

LOWELL JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
11019 Valley Home Avenue, Whittier, CA 90603

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
August 14, 2017

- CLOSED MEETING** President Barber called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the District Office, 11019 Valley Home Avenue, Whittier. President Schambeck declared the meeting recessed to closed session at 6:31 p.m.
- CALL TO ORDER** President Barber reconvened the meeting to open session at 7:35 p.m.
- The flag salute was led by Allison Fonti, LJEA President and Jordan Elementary School 2nd Grade Teacher.
- Trustees Present: Darin W. Barber, William A. Hinz, Fred W. Schambeck, Anastasia M. Shackelford, and Martin E. Tourville.
- Trustees Absent: None.
- Staff Present: Jim Coombs, Superintendent; Sheri McDonald, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, and Andrea Reynolds, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services
- REPORTING OUT ACTION (IF ANY) TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION** In closed session, the Board voted unanimously (5 – 0) to accept the Indemnity Agreement, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.
- INTRODUCTION/ WELCOME** President Barber welcomed LJEA President Allison Fonti, guests, and staff members present.
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE** None.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA** It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (5 – 0) to approve the August 14, 2017, Board agenda.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (5 – 0) to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2017, Board Meeting and the July 31, 2017, Special Board Meeting.

TOPICS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

TIMELY INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Coombs shared that Lowell staff returned today and the welcome back rally was a great success. The rally was reminding them that “We are Lowell” and we make a difference in students’ lives each day.

Also, the Curriculum Department did a great job on the bulletin boards this month.

Mr. Coombs also stated that the District’s LCAP was approved by the Los Angeles County Office of Education. This was all due to the work that Dr. McDonald and Mrs. Stewart did.

RESOLUTION 2017/18 No. 702 IN SUPPORT THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR STATE FUNDING LISTED SCHOOL DISTRICT ELIGIBLE FACILITIES

It was moved, second, and carried by unanimous roll call vote (5 – 0) to adopt Resolution 2017/18 No. 702 in support of filing of an application for state funding for listed school district eligible facilities, as attached, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

APPROVAL OF DISTRICT DESIGNEES TO REPRESENT THE DISTRICT TO THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTOIN

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote to approve Jim Coombs, Superintendent, and Andrea Reynolds, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services, as Lowell Joint School District’s Representatives to sign the documents for the Office of Public School Construction as it related to the School Facility Program, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

UPDATE: BREACH OF LEASE CONTRACT BY CALVARY BAPTIST/WHITTIER CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (PreK – 6) – MAYBROOK CAMPUS

Terry Tao, Attorney from Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, presented the Board of Trustees an update regarding the concerns with Maybrook Campus.

Whittier Christian Elementary, at the Maybrook Campus, is owned by The Calvary Baptist Church of Whittier who has been leasing the Maybrook Campus since May 23, 1994. The existing lease with Calvary Baptist Church of Whittier /Whittier Christian Elementary School, at the Maybrook site, is designed as a long-term lease through August 2027, with “fair market value” re-benching periods every five years. Over the course of the past 7 months, a number of issues have arisen that cause the District some concern over the financial ability of Calvary Baptist Church to continue its obligations under the lease including stop payments on the April, May, and June lease payments, refusal to directly address if there are junior high students in the summer program, and a management agreement that appears to be in violation of the Assignment and Sublease language under Article 7 of the Lease.

UPDATE: BREACH OF
LEASE CONTRACT BY
CALVARY
BAPTIST/WHITTIER
CHRISTIAN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(PreK – 6) – MAYBROOK
CAMPUS Continued

The Calvary Baptist Church of Whittier/Whittier Christian Elementary is currently in breach of contract in two areas: 1) Calvary Baptist Church has improperly assigned/subleased the Maybrook site under Article 7 of the Lease, and 2) Calvary Baptist Church appears to be operating a K-8 summer program on the campus. The existing lease allows PreK-6 grade students and programs. In light of the ongoing breach of contract without cure within the required 30 days of notice, the Board directed staff at the June 26, 2017 meeting to notify Calvary Baptist Church of breach of contract and commence the cure period and potential termination/eviction process under Article 8 and reassess use of the Maybrook Campus. Simultaneously explore options to prevent disruption to the operation of a private Christian school operation at the campus. Such notice was provided to Calvary Baptist Church representatives on August 1, 2017.

