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### MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2009

<u>Call to Order</u>	The Board of Education of Palo Alto Unified School District held a Regular Meeting in the Board Room at 25 Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto, California. Barb Mitchell, President, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
	<p>Members present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Barb Mitchell, President</li> <li>Ms. Barbara Klausner, Vice President</li> <li>Ms. Melissa Baten Caswell</li> <li>Mr. Dana Tom</li> <li>Ms. Camille Townsend</li> <li>Mr. Chirag Krishna, Paly, Student Board Representative</li> <li>Mr. Phil Park, Gunn, Student Board Representative</li> </ul>
	<p>Staff present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Kevin Skelly, Superintendent</li> <li>Dr. Scott Bowers, Assistant Superintendent</li> <li>Mrs. Ginni Davis, Assistant Superintendent</li> <li>Mr. Scott Laurence, Assistant Superintendent</li> <li>Dr. Robert Golton, Chief Business Officer</li> <li>Mrs. Cathy Mak, Chief Business Officer</li> <li>Ms. Noreen Likins, Principal</li> <li>Ms. Jacquie McEvoy, Principal</li> <li>Mr. Tom Jacobousky, Assistant Principal</li> <li>Mr. Ron Smith, Project Manager</li> </ul>
	<p>Others present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Tom Hodges, O'Connor Construction Management</li> <li>Ms. Lisa Gelfand, Gelfand Partners</li> <li>Mr. Erwin Lee, DLM Architecture</li> <li>Mr. Arnold Teten, Gilbane</li> </ul>
<u>Closed Session</u>	The Board adjourned to closed session for Conference with Labor Negotiator, Dr. Scott Bowers, regarding PAEA, CSEA, and non-represented groups pursuant to Government Code 54961.
<u>Reconvene in Open Session</u>	The Board reconvened in regular session at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Mitchell announced that no action was taken.
<u>Approval of Agenda Order</u>	MOTION: Tom moved to approve the agenda order. Klausner seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
<u>Staff and Student Successes</u>	Skelly congratulated a number of students from the middle schools for their achievements at the Peninsula Mathcounts competition, Gunn High School students for their nominations and awards in various areas, Palo Alto High School singers, Gunn and Paly teachers nominated for recognition by the California Language Teachers Association, and staff for receiving the Meritorious Budget Award from the Association of School Business Officials.
<u>Information</u> Student Board Representative Reports	Chirag Krishna, of Paly, discussed Career Month, end of WASC process at Paly, and Varsity Tennis. Phil Park, of Gunn, discussed Spring Break and Gunn theater performances.
<u>Information</u> Superintendent's Report	Skelly discussed WASC visits.
<u>Action</u> Approval of Consent Calendar	MOTION: Baten Caswell moved to approve Certificated and Classified Personnel Actions; minutes of two meetings on February 10 and minutes for February 24, March 3, and March 6, 2009; warrants for February 2009; and Measure A Purchases for Technology. Klausner seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
<u>Public Hearing</u> Ratification of Tentative Agreement with the Palo Alto Approved: March 31, 2009	Mitchell opened the floor to the public. There were no requests to speak.

