

GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Rosemead, California

Minutes of Regular Meeting

November 10, 2011

The Garvey School District Board of Education met in regular session on November 10, 2011, at the Education Center, Rosemead, California.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., by Board President M. Janet Chin.

ROLL CALL

Present at the meeting were Mr. Bob Bruesch, Ms. M. Janet Chin, Mr. Henry Lo, Mr. Tony Ramos, Mr. John Yuen (arrived at 6:19 p.m.), and Superintendent Dr. Sandra Johnson.

Also in attendance were Mr. Genaro Alarcon, Mr. Michael Coughlin, Ms. Dolores Preciado, Dr. Mary Suzuki, and Ms. Maria De La Cruz.

VISITORS PRESENT

Present as visitors were the persons listed on the attached Register of Attendance who signed the register and whose signatures were legible and which is hereby made an official part of these minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Dewey teachers led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Dewey School increased their Academic Performance Index (API) score 33 points, from 789 to 822, and made adequate yearly progress (AYP) two years in a row. Principal Dr. Wendy Molina-Solis described what actions that staff took to make the improvements in student achievement resulting in getting out of Program Improvement.

Dr. Molina-Solis reviewed the demographics of both schools, Marshall and Dewey, for 2010-11. The numbers for both schools were very similar with Marshall School also gaining 33 points in the school's API score. Dr. Molina-Solis described the different scores for Hispanic, Asian, special education, and English learner students. She spoke of the different strategies and interventions that were implemented last year at each of the schools, Marshall and Dewey.

Dr. Molina-Solis outlined this year's goals and commitments from the staff at Dewey School:

1. Having focused instruction.
2. Adhering to the Pacing Plan.
3. Following curriculum with fidelity.
4. Having consistent data analysis and using it to guide instruction.
5. Having grade level collaboration to guide instruction.
6. Teaming.
7. Preserving instructional time.

Dr. Molina-Solis commended the teachers for their continuing efforts to monitor and implement programs that will improve student outcomes and accomplishments.

COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS FROM THE BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Sandra Johnson commented on the wonderful Veteran's Day student performance and ceremony at Monterey Vista School that was well attended by many members of the community. The students did an incredible job with their oral presentations and music performances.

Bob Bruesch displayed a plaque awarded by the Upper San Gabriel Water District to the Garvey School District for its commitment to sustainable water supply for the San Gabriel Valley. The District has four schools being irrigated with recycled water. Mr. Bruesch talked of the savings that this program will generate for the District, and how there can be a curriculum and student projects for water conservation. Henry Lo commented on how this project is the first project in the entire region and that it is funded through funds by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) as the demand for water and climate changes makes it an important measure for water conservation.

REPORT FROM UNION REPRESENTATIVES

- **Garvey Education Association (GEA)**

Michael Drange, president of GEA, congratulated Janet Chin and Henry Lo for their re-election as Board members. Mr. Drange read aloud statements related to the lost master key and issues related to the renting of rooms by the M. Janet Chin Foundation, as well as, issues related to the November election where flyers to GEA members were confiscated. Mr. Drange stated that the legal interpretation is not consistent with the District's legal counsel and the California Teachers' Association (CTA) attorneys. He stated that this GEA practice for election campaigns has not changed since 2009.

Janet Chin stated that the Board has been receiving updates continuously from the Superintendent where all the issues addressed by Mr. Drange have been mentioned. She indicated that there was approximately \$3,000 worth of equipment stolen from the youth foundation, and the master key was stolen from a locked file cabinet. This information was sent to all Board members. Ms. Chin stated that the youth foundation has sent an official letter offering to pay to re-key the doors at whatever cost, and that the youth foundation is reviewing the use of facilities and needed measures to safeguard its assets. She stated that the M. Janet Chin Foundation takes full responsibility and takes this matter very seriously.

- **California School Employees Association (CSEA):** None

REPORT FROM HEAD START REPRESENTATIVE

Cindy Carter Bedoya reported the Head Start Preschool staff continues to enter family information in the Child Plus Database; the deadline for completion is December 1, 2011. She noted that the staff continues to enter data related to immunizations and vision screening, along with family partnership agreements.

