

**GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Rosemead, California

Minutes of Special Meeting  
May 20, 2010

The Garvey School Board of Education met in special session on May 20, 2010, at the Education Center, Rosemead, California.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 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 6:44), and Superintendent Emeritus Virginia Peterson (appointed by Interim Superintendent Dolores Preciado to act on her behalf).

Also in attendance were Mr. Genaro Alarcon, Ms. Anita Chu, Mr. Michael Coughlin, 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**

Virginia Peterson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**HEARING OF PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE**

Les Nakasaki, president of Garvey Education Association, addressed the Board regarding the application for the Race to the Top (RTTT), Round 2. Mr. Nakasaki spoke of the long term programs that have been done as educators in a collaborative way. Mr. Nakasaki listed some interesting facts about how the RTTT, Round 1, application process was done in the selection of only 2 states out of 16 states that submitted an application. The key elements of those 2 states are conflicting in that it classifies the states as “winners” and “losers”; changing from the premises of cooperation and participation throughout the selection process. There are many inconsistencies in the way the state applications were scored. Mr. Nakasaki shared many articles from different organizations that are critical of the RTTT application process and lead to questions of various ramifications and possibilities to mandates linked to the NCLB (No Child Left Behind) Act. Mr. Nakasaki indicated that after reviewing this matter, the GEA Council voted unanimously to oppose the signing of the RTTT, Round 2, documents. Mr. Nakasaki reminded Board members to keep in mind that for successful written documents, collaboration is a key element.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Board/Superintendent**

\*(330) Discussion and approval of Race to the Top (RTTT) Round 2 Application.

Virginia Peterson, Superintendent Emeritus, gave a brief update on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which is very similar in language as the Round 1 application and MOU

approved by the Board. Ms. Peterson reviewed with the Board the highlights of the MOU and clarified items that continue to be negotiable. Ms. Peterson asserted that nothing in the MOU is exempt from existing state and federal laws. Signing of the MOU is binding on the District for implementation of those items and compliance with benchmarks, including the submission of an agreement and a detailed work plan within 90 days of the notification of the Race to the Top award, and the implementation of corrective actions within 30 days if the State determines that the District is not meeting its requirements stated in the agreement. Should the District continue to fail to meet the benchmarks, the agreement will be terminated for non-compliance and the District will cease receiving any additional funding that was initially allocated.

Ms. Peterson spoke of the scope of work related to "Standards and Assessments". The goal is to develop and implement common core standards nationwide. These standards will be developed through a nationwide collaborative effort. On a question from Bob Bruesch regarding professional learning community, Anita Chu stated that all of our schools have some form of professional learning community teams that vary slightly in the frequency and agenda of their meetings. Some schools are able to conduct weekly meetings while others have to reduce or cease their meetings due to fiscal and staffing challenges.

Ms. Peterson talked about the "Data Systems" section. The data systems that will change at the state level; data that will be tied to all the issues of RTTT statewide with procedures in place to protect issues of confidentiality and allow for sharing of data among different district departments and with outside researchers.

Ms. Peterson addressed the section, "Great Teachers, Great Leaders" that will be a key area related to teacher evaluations. Ms. Peterson indicated that teacher evaluations will be based on multiple measures, qualitative and quantitative. A technical advisory committee will synthesize the best knowledge from available research and make recommendations. The participating districts will follow the guidelines provided by the technical advisory committee and work collaboratively to design and implement the evaluation system which includes multiple measures and the use of student growth model.

Ms. Peterson briefly discussed the section, "Turning Around the Lowest Achieving Schools" that requires the bottom 5% of schools, statewide to implement one of the four intervention models.

Tony Ramos excused himself from the meeting at 7:10 p.m. and returned at 7:16 p.m.

Henry Lo asked about the districts that may agree to sign the MOU. Ms. Peterson stated that no one knows which districts will be signing the RTTT application. The application can be signed even if the union representatives are not agreeing. John Yuen stated that he hopes for the union support for RTTT which sooner or later will not be an option in the implementation of these requirements. Tony Ramos indicated that the MOU for Round 2 seems even weaker than the MOU for Round 1. Bob Bruesch commented that the components and language of RTTT will serve as a model for the next reauthorization of NCLB (No Child Left Behind act), and that a lot of these requirements will be imposed upon the states with very little local input. Henry Lo talked about the reality of not having adequate funding provided to the schools.

John Yuen moved, Bob Bruesch seconded, and motion carried by a vote of 4-1-0 (Tony Ramos opposed), to approve Race to the Top (RTTT) Round 2 Application (Item 330).

Tony Ramos excused himself at 7:38 p.m.

**OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE BOARD**

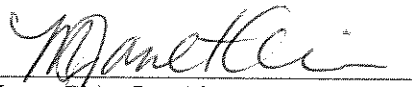
Bob Bruesch talked about writing a letter stating the concerns of our district staff to the RTTT lead person, Superintendent Carlos Garcia of San Francisco Unified School District, who is working on teacher evaluation models. Henry Lo recommended having an addendum to Monday's Board meeting for discussion of such letter of concern.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

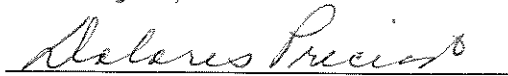
The next regular meeting will be on May 24, 2010 (moved from May 26), at the Education Center. Closed session will begin at 6:00 p.m. with public session to begin at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no additional items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.



M. Janet Chin, President



Dolores Preciado, Secretary

REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE AT GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

Les Nakasaki