Mrs. Kelly Beckert, Superintendent of Heights Christian Schools, Inc., read the following statement:

“First, we regret the series of events that have led to the current situation with Whittier Christian Schools (WCS). For more than 70 years, WCS has provided an alternative for families seeking Christian education for students in preschool – 8th grade. The mission of Heights Christian Schools (HCS) is very much aligned with what has been the tradition of WCS for many, many years.

Therefore, HCS is very interested in leasing the Maybrook property to operate a Christian school, preschool through 6th grade. To be honest, there are a lot of unknowns at this point. We are not entirely sure about the number of dedicated faculty and staff that will find themselves displaced because the church will cease to operate a Christian school on the Maybrook campus. Additionally, we are unsure of the number of students involved. Whatever the number, we know that there are many young ones enthusiastically preparing for their first day of school in just a few days only to find that the school is no longer in operation. Uniforms have been bought, school supplies gathered, and excitement to see old friends and to make new ones will be met by closed gates and an empty campus.

In order to accommodate these families, HCS is proposing the following:
We would like to hear from families that want to remain on the Maybrook campus in a Christian school environment in order for us to gage interest.
We would like to invite interested families to stop by the Heights Christian School District Office, call the HCS District Office or email HCS and confirm their enrollment interest for 2017/18 by Friday, August 18.

UPDATE: BREACH OF
LEASE CONTRACT BY
CALVARY
BAPTIST/WHITTIER
CHRISTIAN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(PreK – 6) – MAYBROOK
CAMPUS Continued

Because we understand that parents are, for the most part, confronted with this most unfortunate situation just days before the start of school, HCS is prepared to waive registration fees for families that have already paid registration for the 2017/18 school year, as well as crediting any tuition monies already paid for the 2017/18 school year.

As we hear from families, we will compile a list of names, ages and grade levels, and based on parent response, we will make a determination about the feasibility of continuing the tradition of Christian education on the Maybrook campus.

If the response is as strong as we anticipate, we will plan to officially begin the 2017/18 school year for TK – 6th grade on the Maybrook campus on Tuesday, August 29. For families that need childcare between August 24 (the planned start day for WC) and our first day of school, we will provide All-Day day care FREE of charge.

For preschool families, it will be our goal, to the best of our ability, to provide continuous operation.

Based on parent response, it is also our goal to ensure that as many WC faculty and staff as possible will be retained for the 2017/18 school year. Again, the mission and vision of WC and HCS are well aligned, and we have a profound respect and appreciation for the many dedicated teachers and support staff that have served at WC over the years.

The HCS District Office is located at 1225 N. Hacienda Road, La Habra Heights, CA. Our phone number is 714.921.9070, and our email address is District.Office@heights.net. Families are urged to respond ASAP so that plans for the 2017/18 school year can be solidified. If you have any questions, we are happy to help in any way possible.”

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (5 – 0) to continue working on contracting with a new administrator to run the school so there will be no disruption to the school for grades PreK – 6, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

APPROVAL OF
CALIFORNIA SCHOOL
BOARDS ASSOCIATION
GAMUT ONLINE
SERVICE AGREEMENT
FROM JULY 1, 2017 TO
JUNE 30, 2018

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (5 – 0) to approve the California School Boards Association GAMUT Online Service agreement, at a cost not to exceed \$2,555.00, from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the documents.

RESOLUTION 2017/18
NO. 703 REGARDING
INTENT TO INITIATE
THE PROCESS OF
ESTABLISHING
TRUSTEE AREAS AND
ELECTIONS BY-
TRUSTEE AREAS

Attorney Shawna McKee, from Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, presented how the process works from transitioning from an At-Large to a By-Trustee Area Elections.