Ms. Carter Bedoya stated there are four Head Start vacancies in October, out of 304 slots. There were no vacancies in the 41 State Part-Day or in the 90 Head Start State Preschool Full Day slots. Ms. Bedoya stated the average daily attendance (ADA) in October was 93.43 %, and the target per month is 85% ADA. This month, there were 5,447 breakfasts, 5,246 snacks, and 9,203 lunches served. The non-federal share in October was 5,731 hours of services provided to the Full Day and Part Day classes. The breakdown for non-federal share by site was E-mailed to Dr. Sandra Johnson.

Ms. Carter Bedoya indicated that the District received a monitoring report from a visit from LACOE's Mental Health Specialist on November 7, 2011, regarding the first quarter review on October 20, 2011, of mental health services. The review monitors the timely identification and referral of mental health concerns. The policies, procedures, and timeliness were all compliant. The review covered the Head Start case management process on having members, consultants, and District staff being present at the meetings, and included the reporting and timely identification of referrals. Other areas reviewed were the qualifications of nutrition and mental health consultants, and a review of the minutes of case management meetings and follow-up provided to children and families. Parents are invited to participate in study teams in the district

for timely identification of concerns. LACOE reviewed the District's Memorandum of Understanding with Foothill Family Services and Children's Hospital. The report summarizes that the Garvey Child Development Program is in compliance with all the items listed.

Ms. Carter Bedoya stated that late this afternoon, a preliminary report for facilities monitoring was sent to Dr. Sandra Johnson, Michael Coughlin, and Art Reynolds.

Ms. Carter Bedoya acknowledged the presence of Ursula Ng, LACOE Program Design Consultant.

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

- **Garvey Council PTA:** None
- **Garvey Education Foundation**

Bob Bruesch noted a correction to the minutes of October 27, 2011, that the cost of the calendar will be \$25. Michael Coughlin talked about the upcoming TGIF event on December 2, 2011, starting at 3:00 p.m., with a \$5 admission. The date for the Foundation's dinner is set on Wednesday, April 25, 2012. Mr. Bruesch reminded everyone that the grant applications will go out soon.

HEARING OF PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE

Grace Carmona addressed the Board as parent and PTA member at Hillcrest School. On behalf of Hillcrest parents, she requested that the Board consider using Measure Q funds to provide fencing around the staff parking lot and improve child safety and driving conditions at the school. Presently, Ms. Carmona and a group of parent volunteers are trying to direct traffic and act as crossing guards for the children. Teachers have sent flyers to parents alerting them of the hazards, but these have gone ignored. Other efforts have included asking the Monterey Park police to issue traffic citations, but these were not taken very seriously.

John Yuen thanked Ms. Carmona for her efforts these past several years. He stated that the Board will work and see what can be done about her concern. Bob Bruesch asked that this matter be placed on a future Board agenda. Dr. Sandra Johnson stated that she is working with Art Reynolds to add signs for enforcement by the city, and to change the direction of the traffic flow at the school's parking lot. Dr. Johnson stated that she met with another Hillcrest parent and discussed these concerns.

Ted Saulino addressed the Board to congratulate Henry Lo and Janet Chin for winning the election, and he thanked them for their continued service and public trust. Mr. Saulino mentioned that the owner of Public Storage, Mr. P. W. Hughes, owns a company that operates a 1.3 million square feet of rental space in the United States and Europe, and is a graduate of Garvey Intermediate School in 1947. Mr. Saulino hopes that the Board looks into recognizing Mr. Hughes as a successful Garvey graduate. Mr. Saulino asked if the Foundation grants would also include Head Start programs.

Mr. Saulino asked Board members to verify and ensure that soil samples and air samples are taken for toxic lead after the old building is demolished at Williams School. In relation to the lost master key, he hopes that the District would enforce a Board policy to ensure that a similar incident and costs to replace a key does not take place in the future. Mr. Saulino made comments about a Board member being late at Board meetings and falling asleep during Board meetings.

Mr. Saulino stated that a Bond Oversight Committee did not meet today; however, the members present talked about the importance of having school visitations to verify that the construction work has actually taken place and to see the quality of work done by the construction companies. Mr. Saulino suggested that Michael Coughlin place the issue raised by Ms. Carmona on a future agenda for the Bond Oversight Committee to discuss.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS: None

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by Janet Chin, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board adjourned at 8:14 p.m. to a closed session and addressed those items posted on the agenda.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened in public at 9:06 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Janet Chin indicated that no action was taken during the closed session:

CONSENT AGENDA

On the motion of Henry Lo, seconded by Tony Ramos, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as indicated below:

A. Board/Superintendent

1. Approval of Minutes - Revised 1
The minutes of the following meetings are submitted for approval:
Regular Meeting – October 27, 2011
Approved as corrected.