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Educators Association	Mitchell closed the hearing.
<u>Public Hearing</u> Ratification of Tentative Agreement with the California School Employees Association	Mitchell opened the floor to the public.  There were no requests to speak.  Mitchell closed the hearing.
<u>Discussion</u> Ratification of Tentative Agreement with the Palo Alto Educators Association	Skelly said this was the second of two parts of negotiations, and there was a tremendous amount of uncertainty in the economic environment. He thanked members of the negotiating team for their work.  Bowers said they were near an agreement in October, until the Governor announced potential reductions, so salary negotiations were postponed until February. He believed this was a good agreement, and it recognized the economic situation. This agreement included compensation, early retirement notification, and retiree health benefits. He said very strong property tax growth in Palo Alto had allowed for the negotiated salary increase.
<u>Discussion</u> Ratification of Tentative Agreement with the California School Employees Association	Board member comments included definitions of "on schedule" and "off schedule," and the need for membership approval before Board approval.  Skelly expressed appreciation for the negotiating team.
<u>Discussion</u> Ratification of Tentative Agreement with the California School Employees Association	Bowers said CSEA, like PAEA, worked with the District around the uncertainties, and he appreciated that they were willing to postpone salary negotiations until after the state budget passed. He said this agreement included salary and a few other items.  Board member comments included the need for membership approval before Board approval.
<u>Discussion</u> Compensation Changes for Non-Represented Employees	Bowers mentioned the longstanding understanding with the unrepresented group that they will receive the same compensation increases as the two unions.
<u>Action</u> Approval of Ohlone Elementary School New Classroom Building Conceptual Design	Lisa Gelfand gave a brief presentation focusing on building location, orientation, and lighting.  Golton said the Board was being asked to approve a two-dimensional representation of what the building will look like and where it will be placed. In the future, the Board will be asked to approve schematic designs.
<u>Discussion</u> Master Plans for Gunn and Palo Alto High School	Board member comments included: need for artificial lighting in classrooms and energy savings; rain protection for library area; the need for school staff to discuss second floor bathrooms in the new building; needs of Special Day classrooms; numbers representing children per acre of turf, paving, and farm; alternative use options; timeline for this project compared to the Garland timeline; and a request for more detailed recommendations in the future.  MOTION: Townsend moved to approve the presented conceptual design for Ohlone Elementary School, which is a two-dimensional representation of the placement and the footprint of the school. Baten Caswell seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
<u>Discussion</u> Master Plans for Gunn and Palo Alto High School	Golton said staff was presenting a prioritized list. He said it would allow flexibility, and the Board would approve projects along the way. He briefly described the history of this process and who was involved.  Lee gave a presentation focusing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gunn<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Master planning goals</li><li>○ Master plan project groupings</li><li>○ Master plan project list (total: \$121.66 million)</li><li>○ Master plan groups</li></ul></li></ul>
	Board member comments included project cost changes over time, review of the recommendation attached to this report, previous meetings held, student input, timeline for classrooms, how long the entire list of projects might take, approval of contract with DLM to follow approval of master plan, renovation of AD buildings, new entry to Gunn campus, traffic flow, timeline for Phases I and II, first bond issue as a ten-year program, need for second bond issue to cover projects not covered by the first issue, current deflation in the cost of construction, possible use of solar power and building placement, programs housed in classroom buildings A and B and grouping of departments, coordination of construction on both high school sites, science building addition and increased need in that department, flexibility in plans and priorities if needs change over the next ten years, regular reporting on progress of master planning, reconciling goals and values with master plan, plan for community involvement in schematic design process, regular meetings at the high schools, dissemination of information to the community and community involvement, program phases, and consolidation of departments at each site.

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### Public Comment

Jim Baer, of Gunn Sports Boosters, suggested the Board consider placing plans for a field house structure (snack bar, storage, restrooms, etc.) in the design planning process for the new gym. He said the Boosters would be willing to support this and are willing to meet and discuss this before the next Board meeting.

Nancy Hughes, of Gunn Sports Boosters, said they appreciated the amount of progress being made, and said there was a great need for a field house. Accelerating this project would address some serious safety concerns, and money can be saved by incorporating this with planning for the gym.

Skelly spoke regarding leveraging resources, saying the District was very appreciative of the support received from boosters at both high schools. He suggested the Board hold a discussion on this topic at the next Board meeting, adding that staff work was needed first.

A.J. Lumdaine said she appreciated the time taken to work on this plan, although she was concerned with work to increase enrollment capacity, saying this would most affect current elementary students. She then asked why Cubberley was not going to be reopened, suggesting it was time to look at this again. She asked what she needed to bring to the Board to get them to consider this option.

Mitchell asked that staff present a brief summary on prior discussions about Cubberley.

Board member comments continued, including: a request to continue to provide facility planning information via the web and to allow community feedback.

The discussion was paused for Open Forum.

### Open Forum

Jim McFall spoke regarding the high speed rail plan, saying the review process was currently under way. He indicated he had done some research on what the high speed rail might look like in Palo Alto. He noted there are potential impacts to the District, and an elevated track system may be built to replace the current system. This would cross above the Alma/Churchill intersection and continue elevated all the way to University Avenue.

Skelly said staff would comment in the near future. Golton said he had met with McFall and other concerned community members, and the District would respond by the April deadline.

