

GARVEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Rosemead, California

Minutes of Special Meeting
January 7, 2010

The Garvey School Board of Education met in special session on January 7, 2010, at the Education Center, Rosemead, California.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Board President M. Janet Chin.

ROLL CALL

Present at the meeting were Mr. Bob Bruesch (arrived at 5:15 p.m.), Ms. M. Janet Chin, Mr. Henry Lo, Mr. Tony Ramos, Mr. John Yuen (arrived at 6:36 p.m. due to school commitments), and Superintendent Virginia Peterson.

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

Tony Ramos led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

HEARING OF PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE: None**DISCUSSION ITEMS****A. Board/Superintendent**

(204) Discussion and action taken regarding Race to the Top (RTTT).

The Board held a study session with representatives of the Garvey Education Association to discuss recent information and legislative actions in support of the California application for the federal Race to the Top Program. California stands to gain \$350-\$700 million, if successful. The Governor signed the RTTT legislation today. The deadline for school districts to submit a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is tomorrow. If the California RTTT application is approved, a work plan from the participating school districts will be due 90 days after federal notification, anticipated to come in April 2010.

Virginia Peterson indicated that the RTTT MOU has four pillars: Standards and Assessments, Data Systems to Support Instruction, Great Teachers and Leaders, and Turning around Lowest Achieving Schools. She pointed out that the information presented for discussion included Exhibit I-Part of the MOU, a preliminary scope of work in draft form that the State put together as part of the application, the actual MOU, a letter dated December 14, 2009 (that accompanied the MOU), and frequently asked questions generated from a series of teleconferences held throughout the State in the last few weeks.

Anita Chu stated that, under standards and assessment, the intent is to form of consortium of states to put together a set of common core standards and share best practices. Two major pieces of legislation related to RTTT passed both houses and both were signed by the governor.

Representatives from the Garvey Education Association, including Terry Skotnes, Les Nakasaki, Pat Kasababian, Michael Drange, and Ken Tang expressed their opinions and were not in support of signing the MOU for RTTT. They noted that this funding is a one-time funding that could potentially change the framework of public education and the long-range planning efforts of this district. Another area of concern for the Association concerns the models imposed for teacher evaluations, incentives, compensation and turnaround strategies for low performing schools.

John Yuen stated that RTTT is very important for our District and students. He thanked GEA for being part of the meeting and stated that he understood that the MOU was not clear. Mr. Yuen stated that he felt CTA would work to clarify the MOU. However, he expressed his disappointment that GEA was not supportive of signing the RTTT MOU as this may impact student enrollment and it has the ability to provide direct benefit to the students in the District.

John Yuen moved, Henry Lo seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 4-0-1 (Bob Bruesch opposed), to give direction to the Superintendent and the Board to sign the RTTT Memorandum of Understanding.

Bob Bruesch noted his reasons for opposing the motion; that there are many inconsistencies in the information provided by the State and a lot of unanswered questions.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE BOARD

Janet Chin and Bob Bruesch announced that Virginia Peterson has been selected this year's California Superintendent of the Year by AASA (American Association of School Administrators).

The Board held a moment of silence in honor of Bobbie Salcedo, assistant principal in El Monte High Union High School and Board Member of El Monte City School District. Bob Bruesch requested that a proposal be made to dedicate the next Red Ribbon Week in honor of Mr. Salcedo.

Bob Bruesch addressed the after school tutoring (SES-Supplemental Education Services). He noted that some parents were not contacted about services. Anita Chu stated that all parents who have expressed concerns to her have had these concerns resolved. Mr. Bruesch spoke of several concerns related to the provider's services and assessment tools. The Board agreed to hold a future discussion on after-school programs.

Tony Ramos spoke of yesterday's student incident at Mark Keppel High School and the need to seek ways to prevent student violence at schools.

Henry Lo pointed out an announcement of a series of meetings to be held by the City of San Gabriel at Marshall School to discuss the building of a joint use park. Translation will be provided. Virginia Peterson stated that a special meeting is being held for teachers of Dewey and Marshall Schools on January 19, 2009, regarding this project by the City of San Gabriel.

Henry Lo asked for an update on the uses for Duff School.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

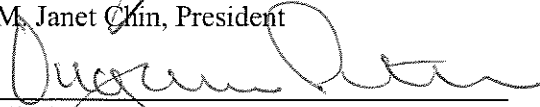
The next regular meeting will be on January 20, 2010, at the Education Center. Closed session will begin at 5:00 p.m. with public session to begin at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional items to discuss the meeting was adjourned in memory of El Monte City School Board Member Bobbie Salcedo, and in memory of David Sandoval at 7:14 p.m.



M. Janet Chin, President



Virginia Peterson, Secretary

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

January 7, 2010

James Chau

Nancy Eng

Les Nakasaki

Sanya Namboun

Alicia Saulino

Ted Saulino

Ken Tang