

**STUDY SESSION  
MEETING  
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MINUTES  
August 2, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by President Tony Peña in the Boardroom at the District Office, 15110 California Avenue, Paramount California.

Pledge of Allegiance	Ruben Frutos, Assistant Superintendent-Business Services, led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Roll Call	Trustee Tony Peña Trustee Linda Garcia Trustee Alicia Anderson Trustee Sonya Cuellar Trustee Vivian Hansen
Administrators Present	Ruth Pérez, Superintendent Ruben Frutos, Assistant Superintendent-Business Services Myrna Morales, Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources Ryan Smith, Assistant Superintendent-Secondary Educational Services Deborah Stark, Assistant Superintendent-Educational Services Kim Cole, Director-Special Education/Early Childhood Education Cindy DiPaola, Director-Maintenance & Operations Greg Francois, Director-Secondary Ed. & Instructional Technology Renee Jeffrey, Director-K-5 School Support & Innovative Programs Troy Marshall, Director-Technology Margarita Rodriguez, Director-Research & Evaluation Chris Stamm, Director-Nutrition Services Patricia Tu, Director-Fiscal Services
Approve Study Session Agenda August 2, 2016 1.209	Trustee Anderson moved, Trustee Cuellar seconded and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the agenda of the Study Session Meeting of August 2, 2016.  Ayes: 5 – Trustees Anderson, Cuellar, Garcia, Hansen, Peña

**HEARING SECTION**

District Remaining Priority School Facilities Needs Summary Presentation of the 2016 Updated Community Survey Results

There were no speakers during the Hearing Section.

Mr. Michael Ogburn, with California Financial Services and Mr. Adam Sonenshein with FM3 presented the Board with information on the recent District Community Survey results that was conducted.

Methodology

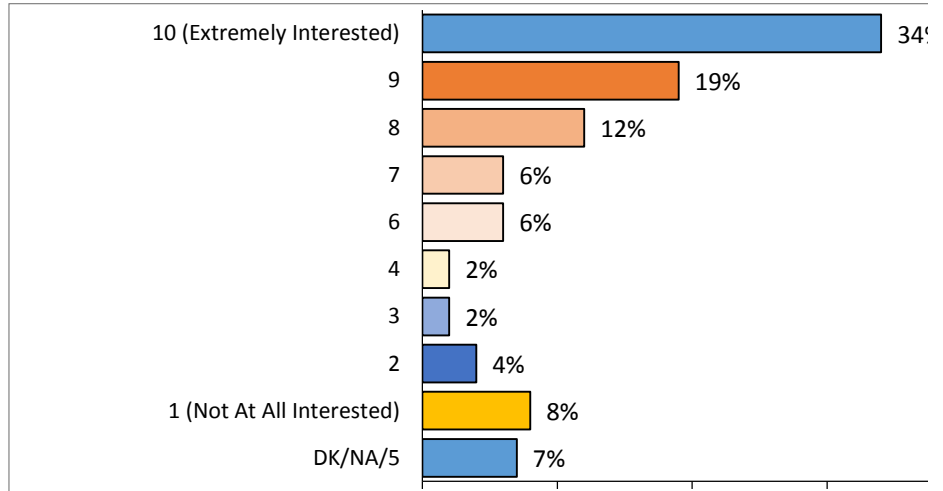
- 355 interviews with Paramount Unified School District voters likely to participate in the November 2016 election

- Conducted July 24 – 31, 2016 via landline and cell phones in English and Spanish
- Margin of error of +/-5.2% at the 95% confidence interval
- Due to rounding, some percentages do not add up to 100%

**Election Context**

Interest in November’s election is quite high.

*On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 meaning “not at all interested” and 10 meaning “extremely interested,” please tell me how interested you are in this year’s Presidential election. Mean score 7.5*



**District voters support statewide education-funding measures**

**SCHOOL BONDS. FUNDING FOR K-12 SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACILITIES. INITIATIVE STATUTORY AMENDMENT.** Authorizes \$9 billion in general obligation bonds for new construction and modernizing older Kindergarten through 12th grade public schools, charter schools, vocational education schools, and community colleges. State General Fund costs of \$17.6 billion to pay principal on bonds over 35 years with average annual payments of approximately \$500 million

