

MEASURE A - STRONG SCHOOLS BOND
CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
PALO ALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF JULY 25, 2012

Opening

The Citizens' Oversight Committee held a meeting in the Fairmeadow Elementary Staff Lounge, 500 E. Meadow Dr., Palo Alto, California.

*All handouts can be viewed at the District office, Business Services 25 Churchill Avenue

Members present:

Mr. Ray Bacchetti, Senior Citizen

Mr. Scott Darling, At Large Member

Mr. Gary Hornbeek, Parent, PTA Member

Ms. Catharine Garber, Business Organization Member

Dr. Mary Marth, Parent

Mr. Todd Collins, Taxpayer Organization

Mr. Bruce Whitson, Parent

Others present:

Mr. Tom Hodges, O'Connor Construction Management

Mr. Lori Alvarez, O'Connor Construction Management

District Staff Present:

Dr. Robert Golton, Facilities and Bond Program Manager

Mr. Ron Smith, Facility Project Manager

Ms. Betty Munoz, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Public Comment

There was no request for public comment.

Review of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Collins moved to approve the minutes of April 18, 2012. Motion carried 6-0.

Program Status Update

Completed projects: Gunn Aquatic Center, Gunn Industrial Arts Renovation, Gunn A/C, Paly Multi-Use Field, Ohlone New Construction and Modernization, Elementary Interactive White Boards, Technology Upgrade K-12.

Projects under construction:

Gunn Gym – Sheeting is up. Schedule is slipping a little but still on for the January 1, 2013 occupancy.

Gunn Classroom Building – Steel is up and set the metal deck. It will be ready to occupy fall of 2013.

Gunn World Languages Building

Paly English/History Classroom Building

Paly Media Arts Building – Steel is up and they are shaping metal deck as well.

Paly Stadium Field – They are getting ready for paving. This will be ready for the beginning of the football season. This also includes the bleacher replacement and site work.

Paly Tower Building Improvements – Window replacements taking place, redone some gutters, redone some dry rot.

Jordan Classroom Building – This will be a six classroom wing. Parking lot will be paved before school starts.

Jordan Cafetorium – The metal sheeting is up. There is other modernization that is being done at Jordan including seismic upgrades.

Terman Library Addition – Framing is currently up.

Terman Drama Classroom – All has been plastered.

Terman Campus Modernization – Seismic upgrades are being done and should be complete before

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the beginning of school.
JLS Classroom Wing- This project was just started in May. There is a lot of demolition.
Fairmeadow Classroom Building and Library – There is on-going construction.
Duveneck – They are doing the portable relocation for interim housing.

Projects in DSA:

Duveneck – New construction and modernization.
Paly Performing Arts Center – This is in design and going to DSA in December.
Gunn Parking and Drop-off – Schematic design started and will be complete in September 2012.

Future Projects:

Gunn Library and Music building will be torn down and the new building will have Performing Arts Complex and New Student Activities. They will expand the Spangenberg Theatre Lobby Area and they will also do some modernization to Spangenberg Theatre.

Paly Performing Arts and the second half of the Performing Arts is renovation of Building 100, Home Economics classroom, Photography Studio. The Library and Building 300A will be going to the Board soon. The Weight/Fitness Facility is also a group 2 project. The group 3 projects are the addition and renovation of the 700 building for Career Tech and the Tower Administration building renovation.

Elementary schools reserves for construction to accommodate growth

Committee member asked of the total Bond what has been issued? Golton said they had a Series A of \$120 million and a Series B of \$25 million. They are moving to a path of issuing in chunks of \$50 million each. They anticipate the next \$50 million will be issued in the first or second quarter of next year.

Committee member asked for budget and actuals of completed projects. Golton said they will report on this at the next COC meeting.

Strong Schools Bond Tax Rate

The Board opted to move in a different direction which is paying off the Prop 39 bonds at the maximum statutory rate of \$60 dollars per \$100, 000. The second component would be the debt service on the B4E bonds. Things changed since there was a dramatic decrease in assessed value growth in Palo Alto. Tax bills will go up about 4%.

Committee member asked was there any discussion about delaying not spending the money? Golton said the alternative was out there, but no.

Annual Bond Audit

Christy White auditing firm will perform a financial and performance audit. Auditors will be here the week of August 20. They will meet with the Superintendent, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee.

Presentation of 2012 COC Annual Report

It was proposed the Committee have an earlier meeting to focus on the editing and approving the Committee's annual report and have it ready to present to the Board of Education at the September 12, 2012.

Selection of New Members

The selection of new members (Walt Hays, Helene Leichter, James Cowie) to the COC will go to the Board on August 21.

September 12, 2012 Agenda

The September COC meeting was rescheduled for September 12, 2012.

Next Meeting and Future Meetings Schedule

September 12, 2012
January 15, 2012
April 18, 2012

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.