determine priorities regarding Education Program Offerings, Compensation for Staff, Extra Curricular Program Offerings, Site Utilization and other issues. This committee of around 20 members will include, teachers, principals, community members, parents, and board members. A notice will be placed in each school newsletter requesting volunteers for the committee. Meetings will be held in late afternoon or evenings from March to October with a report to the board planned for the fall.

## **Monte Vista Mobile Home/Caretaker**

Superintendent Fausett reported on the proposal for the district to purchase the mobile home/caretaker unit on the Monte Vista campus. The owner of the unit recently approached the district regarding selling that mobile home to the district. A copy of the structural and mechanical inspection of the mobile home was provided for the Trustees. The superintendent asked if the district should continue with the caretaker at Monte Vista or explore other options such as a security patrol, cameras and lights. She will contact Montecito Union and Cold Spring to find out how they handle security and also obtain an estimated value of the unit. Trustee Patricia Hiles asked for information on the number of incidents that have occurred at the campuses with a caretaker in residence. A teacher in the audience asked that the district provide more lighting, such as motion sensor lights, on all school campuses for the safety of staff that are on campus after dark.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Fausett reported that the contract with the YMCA has been renewed for another year for the same charge of \$1 per year plus the replacement of picnic tables that are used for the YMCA summer program. The contract is on a year-to-year basis and can be renewed or cancelled by telephone call before the renewal date. She spoke with a representative from Habitat from Humanity regarding a project in the district that will bring in two kindergarten and one fourth grade students with occupancy in April or May. Interviews for housing in St. Vincent's will be held in March with occupancy in April or May and students arriving in our district in the fall.

Mercy Housing will keep the district informed on the number of families with elementary school age children.

## **Board Members' Reports**

Trustee Scott Orlosky reported that he and other board members had attended Brown Act training with board members from other school boards in the area.

Trustee Patricia Hiles reported that she had reported information to the ACLU regarding the finger scanning program for school lunches and the ACLU has no concerns regarding privacy issues of the lunch payment finger scanning program. She shared the ACLU suggestion that student information be destroyed when students leave the district.

Trustee Todd Sosna reported that he attended the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Shakespeare play at Hope School and encouraged everyone to attend.

## **Adjournment of Regular Session**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.