### Discussion

Master Plans for Gunn and Palo Alto High School (Continued)

The previous item continued.

Golton said Paly staff had done a tremendous amount of work, including holding a number of meetings.

Lee's presentation continued, focusing on:

- Paly
  - Master planning goals
  - Master plan project groupings
  - Master plan project list (total: \$178.12 million)
  - Master plan proposals with corporation yard relocated

Board member comments included the importance of student input regarding facility amenities during schematic planning, potential concerns not currently addressed in this master plan, potential movement in the future of the building program, theater design, priority ranking, movement of programs during and after phases of renovation while continuing to provide services, timeline, Adult School, Career Tech Ed, square footage per person in the new theater, use of theater for full productions, use of new quad space (currently used by bike racks) after construction is over, adding covered eating areas, connecting the Science Building to the rest of the campus, the distance between math and science programs on campus, elevators in the Tower Building, the flooding situation at Paly when there is heavy rain, priority of infrastructure items, involvement of a traffic consultant in planning, including Tower Building work in different phases depending on availability of funds, comparability of science and performing arts facilities at the two high schools at the end of the bond program, and possible response from the Paly site committee regarding a high speed rail system.

### Public Comment

Eric Nee, Treasurer of Theater Boosters, said that in regard to the new theater, he hoped the Board would pay attention to siting, design process, and not short-change the theater. He wanted it to seat at least 600 and have all the facilities needed by a school such as Paly.

Holly Ward said she was very excited about the new theater, saying she would love to see the performing arts center, or at least its design, moved up to Group 2, before the Media Center. She said there was a lot of community interest, and it would take a long time to plan it. She also noted that no money was spent on the Haymarket Theater during Building for Excellence.

Scott Smithwick, of the Palo Alto Stanford Heritage Board, was concerned about the placement of the theater. Although the

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planned location made sense, there were some major problems, because the scale of the building would have large impacts on traffic and on the historical buildings on campus (Tower Building and Haymarket Theater). He also suggested writing an Historic Structures Report, which may show the placement of the theater may not work.

Rob Wilen said he supported the urgency of the theater project, as it was very complex and would take a long time to build. There is an urgent need for a new theater at Paly in order to support the excellent theater and music programs, as well as large group assemblies. He said he had confidence in staff's choice on the location of the new theater.

Alex Nee, a Paly student, said most theater students at Paly would strongly prefer the fly system in the new theater, because it allowed larger scale productions. He added that he had never seen a 600-seat theater with just a grid system. He also suggested looking into acoustics of the new building, because acoustics in the Haymarket Theater were bad.

Michael Najar, a Paly theater teacher, thanked parents and students who had spoken at this meeting. He said the theater was in the right place because it will serve instructional needs and it creates a community. He also said the teaching spaces in the theater plan were too small and that facilities needed to match the students.

Pat Tyler, a Paly theater teacher, appreciated all the enthusiasm, support, thought, and compromise going into this process. She agreed that the location of the theater was correct, it was an instructional space, and that it was important for the performing arts department to coexist. She also asked where the theater instructional space was meant to be, such as a black box space.

MOTION: Baten Caswell moved to extend the meeting to 10:30 p.m. Klausner seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Kathleen Woods said she hoped this would be a full service theater with all instructional services, including technology and a fly system. Theater work should be considered vocational technology education, since students can make a living in the theater industry.

Caroline Willis said the older buildings were the symbol of education in this community, and it would be a mistake to take them down. Buildings being planned now will affect the community many years into the future, and planning cannot be successful with conflicting assumptions. She asked that decisions not be rushed.

Tom Marks, a Paly student, said there were a lot of parents and students interested in the theater project because it promotes a community. He was concerned that the size of the new theater may limit capabilities just like the Haymarket Theater currently does. He also supported a fly system, as it allowed more flexibility and safety.

Kirstin Sego said she felt like there was a large segment of the community who was not aware of this planning process, so it was premature to be approving the master plan at this time. She suggested looking at meeting needs not only now, but in the future. She also stressed keeping landscaping planning as part of the whole process.