Bob Bruesch noted changes to the minutes regarding the tutoring services, page 7, adding, “parents have no way of knowing if these tutoring services produce student achievement in the CST.” On Board policy number BB 6163.1, Mr. Bruesch asked not to take out the media person but to add, “When it is appropriate;” and change the cost of the Foundation’s calendar to \$25.
2. Conference/Convention Attendance - Revised 2
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve requests for conference and convention attendance as presented. Approved.
3. CSBA Delegate Assembly Nomination 3
On the motion of Janet Chin, seconded by Henry Lo, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board nominated Bob Bruesch as candidate for CSBA’s Delegate Assembly for Subregion 23-A. Delegate will serve a two-year term through March 31, 2014.

B. Human Resources

1. Personnel Assignment Order - Revised 4
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Assignment Report No. 11-12-07 as presented. Approved.

C. Pupil Personnel Services: None

D. Instructional Services

1. Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Providers 5
Approve amendments to contracts with Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Providers as presented. Approved.

2. Single Plans for Student Achievement 6
Approve the 2011-12 Single Plans for Student Achievement for Dewey, Emerson, Monterey Vista, Rice, Sanchez and Willard Elementary Schools as Required by Ed. Code Sections 52853 and 52855 presented. Approved.

Dr. Sandra Johnson stated that the school plans from Bitely and Hillcrest Schools were removed for approval at a later time.

E. Business Services

1. Purchase Order Report 7
It is recommended that the Board approve Purchase Order Report No.11-12-07 as presented. Approved.
2. Appropriation Transfers 8
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Appropriation Transfers as presented. Approved.
3. Notice of Completion – Fix Painting 9
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Notice of Completion for Fix Painting for work at Rice, Sanchez and Temple. Approved.
4. Notice of Completion – Painting & Décor 10
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Notice of Completion for Painting & Décor for work at Bitely. Approved.
5. Notice of Completion – Hinkley & Associates 11
It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the Notice of Completion for Hinkley & Associates for work at Monterey Vista. Approved.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Dolores Preciado presented a report on the process for the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). 12

Ms. Preciado stated that Bulmaro Magallon, chairs the SARB for this region, and that he recently made a SARB presentation to the Rosemead Kiwanis Club. Ms. Preciado talked about the correlation and relevance of the program for effective teaching and high student achievement.

Ms. Preciado indicated that the SARB program was enacted by California legislation in 1975 and was implemented in 1976. At that time, our District was part of the Alhambra SARB. In 2002, a consortium was created between three smaller districts. She spoke of the program's purpose and goals, as well as, the responsibilities and student referral process. Ms. Preciado stated that last year the Board saw 52 cases which included 12th grade students from the San Gabriel Unified School District. Of these, 18 cases were for chronic absences, 26 for habitual truancy, and 13 for behavior reasons. There are many multiple service referrals made to protective services, the Department of Social Services, mental health counseling, drug testing, and law enforcement agencies. The District will try to improve attendance by giving incentives for students to stay in school.

On a question from Janet Chin, Mr. Magallon described the various stages of student and family hearings for non-compliance and the legal consequences, including fines for up to \$2,500 or jail time for one or both parents. Mr. Bruesch asked for a copy of a court subpoena that is sent out. He asked about the SARB effects on student expulsions. Ms. Preciado stated that the number of expulsions varies each year, and that last year there was an increase of expulsions due to the use of medical marihuana at home and

brought in or sold by the students. Mr. Magallon explained that two or more students may be involved in one single incident but each student is considered a case of for suspension or expulsion.

Dr. Johnson noted that the District's attendance rate is 98 percent, as a reflection on the District's staff and the effectiveness of the SARB Program. Ms. Preciado noted that there was an anticipation of a lower percentage in attendance due to the delay in students getting their TDAP vaccine; however, this year the District is implementing a program to encourage parents of 6th grade students to get their TDAP vaccine on time.

- B. Becky Wetzel presented an update on the STAR Team. She congratulated Board members Janet Chin and Henry Lo for their re-election. 13

Ms. Wetzel stated that she is pleased to report on the continued work with Garvey Intermediate School and the STAR Team. She stated that the Team has worked hard, since July 2011, to increase communication and be available to work out differences and engage in conversations with the staff about the challenges that may not be easy to understand; nevertheless, the staff has been willing to do the work and teachers are asking good questions.

