

**REGULAR MEETING
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES

October 9, 2013

The Regular meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by President Hansen in the Boardroom at the District Office, 15110 California Avenue, Paramount, California.

Pledge of Allegiance Randy Gray, Director-Curriculum & Instruction led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call Trustee Vivian Hansen Trustee Linda Garcia-ill
Trustee Sonya Cuellar Trustee Tony Peña
Trustee Alicia Anderson

Administrators Present Herman Mendez, Superintendent
Michael Conroy, Assistant Superintendent-Business Services
Myrna Morales, Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources
Deborah Stark, Assistant Superintendent-Educational Services
Ranita Browning, Director-Fiscal Services
Kim Cole, Director-Special Education/ECE
Rosemary Green, Director-Human Resources
Jose Iniguez, Director-Secondary Education/CTE
Troy Marshall, Director-Technology
Manuel San Miguel, Director-Student Services
Chris Stamm, Director-Nutrition Services
Greg Buckner, Principal-Paramount High School
Jean Law, Principal-Buena Vista High School
Richard Morgan, Principal-Paramount Adult School

Regular Meeting Trustee Anderson moved, Trustee Peña seconded and the
October 9, 2013 motion carried 4-0 to approve the Regular meeting agenda of
1.262 October 9, 2013.

Regular Minutes Trustee Cuellar moved, Trustee Peña seconded and the motion
September 25, 2013 carried 3-0-1 to approve the Regular meeting minutes of
1.263 September 25, 2013.

REPORTS

Student Board Avery De La Cruz-Paramount High School, Ayline Alcaraz-
Representatives' Paramount High School-West Campus, and Ariel Waggener-
Buena Vista High School reported on school academic, athletic
and extra-curricular activities.

Employee Representatives' Reports

There was no CSEA representative in attendance.

TAP president Deb Meyers shared that the bargaining teams have met and the association's goals are to discuss salaries, health & welfare and class size. She wishes that a common ground can be found in order to move forward. She also wished to thank Michael Conroy for inviting Vice President of the State Board of Education Dr. Ilene Straus to speak to the Budget Committee members. She also wished to thank Superintendent Mendez and principals for their support and attendance at the Annual 33rd District PTA Principals & Presidents Conference.

Board Member Reports

Trustee Anderson attended the monthly Ad Hoc meeting and monthly PTA Council meeting.

Trustee Cuellar had no report.

Trustee Hansen had no report.

Trustee Peña had no report.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Mendez highlighted a variety of items:

- Superintendent Mendez met with students at Paramount High School and engaged them in questions that will assist him with his Look, Listen and Learn system.
- Mr. Mendez attended the Annual 33rd District PTA Principals & Presidents Conference.
- He shared with the Board that the Annual MESA Kick-Off is scheduled for Saturday, October 19 at Paramount High School.

Thinking Maps: A Common Core Approach to Writing

Dr. Deborah Stark, Assistant Superintendent-Educational Services shared with the Board that in her presentation, she would provide an overview of what Thinking Maps are and how students benefit from them, outline the District's two year plan to improve student writing and the role of Thinking Maps and provide example of our student's use of Thinking Maps.

The Common Core Standards and new assessments that begin in 2014-15 have a much greater emphasis on critical thinking and writing. To address these needs, PUSD has begun a two year implementation of a writing program that is aligned to the Common Core Standards-*Write from the Beginning and Beyond*. This program is based on the use of Thinking Maps as a foundation for students to plan and organize their writing.

In August 2013, Thinking Maps Lead Teachers representing every K-5 and 6-8 school participated in three days of training to become Thinking Maps Trainers. In September and October, these Lead Teachers trained all K-5 and 6-8 Core teachers on the use of Thinking Maps. Teachers attended with their grade

level or content area (ie, all 2nd grade teachers, all middle school science teachers).

Thinking Maps are a language of eight visual patterns based on fundamental thinking processes. These patterns are used across grade levels and curriculum areas to promote critical thinking and writing.

Our ability to learn visually is greater than any of our other senses. 80% of what comes into our brain is visual. By connecting a visual design with a specific thought process, students create mental visual patterns that promote thinking, helping them become independent critical thinkers. Students who use Thinking Maps learn what thinking looks like.

Maps reflects eight (8) cognitive processes: defining in context, describing, comparing and contrasting, classifying, part to whole relationships, sequencing, cause and effect and seeing analogies.

The District's next steps include:

- By the end of October 2013, all K-5 teachers and 6-8 teachers of Language arts, math, social studies and science will have participated in a full day of Thinking Maps training. Thinking Maps Lead Teachers will participate in five days of advanced level training to develop their expertise.
- K-8 teachers will implement the use of the Maps across content areas. Students will use them to develop oral and written language skills.
- Teams of principals and coaches will visit every K-8 school to observe evidence of the implementation of Thinking Maps and Common Core Standards.
- In summer 2014, Lead Teachers will attend five days of professional development on *Write from the Beginning*, which uses Thinking Maps as the foundation for writing. These Lead Teachers will provide this same writing training to all K-8 teachers in 2014-15.
- By the end of 2015, all K-8 classes will use Thinking Maps and *Write from the Beginning* to develop students' thinking and writing.

BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

There were no changes to the Board meeting calendar.

HEARING SECTION

During the hearing section, Alfonso Alfaro, Field Representative for Congresswoman Lucille Royball-Allard shared information with the Board on three workshops that the Congresswoman would be sponsoring. Two workshops are scheduled for Saturday, October 12, 2013 beginning with a U.S. Service Academies Workshop at the Downey City Library and following with a Community Resource Fair & Health Insurance Enrollment

program to take place at the Lucille Royball-Allard Elementary School in Huntington Park. The third event, also a Community Resource Fair & Health Insurance Enrollment program is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center in Downey. Mr. Alfaro provided copies of each event's flyer for anyone who may be interested.

CONSENT ITEMS

0.264

Trustee Cuellar moved, Trustee Anderson seconded and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the Consent Items.

Human Resources

Personnel Report
13-05
2.264

Accept Personnel Report 13-05, as submitted. The report includes details, assignments, terminations, and employment of personnel. Certain assignments listed in this report may be contingent upon allocation of funding in the 2013-14 State Budget Act and related legislation.

Educational Services

Consultant and Contract
Services
3.264

Approve the Consultant and Contract Services request authorizing contracts with consultants or independent contractors who provide specialized services, as submitted.

Memorandum of
Understanding with AYUDA-
Rotary-USC Dental Clinics
3.264

Accept the Memorandum of Understanding between AYUDA-Rotary-USC Dental Clinics and Paramount Unified School District to provide dental services for 120 students on October 19, 2013.

Contract for Participation in
Marine Education Programs
3.264

Approve the contract with the Los Angeles County Office of Education for schools to have the option to participate in the Marine Education Programs for the 2013-14 school year.

Contract with California State
University, Long Beach and
the Math Engineering and
Science Achievement
Program
3.264

Approve the contract with California State University Long Beach for the MESA Program during the 2013-14 school year.

Business Services

Purchase Order Report
13-07
4.264

Approve Purchase Order Report 13-07 authorizing the purchase of supplies, equipment, and services for the District.

Donations
4.264

Accept the donations as presented on behalf of the District with any bequests or gifts of money or property for a purpose deemed to be suitable by the District.

Agreement for Special
Services with Atkinson,
Andelson, Loya, Ruud &

Approve the Agreement for Special Services with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo for the period September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2014, and authorize the Superintendent or

Romo
4.264

designee to execute all necessary documents.

ACTION ITEMS

General Services

California School Boards
Association – GAMUT Online
Services Agreement
1.265

Trustee Anderson moved, Trustee Peña seconded and the motion carried 4-0 to ratify and approve the GAMUT Online Services agreement with California School Boards Association.

Human Resources

2013-14 Declaration of Need
for Fully Qualified Educators
2.266

Trustee Cuellar moved, Trustee Anderson seconded and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the 2013-14 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators in Paramount Unified School District for submission to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

Educational Services

Nonpublic School Placements
for Special Education
Students for 2013-14
3.267

Trustee Anderson moved, Trustee Peña seconded and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the placement for special education students in nonpublic schools, as determined by the students' Individual Education Plan for the 2013-14 school year.

Business Services

Sadie Hawkins Dance
Program Agreement with
Knott's Berry Farm
4.268

Trustee Cuellar moved, Trustee Anderson seconded and the motion carried 4-0 to ratify the Sadie Hawkins Dance Program Agreement with Knott's Berry Farm, for Paramount High School, and authorize the Superintendent or designee to execute all necessary documents.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Educational Services

Applications for *Schools to
Watch – Taking Center Stage*
for Alondra and Jackson
Middle Schools

Submitted for the Board is information on application submittal for *Schools to Watch – Taking Center Stage* for Alondra and Jackson Middle Schools.

Williams Settlement Quarterly
Uniform Complaint Summary

Submitted for the Board's information is the required Williams Settlement Quarterly Uniform Complaint Summary for the first quarter July 1 – September 30, 2013.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Hansen reported that the next Regular Meeting would be October 23, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. – Boardroom of the District Office.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:42 p.m. to discuss conference with real property negotiator, public employee discipline/dismissal/release, conference with labor negotiator, conference with legal counsel-anticipated litigation and governance team items.

There was no action taken in Closed Session.

OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened to Regular Session at 9:50 p.m. Vice President Cuellar reported that the Board had discussed conference with real property negotiator, public employee discipline/dismissal/release, conference with labor negotiator, conference with legal counsel-anticipated litigation and governance team items.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Cuellar moved, Trustee Peña seconded and the motion carried 4-0 to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on October 9, 2013 at 9:51 p.m.

Herman M. Mendez, Secretary
To the Board of Education

President

Vice President/Clerk