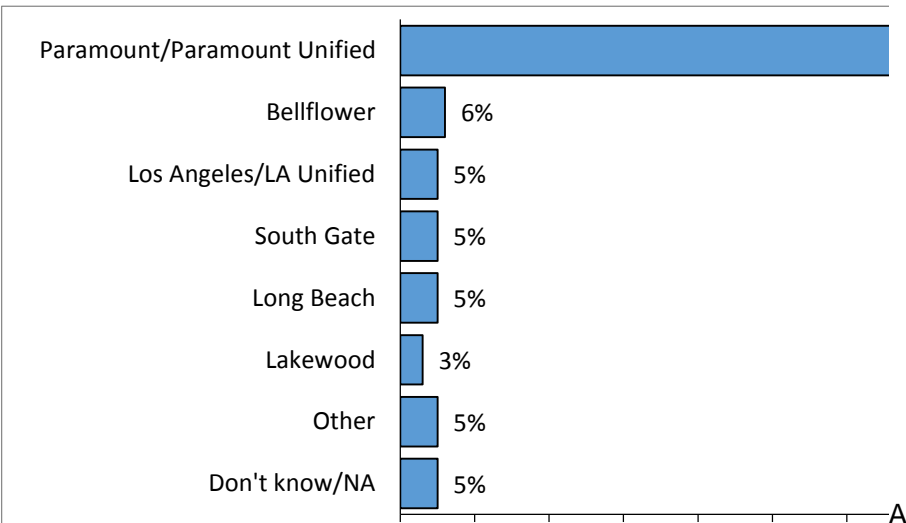
**TAX EXTENSION TO FUND EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.**

Extends by twelve years the personal income tax increases enacted in 2012 on earnings over \$250,000 for K-12 schools, Community Colleges and healthcare programs. Increased state revenues from averaging between \$5 billion to \$11 billion

Perceptions of the District and its Schools:

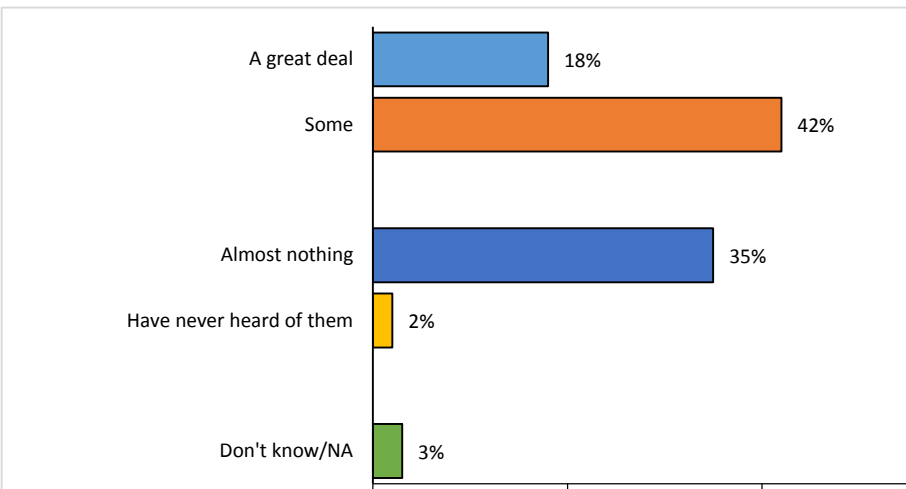
Two thirds correctly identify the local school district that serves them.

Could you please tell me the name of your local school district?



similar share say they know at least “some about the District.

How much do you know about the schools in your area. Would you say you know ?



One third or more see a “great need” for additional funding for local schools.

*Generally speaking, would you say that \_\_\_\_\_ has a great need for additional funding, some need, a little need or no real need for additional funding?*

The Paramount School District

Great need – 33%

Some need – 31%

A little need – 7%

No real need – 15%

Don't know/NA – 14%

Your neighborhood public school

Great need – 37%

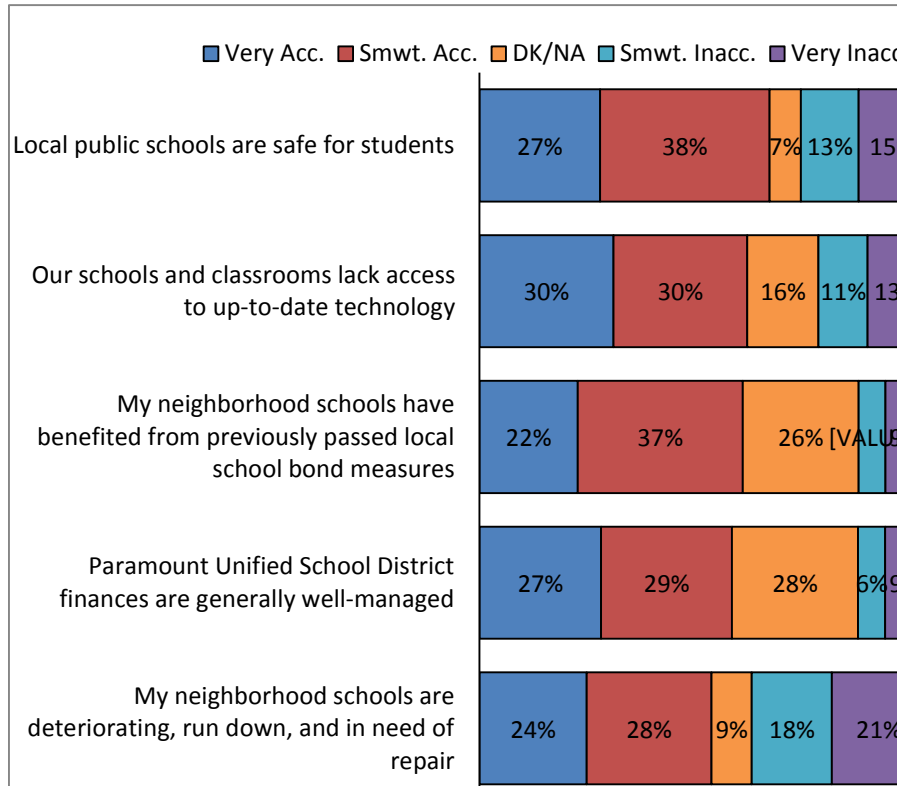
Some need – 36%

A little need – 6%

No real need – 11%

Don't know/NA – 9%

Voters largely believe local schools are safe for students, but lack access to up-to-date technology.



**Support for Potential Bond**

Measure Language Tested

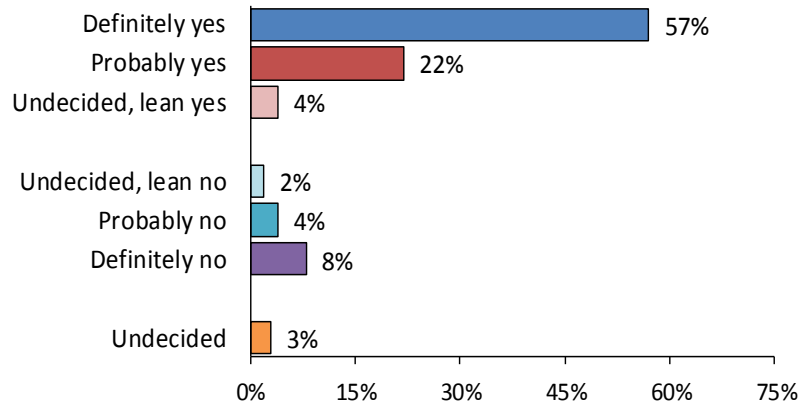
NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL REPAIR, CAREER EDUCATION, SAFETY IMPROVEMENT MEASURE. To:

- repair/upgrade neighborhood schools that prepare students for college/careers;
- upgrade classrooms/labs for job training/college preparation;
- improve school security/technology, electrical wiring, air conditioning, smoke alarms, earthquake safety, disabled access,
- aging gymnasiums/athletic fields/tracks;
- repair deteriorating roofs, water pipes;
- remove lead paint/asbestos;

shall Paramount Unified School District issue \$106 million in bonds at legal rates, with independent audits, citizens' oversight, all funds used locally?

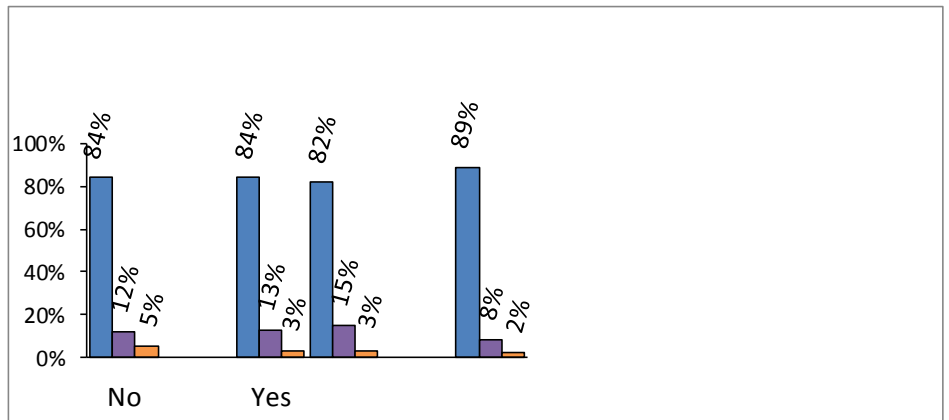
More than four in five voters support the measure – more than half

“definitely.”



Support is high regardless of direct connection.

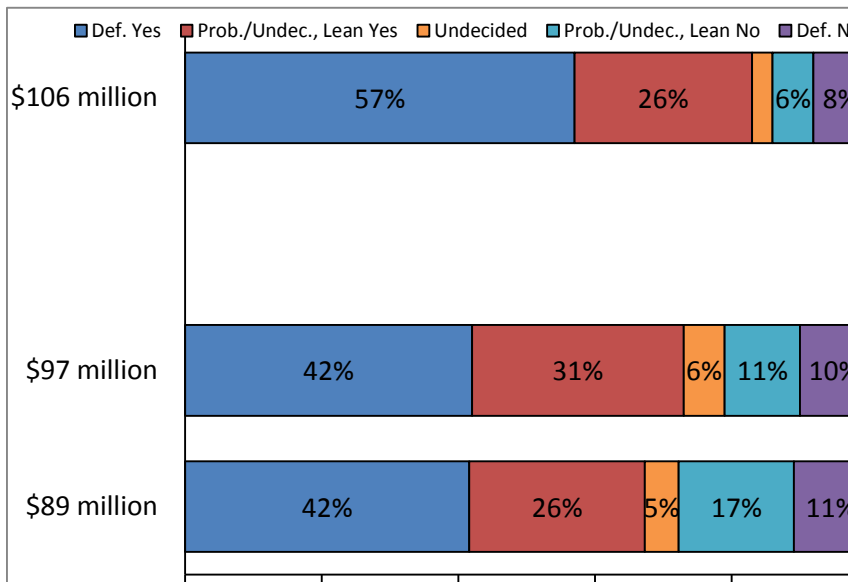
*Initial vote by Non-Parents, Have Children at Home and Children Attending Paramount USD*



Measure Structure and Priorities

The strongest support is for the higher \$106 million measure.

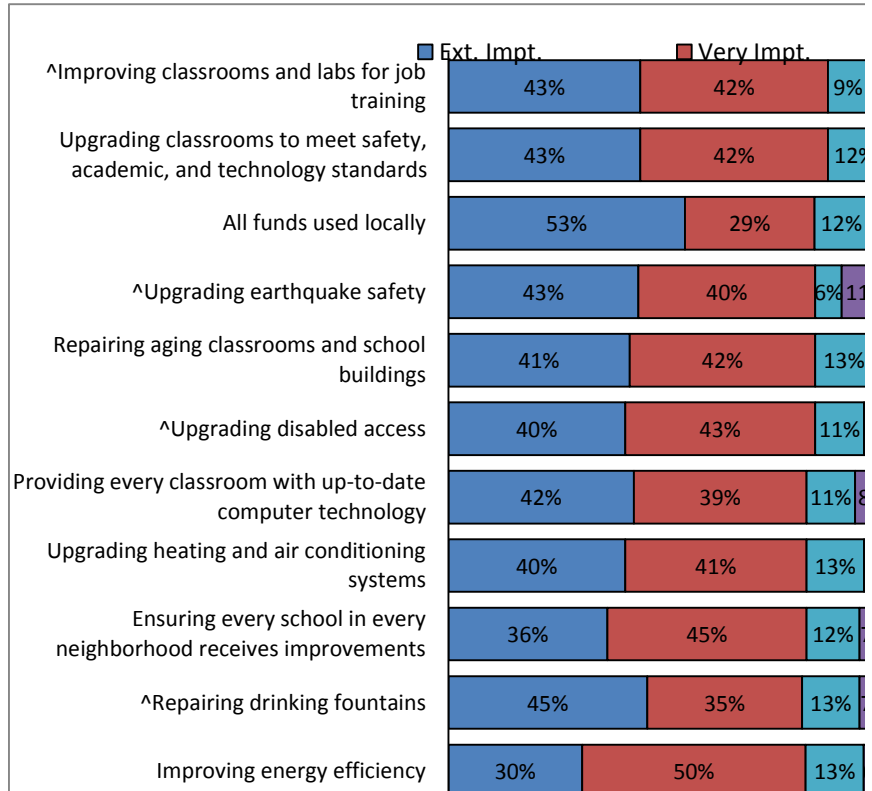
*Suppose the school bond measure we just discussed was for \_\_\_\_\_, instead of \$106 million. Would you vote yes in favor of it, or no to oppose it?*