Ms. Wetzel described the actions that have taken place since July 2011, including the formation of a leadership team; six members representing every department in Garvey Intermediate School. The leadership team revised the walkthrough tool to help in rating what is observed in the classroom. This tool was shared with all Garvey teachers.

In early September 2011, two days of training was provided to the leadership team that will help them develop a restructuring plan for the school. The leadership team was trained on their role of helping to bring about change across the entire school as required for program improvement schools. The STAR Team continues to meet with the staff after school.

The STAR Team conducted its first visit in early October 2011, answered questions of the staff, and provided some commendations and recommendations.

Commendations were that:

1. In the majority of the classrooms, the STAR team observed that learning objectives were posted.
2. In classrooms where learning objectives were posted, the lesson or activities matched the objective.

Recommendations/Next Steps were that:

1. The principal and the leadership team will develop guidelines for collaboration time to focus on meeting the learning needs of students, and will develop a plan for collaboration for the next two months based on those guidelines.
2. The leadership team will be provided release time in order to provide detailed actions to the restructuring plan; these actions will be the basis for the STAR Team's monitoring of the action plan that will be reviewed by the STAR team next month.
3. The staff will identify two-three strategies to effectively provide feedback to students; these strategies will be implemented school wide.
4. The STAR Team will identify a professional development provider that will assist the staff in developing shared learning expectations and instructional practices for a common language of learning.

On a question from Bob Bruesch regarding levels of testing, Ms. Wetzel stated that, in fact, social science, 8th grade testing includes testing for topics covered on 5th, 6th, and 7th grade.

On a question from Henry Lo regarding the basis for teachers' common language, Ms. Wetzel indicated that teachers have a different understanding not necessarily bad, but it is not current based on new research. She stated that good professional development is based on current practices. Ms. Wetzel stated that in a school deeply into program improvement, it is critical to have everyone going in the same direction, and that her job is to help the District in trying to get some consistency and alignment to current research and practices.

Janet Chin indicated that she is not hearing a sense of urgency in identifying the strategies to figure out a plan and get everyone on the same page. Bob Bruesch noted this should have been the first step, and he is glad to see that the group dynamics at the school have changed. Ms. Wetzel acknowledged that there is not always a sense of urgency, but when dealing with change, the process can cause some frustrations or resistance to change.

John Yuen spoke about the need to respect one another and start the process of working together and moving forward. Mr. Lo talked about the need to be very sensitive to those who have been teaching for many years, and not give the impression that the teaching has been wrong or inappropriate. He talked about the need to focus on the program improvement status because if it is not turned around, the laws will do it for the District. Mr. Yuen encouraged everyone to continue to improve communications, include the teacher organization, and to work for the benefit of students. Tony Ramos noted the importance of getting to a turn around point by creating a sense of urgency.

On a question from Ms. Chin, Ms. Wetzel noted that her goal is to have a restructuring plan with the action steps available to everyone online. Mr. Yuen stated the importance of having greater involvement from the stakeholders.

Henry Lo asked about the number of middle schools in LACOE that had gone through the turn-around process and whether the District is working within a framework to fulfill the needs of students. Ms. Wetzel stated that a school that stays in program improvement for eight years is considered to be failing in meeting the target even when the target continues to rise each year. She indicated that it is important to implement a research-based model and practices; that this is not unique to Los Angeles County. Ms. Wetzel stated she is now seeing the Garvey staff embracing change. Mr. Bruesch stated that by the end of this school year and across the nation, at least one third of the public schools will be in program improvement and that half the schools in the United States are going to be in Program Improvement Year 5-6 as stipulated for 2013-14. Ms. Wetzel stated that while the NCLB Act legislation may change, some federal accountability will be continuing.

Ms. Wetzel talked about the goals developed by the Leadership Team for Garvey Intermediate's Restructuring Plan:

1. To develop a collaborative environment.
2. Improve instructional practices.
3. Meet the needs of all students.
4. Increase positive student relationships.

The next steps for Garvey Intermediate will be:

1. To continue to monitor and implement the recommendations given.
2. To identify a provider for professional development.
3. To continue to work with the Leadership Team on a collaborative culture for the students.

