



A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, December 07, 2011
3:15 PM, B101**

I. PRELIMINARY:

A. CALL TO ORDER – Chris Lee – 3:28 PM

B. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Allison Holdorff Polhill

Chris Lee

Jason Cutler – 3:42PM

Judi Firth

Lisa Kaas Boyle

Mark Epstein

Marika Anderson-Dam

Monica Iannessa

Stephanie Inyama

Wendy Hagan

Absent:

Matthew Wunder

Non-Voting Members Present:

Eeman Khorramian – Student Rep

Officers/Senior Staff Present:

Pamela A. Magee – ED/Principal

Greg Wood – Chief Business Officer

II. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Non-agenda items: No individual presentation shall be for more than two (2) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed sixteen (16) minutes. Board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the Board may give direction to staff following a presentation. Speakers may choose to speak during the public comment segment and/or at the time an agenda item is presented.

A. Randy Tenan-Snow, teacher, advocated in favor of a start date for 2012-2013 school year to be August 22nd.

B. Karen Griffin, parent, spoke on the calendar change in favor of August 22nd start date.

C. Carrie Scott, parent, is in favor of a start date of August 22nd due to the impact it would have on students participating in summer camps.

D. Linda Burgess, teacher, said the calendar change should be a negotiated item and a compromise between the 14th and 22nd should be considered.

E. Nancy Simon, teacher, presented a signed letter from students in her class who are in favor of the August 14th start date. Letter stated that the August 14th start date would give more time for test preparation in the spring. It would also allow students the possible option of taking credit recovery classes during summer and winter sessions at local community colleges. This will allow more students to graduate from Pali. Nancy commented that the students were not aware of the August 22nd date choice.

F. Caroline Kelly, parent, spoke how UCLA summer camps, Education Unlimited have conflicted with the current calendar. An earlier start date would resolve the conflict and she was in favor of an August 22nd start date.

G. Sandra Martin, teacher, proponent of August 14th start date.

III. ACTION ITEMS: - None

IV. PRESENTATION ITEMS:

A. STUDENT SURVEY – Associated Student Body

The students were surveyed in their 2nd period classes. They were given a choice of 3 start dates: keep it September 5th, August 14th or August 22nd. The students were asked to consider the start date 2 different ways. This is the way they responded: The majority of the students surveyed (9th thru 11th grade) chose not to change the school schedule. The majority out of those surveyed chose the start date of August 22nd.

B. UTLA – Steve Klima and Tim Henderson, UTLA Representatives

The teachers surveyed wanted to be compensated for a shorter summer stating hardships and lost summer opportunities. Concerned about how the change would affect their STRS, the pay periods, and winter / spring breaks.

C. PARENT SURVEY – Julia O’Grady, Parent Liaison

Ms. O’Grady gave her report summarizing the responses received from parents regarding the start date of the 2012-13 school year. Over 2,000 were sent out with 814 emails opened and receiving back 293 responses. 52% of parents were in favor of the August 14th date, 38% wanted to begin school in September, and 9% wanted a date between August 22nd and 30th.

D. CLASSIFIED – Judi Firth, Trustee – no comment

E. COLLEGE CENTER – College Center Representative

Ms. Helene Kunkel presented the reasons why the College Center thinks it is imperative that the semester end before winter break. Pali students are at a significant disadvantage because colleges do not receive their final transcripts before mid-February and colleges begin filling their freshmen class on January 1st.

F. PAYROLL & STRS INFORMATION – Eleanor Rozell

Ms. Rozell explained that if the start date of the 2012-2013 school year changes, the teachers’ annual salary will be split into 11 periods with the pay on September 10th being time worked in August and the July 10th pay being for time worked in June. Unless someone worked in July there would not be a paycheck in August. She made the Board aware of the new STRS laws. Ms. Rozell gave a PowerPoint presentation.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2012 – 2013 PCHS PROPOSED CALENDAR CHANGE

The Board directed Parent Liaison, Julia O’Grady, to send out a second survey to the parents asking them to respond to the following:

Do you prefer that the 2012-2013 school year start on: August 14th, August 21st, or September 4th 2012?

It was requested that the survey be translated into Spanish and sent out as well.

UTLA is planning to conduct a vote on the start date of the 2012-2013 school year.

VI. ADJOURNMENT