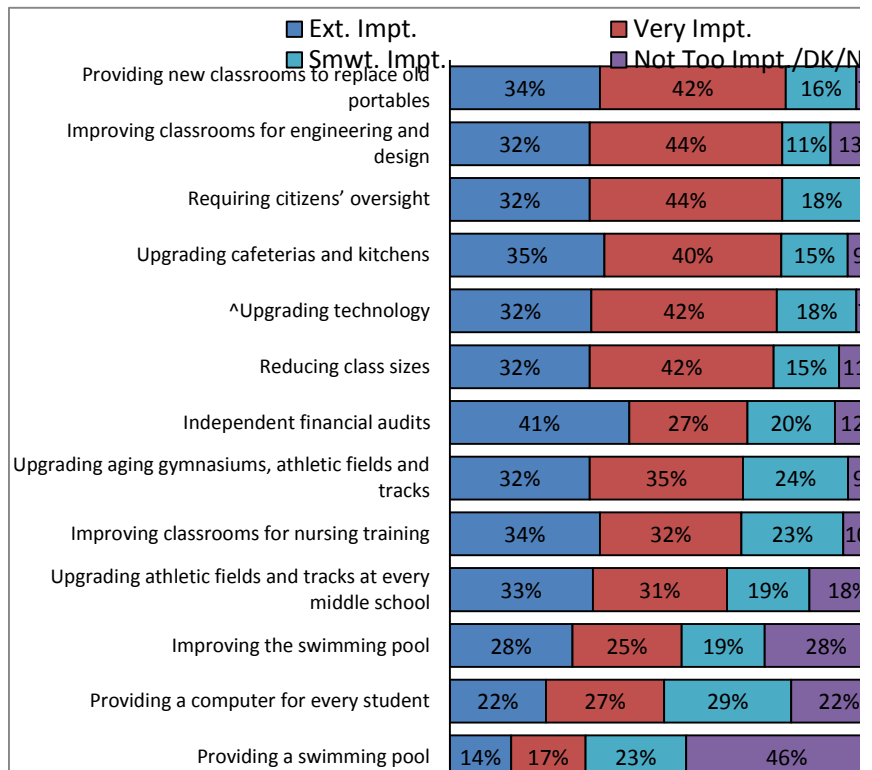
Top priorities for additional funding include college and career prep,

and basic repairs.

Up-to-date technology is important to more than four in five voters.



**Replacing old portables and improving vocational classrooms are also quite valued.**



**Informational Statements**

**\*(VOCATIONAL)** Students who do not go to a four-year college need a vocational education that provides the job training, technical knowledge, and specialized skills to compete for good-paying jobs. This bond measure will allow our local schools to upgrade vocational education programs so students can train and learn the skills they need to get a job in a competitive global economy.

**(REPAIRS)** Our local schools need basic safety improvements. Students deserve and need safe, clean schools so they can learn. This measure will repair classrooms, leaky roofs, water pipes and deteriorating electrical wiring; upgrade fire doors and smoke alarms; and make crucial earthquake safety upgrades.

**\*(JOB TRAINING/COLLEGE)** High-quality elementary, middle and high schools are key to preparing students for college and careers. This measure invests in crucial technology upgrades, basic repairs and high-quality teachers that will help put our students on the pathway to college and careers.

**(SECURITY)** This bond measure will make our schools safer. By improving school security and emergency communication systems, installing cameras and alarms, and improving emergency lighting and fencing, this measure will allow us to make essential security upgrades necessary to provide our children with safe learning environments, and to keep intruders out.

**\*(TEACHERS)** Quality classrooms and good teachers are essential to classroom education. This measure will improve the quality of education for every student and help attract and retain qualified teachers by improving classrooms and teaching environments.

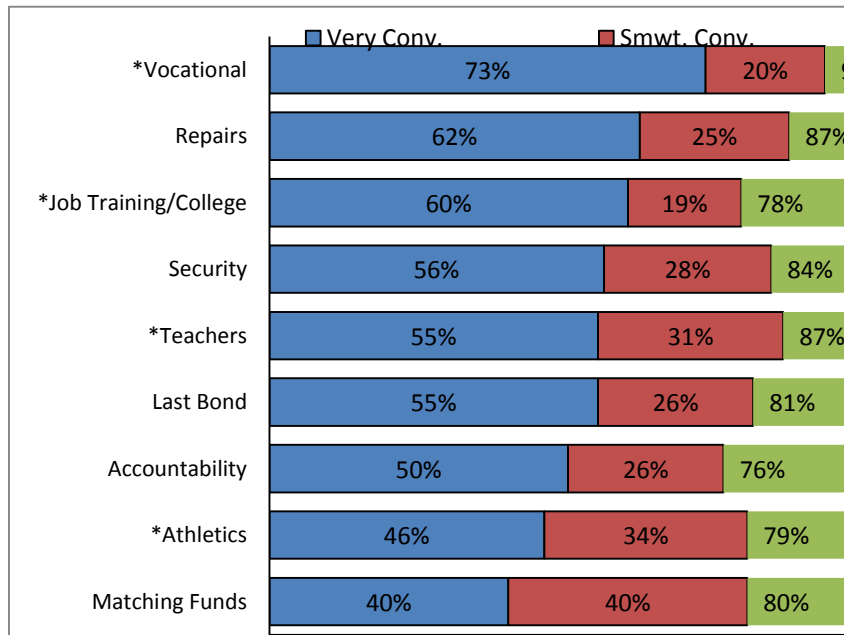
**(LAST BOND)** Paramount Unified's last bond passed with support from 73% of voters in 2006. That funding helped our high school meet academic, technology and safety standards. This bond will complete that good work by upgrading middle schools and continuing ongoing repairs at every school in every neighborhood.

**(ACCOUNTABILITY)** This measure includes strict accountability safeguards, including citizen oversight and annual financial and performance audits. Furthermore, no money from these measures will go toward administrators' salaries or pensions, and all money will be spent locally.

**\*(ATHLETICS)** Along with basic repairs and upgrades, this measure would provide a swimming pool at Paramount High School and upgrade athletic fields and tracks at the District's three middle schools. This measure is an important investment in the kind of physical activity crucial to promoting health and keeping kids out of trouble.

**(MATCHING FUNDS)** The statewide school bond is likely to pass this November, providing matching funds for Districts that invest in repairs and upgrades. Passing this measure as well would add up to \$25 million in state funding for our local schools.

**Career and job training resonate strongly with voters.**



**Conclusions**

Support for the projects and bond amount is significant throughout an exchange of information.

- A bond measure funding safety, academic and technology upgrades is viable for November’s election.
  - Fully 57% voters say they would “**definitely**” vote yes on funding for these upgrades, a strong indication of support for a measure that requires 55% for passage.
  - Support is strongest for a \$106 million measure.
- More than three in five can name their local school, and say they are at least somewhat familiar with the District.
- The need for additional funding for Paramount Unified schools is well-understood in the community.
- Voters strongly value college and career preparation, as well as up-to-date technology for every classroom, as priorities for a measure.

Staff Employee Comments  
Per Government Code 54957

There were no staff/employee comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Cuellar moved, Trustee Hansen seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adjourn the Special Study meeting of the Board of Education held on August 2, 2016 at 6:29 p.m.

Ayes: 5 – Trustees Anderson, Cuellar, Garcia, Hansen, Peña



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Ruth Pérez, Secretary  
To the Board of Education

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President

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Vice President/Clerk