Ms. Wetzel stated that she will be going to Temple Intermediate School next week to begin a similar process, as the school is also in Program Improvement Year 5. Their leadership team was selected and was trained during this summer. The STAR Team will assist Temple's leadership team to begin developing a restructuring plan on November 15, 2011.

Ms. Chin requested a copy of both Power Point presentations of Dewey and the STAR Report. Bob Bruesch commented on how the NCLB Act is not going to change very rapidly. Ms. Wetzel stated she does not think California will be asking for a waiver either; however she feels that the restructuring process is the right thing for students, everyone wants all kids to learn, and everyone agrees on the need to close the achievement gap.

Dr. Johnson indicated that the STAR Team will be meeting with Gema Macias to talk about the next steps for the school. Dr. Mary Suzuki commented on the process of getting a common understanding and a common language and doing things consistently in the classroom. She stated that the teachers are eager to learn new ideas and new learning strategies. Ms. Suzuki stated she is excited to see the classrooms with their objectives and the teachers engaging in conversations about what is best for the students. Mr. Yuen asked that a message of appreciation be sent to the teachers.

On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by Janet Chin, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board waived the Board's bylaws and extended the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

A. On the motion of Bob Bruesch, seconded by Henry Lo, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board adopted Resolution No. 11-12-08 in Support of Support of Senate Constitutional Amendment (SCA) 5, as presented, which would allow school districts, community college districts, and county offices of education to pass a parcel tax with a 55 percent majority vote rather than the currently required two-thirds. 14

B. First reading and possible approval of revisions to Board Policy 5131/62 – Tobacco. 15

Dr. Sandra Johnson noted corrections to the Board policy regarding nicotine delivery and the addition of a statement, "as suggested by CSBA."

On the motion of Henry Lo, seconded by Janet Chin, and carried by a vote of 5 to 0, the Board approved Action Item B. as corrected.

PUBLIC AGENDA ITEMS: None

Bob Bruesch asked for an agenda item related to the traffic recommendation at Hillcrest School. He commented on the need for the demolished building at Williams to have the necessary ground surveys done. Mr. Coughlin noted that as of last week there was no indication that the area needed to be tested prior to laying the ground pavement. Dr. Johnson stated that the District will take extra precautions and consult the District's risk management agency and determine if the area needs to be tested again.

Henry Lo announced that Assemblymember Mike Eng will be celebrating an annual day of inclusion on Friday, December 9, 2011, at the San Gabriel Hilton Hotel, to mark an important day for the Chinese community and to celebrate diversity. Everyone is invited to attend.

Tony Ramos asked for future student presentations inviting every school to present on their Leader In Me Programs. Henry Lo asked the Board to consider having Board meetings at different school sites located within the cities of Rosemead, Monterey Park, and San Gabriel. In addition, he asked to explore the possibility of having a joint Board meeting with the Alhambra School Board and talk about alignment and articulation matters of interest for both districts.

Bob Bruesch asked for an update on negotiations with the YMCA programs at Marshall School.

Dr. Sandra Johnson stated that she has been talking to the city manager of Rosemead about supporting a beautification day on April 26, 2012 (date changed from April 28), and he agreed to provide city staff on that day to work on landscaping projects at our schools in Rosemead. Bob Bruesch suggested that the students from Whittier College be invited to help with environmental clean up projects.

Janet Chin thanked Board and Cabinet members for their trust and support as Board president these last two years. She reminded everyone about tomorrow's celebration of Veteran's Day.

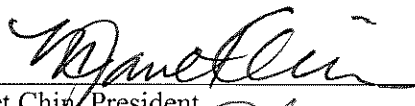
FUTURE MEETINGS

The following are future Board meetings and agenda topics. Public session will begin at 6:30 p.m., and closed session to begin at 7:00 p.m.

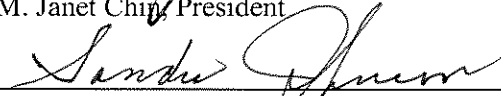
Meeting Date	Agenda Topic
December 8, 2011 (Moved to 12/15/11)	

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional items, the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m.



M. Janet Chin, President



Dr. Sandra Johnson, Secretary

**REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE AT GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

Grace Carmona

Michael Drange

Wendy Molina-Solis

Ursula Ng

Art Reynolds

Yolanda Rivera

Ted Saulino

Lynette Thomas

Michelle Truong