Kirsten Essenbacher presented a letter with 80 signatures of taxpayers asking for a three-story classroom building and a three-story career tech building instead of the currently planned buildings. She said benefits could include reduced cost, reduced project completion time, increased sustainability, improved aesthetics, drainage, and flexibility for enrollment growth.

James Hillmer, Vice President of the local stagehands union, said he looked forward to acting as one of the client representatives to the design process of the theater. He said he was also willing to provide as much input as possible for Gunn theater projects. He said the Haymarket Theater extremely limited what could be taught to students.

Steve Reller said there was room for improvement, saying it was a huge mistake to not maximize use of space by making some buildings three stories tall.

Skelly said there was some very difficult design work ahead, and he recognized there would be tension about preserving historical buildings and providing for student needs. He also said staff would recommend DLM to do the design work. He urged the Board to recommend staff bring this back as an action item at the next meeting. He said much more discussion would occur during the design phase and it would include community input.

Board member comments included Building 100 planned use, the need for theatre arts teaching spaces with new performing arts building, potential increase above 600 seats for new theater, loss of open space, teachers being displaced by the addition of science labs, possibility of rebuilding Building 100 rather than renovating it, considering ways to connect departments teaching STEM (science technology engineering math) topics in planning the campus, protecting kids from rain on campus, a request for more clarity on the theater plan and renovating Building 100, preservation of options in planning the theater program, function as a critical priority, configuration of science building, and commitment to progressive parity in terms of instructional programs a facilities.

Golton said staff could bring this item back for action at the March 31 meeting, as well as the first reading of the DLM contract item for design of the campus.

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### Action

Authorization to Solicit Bids for the Palo Alto High school El Camino Field and Pal Alto High School Multi-Use Field

MOTION: Tom moved to extend the meeting to 11:20 p.m. Mitchell seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Golton introduced the report, including the application to be submitted to the DSA (Division of the State Architect). Teten reviewed the concerns of the site committee about the appearance of the planned netting.

Board member comments included palm trees, height of El Camino field and disposal of excess dirt, and timeline.

MOTION: Tom moved to recommend that bids be solicited for the Paly El Camino Field project and for the Paly Multi-use Fields project. Townsend seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

### Action

Second Interim Financial Report

Skelly noted that a few items, in italics, responded to questions raised at the last meeting. Mak described the changes, and the addition of the state review form.

MOTION: Baten Caswell moved to give a positive certification to the County Superintendent that the District can meet its financial obligations through the end of the fiscal year and for the subsequent two years, and to approve the budget revision listed in the projected year totals. Klausner seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

### Action

Authorization to Award Contracts for the Set-Up and rental of Modular Buildings at Ohlone Elementary and Jordan and JLS Middle Schools

Golton described proposed placement of the buildings at each site. He said another Board report would be presented for utilities, etc.

MOTION: Tom moved to approved the award of a contract for the installation of up to nine portable classrooms in an amount not to exceed \$65,280 plus a change order contingency of \$6,528, and to approve a rental cost for 2009-10 of not to exceed \$49,248. Baten Caswell seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

### Discussion

Authorization to Teach a Single Subject Class

Bowers said this item was for a staff member who has taken sufficient coursework, but did not have a subject area listed on her credential.

The Board agreed this item could return on the consent calendar at the next meeting.

### Discussion

Resolution 2008-09.13 for Classified Reduction in Service

Bowers said this reflected a reduction in categorical funds coming from the state. He said these bus supervisors were actually considered for reduction last year, but were carried over when funds were made available. He said Human Resources would make every effort to place the displaced employees in other positions for which they were qualified.

The Board agreed this item could return on the consent calendar at the next meeting.

### Board Members'

Reports/Correspondence/Board Operations/Recognition

### Reports

Baten Caswell attended the Housing Element meeting and said there was a lot of discussion about where density could be added in the City.

Townsend said that next Wednesday, a City/School Liaison Committee meeting would be held. Golton said topics would include the District's Earth Day activities, Measure A, and the Oregon Expressway.

Tom attended the Legislative brunch for the Santa Clara County School Boards Association and discussed the budget amendment and ballot measures.

Skelly said a study session would occur on March 31, 2009, at 12:00 p.m. regarding elementary school boundaries.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

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Secretary to the Board