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous roll call vote (5 – 0) to adopt Resolution 2017/18 No. 703 regarding Intent to Initiate and Process of Establishing Trustee Areas and Elections By-Trustee Areas, as attached, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

APPROVAL OF
AGREEMENT AND
PROPOSAL WITH TRUE
NORTH, INC., TO
ASSIST IN THE
POSSIBLE ISSUANCE
OF GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS
AND OTHER DEBT
INSTRUMENTS

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (5 – 0) to approve the agreement and proposal with True North, Inc., to assist in the possible issuance of general obligation bonds and other debt instruments, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

APPROVAL OF THE
2017/18
CONSOLIDATED
APPLICATION

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (5 – 0) to approve and submit the 2017/18 Consolidated Application to the California Department of Education, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

UPDATED/REVISED
BOARD POLICIES

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote (5 – 0) to adopt the updated/revise Board Policies and accompanying Administrative Regulations regarding English Learner Students (BP 6141.4.1) and Education for English Language Learners (BP 6174), and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

UPDATE BOARD
POLICY

As the District updates current Board Policies and accompanying Administrative Regulations regarding Suicide Prevention (BP 5141.52) with current regulations and procedures, it is imperative to disseminate updated information. Proposed revisions are struck out and/or bold/underlined.

Further input is welcomed and the revised Board Policy will be included on the September 14, 2017, Board agenda for second reading and approval.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote, (5 – 0), to approve/ratify the following items, under a consent procedure.

Warrant Listing Report
2017/18 #1

Approved Warrant Listing Report 2017/18 #1, as attached, which lists all warrants issued June 14, 2017, through August 2, 2017.

Purchase Order Report
2017/18 #1

Approved Purchase Order Report 2017/18 #1, which lists all purchase orders issued June 14, 2017, through June 30, 2017.

Approval of Agreement with School Services of California, Inc., to Provide Consulting Services Related to the Fiscal Budget for the 2017/18 School Year

Approved the agreement with School Services of California, Inc., to provide consulting services related to fiscal budget, at a cost of services of \$3,120 annually plus expenses as defined in the contract, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Agreement with A & D Transportation for Athletic and Field Trip Transportation as Needed

Approved the contract with A & D Transportation for athletic and field trip transportation services, as need from August 14, 2017, through June 30, 2018, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Agreement with Whittier Christian High School for Field Trip Transportation Services

Approved the contract with Whittier Christian High School for field trip transportation services from August 14, 2017, through June 30, 2018, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Agreement with Debra Amos, dba Feeding Dreams, to Provide Nutrition Consultant Services

Ratified the contract with Debra Amos, dba Feeding Dreams, to provide Nutrition Services consulting from July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, at an hourly rate of \$100, not to exceed 750 hours, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Independent Contractor Agreement with Miltos Varkatzas to Provide Special Services and Advice in the areas of Maintenance, Operations, and Facilities Services

Ratified the Independent Contractor Agreement with Miltos Varkatzas to provide special services and advice in the areas of maintenance, operations and facilities services at the rate of \$145 per hour, for a total not to exceed \$87,000 or 600 hours beginning July 1, 2017, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Agreement with County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department to Provide Safety, Security or Order Near School Properties

Ratified the contract with County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department to provide additional law enforcement services and assistance in providing for the safety, security and order on or near school properties at regular and extracurricular school functions, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approve Agreement to Update Route Rates with Whittier Christian High School for Transportation Services for 2017/18

Approved the agreement with Whittier Christian High School to update route rates for transportation services for 2017/18 as follows: Route 1, \$471.92; Route 2, \$435.22; Route 3, \$461.44; and Route 4, \$450.95, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

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Approval of Agreement with West Coast Protection LLC, dba: Interquest Detection Canines, to Provide Contraband Inspection

Approved the contract with West Coast Protection, LLC, dba: Interquest Detection Canines, to provide contraband inspection, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Agreement with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo for Legal Services

Ratified agreement with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo for legal services for the following rates: \$290 per hour for Senior Partners; \$275 per hour for Partners/Senior Counsel; \$260 per hour for Senior Associates; \$250 per hour for Associates; \$250 per hour for Electronic Technology Litigation Specialist; \$200 per hour for non-legal consultants; \$170 per hour for Senior Paralegals/Law Clerks; and \$165 per hour for Paralegals and Legal Assistants, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Contract with Christine Majors, Psychologist Inc., to Provide an Independent Education Evaluation (IEE) for the 2017/18 School Year

Ratified the contract with Christine Majors, Psychologist Inc., to provide an Independent Education Evaluation (IEE) for the 2017/18 school year, for a total fee not to exceed \$6,200.00, from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval to Pay the La Habra Collaborative Annual Membership for the 2017/18 School Year

Approved to pay the La Habra Collaborative annual membership for a total cost of \$250.00 for the 2017/18 school year, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Contract with Los Angeles County Office of Education for Processing District's School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities Program for the 2017-2020 School Years

Ratified the contract with Los Angeles County Office of Education for processing the District's School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities for the 2017 – 2020 school year for \$45.00 per time study participant certified to participate before the beginning of each quarter, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Employer-Employee Relations/Personnel Report 2017/18 #1

Ratified Employer-Employee Relations/Personnel Report 2017/18 #1, as attached, which includes hiring, resignations, contract adjustments, and retirements for certificated, classified, and confidential employees.

Approval of the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services' Contract for July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2019	Ratified the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services' contract for July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2019, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.
Approval of the Amended Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction's Contract for July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018	Ratified the amended Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction's Contract for July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.
Approval of the Consultant Agreement with Christian Penuelas to Provide Drumline at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School for the 2017/18 School Year	Approved the consultant agreement with Christian Penuelas to provide Drumline Instruction for the 2017/18 school year at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School at an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 and to be paid from Rancho-Starbuck's band funds, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.
Approval of Consultant Agreement with Edward Mijares to Provide Drumline Instruction at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School for the 2017/18 School Year	Approved the consultant agreement with Edward Mijares to provide Drumline Instruction for the 2017/18 school year at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School at an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00 and to be paid from Rancho-Starbuck's band funds, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.
Approval of Consultant Agreement with Matthew Gallegos to Provide Drumline Instruction at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School for the 2017/18 School Year	Approved the consultant agreement with Matthew Gallegos to provide Drumline Instruction for the 2017/18 school year at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School at an amount not to exceed \$800.00 and to be paid from Rancho-Starbuck's band funds, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.
Approval of Consultant Agreement with Mike Ortiz-Luis to Provide Drumline Instruction at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School for the 2017/18 School Year	Approved the consultant agreement with Christian Penuelas to provide Drumline Instruction for the 2017/18 school year at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School at an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 and to be paid from Rancho-Starbuck's band funds, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Consultant Agreement with Jan Jacobsen to Provide Art Instruction at Olita Elementary School for the 2017/18 School Year

Approved the consultant agreement with Jan Jacobsen to provide art instruction at Olita Elementary School for the 2017/18 school year, at an hourly rate of \$21.00 and not to exceed \$3,000 and to be paid from Olita Elementary School Site Allocation Funds, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

Approval of Additional Funds to be Added to the Contract with Administrative Services, Inc., to Provide Transportation Services for the 2016/17 School Year

Ratified the addition of additional funds to the contract for Administrative Services, Inc., to provide transportation services for a district student for the 2016/2017 school year in the amount of \$500.00, and authorized the Superintendent or designee to execute the necessary documents.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
COMMENTS

Mr. Schambeck was able to attend the Back-to-School Night at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School and shared how fabulous each of the classrooms were. The STEM room is a show piece.

Mr. Schambeck shared an article in the Orange County Register regarding one of our teachers at Rancho-Starbuck Intermediate School.

Mr. Barber thanked Mr. Shun, Macy Elementary School Principal, Mr. Mike Sprague, Whittier Daily News reporter, and Mr. Jay Seidl, La Habra Journal Editor for attending the Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

President Barber declared the meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m. in accordance with Government Code Section 54956.9 (a, b, c) and indicated no further public action would be taken.

Clerk/President/Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Date Approved:
