



April 18, 2012
BOARD STUDY SESSION
POSSIBLE SCHOOL FACILITIES BOND NOV. 2012
ADOPTED MINUTES
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
DISTRICT OFFICE
BOARDROOM
292 Green Valley Road, Watsonville, CA 95076

1.0 OPENING CEREMONY – MEETING OF THE BOARD IN PUBLIC - 6:00 P.M.

President DeRose called the meeting of the Board in public to order at 6:05 pm at 292 Green Valley Road, Watsonville, CA.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Nichols led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2 Welcome by Board President

Trustees Doug Keegan, Sandra Nichols, Willie Yahiro and President Leslie De Rose were present. Trustees Kim De Serpa, Karen Osmundson and Jeff Ursino were absent.

President DeRose asked for a moment of silence for the passing of three individuals of the PVUSD community: student Cynthia Madrigal, transportation dispatcher Sharon Ballesta, and retired educator Ted Leach.

2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Trustee Yahiro moved to approve the agenda. Trustee Keegan seconded the motion. The motion passed 4/0/3 (De Serpa, Osmundson, Ursino absent).

Trustee De Serpa arrived at 6:10 pm.

3.0 STUDY SESSION: POSSIBLE SCHOOL FACILITIES BOND NOVEMBER 2012

I. Introduction of bond support team

- a. Jared Boigon, TBWB Strategies**
- b. Dennis Dunston, Total School Solutions**
- c. Tim Carty, Piper Jaffrey**
- d. District staff**

Brett McFadden, CBO, introduced the team, listed above, who has been working on gathering facilities information and assessing needs for the district to prepare for a possible bond. They were present and available to discuss and answer questions regarding the feasibility of a bond. District staff present included Rick Mullikin, Director of Maintenance, Tim Landeck, Director of Technology, Helen Bellonzi, Director of Finance, Richard Buse, Director of Purchasing, and Nicole Meschi, Director of Food Services.

II. Background information

- a. Recap of community survey**
- b. Recap of facility master plan**
- c. Community outreach and communication**

III. Possible financing options

IV. Review possible project options

Mr. McFadden offered an update on what has been done to prepare for the possibility of a bond. This includes a comprehensive community survey which showed 67% of support for a November bond at \$200 million. High priority issues were identified for likely voters. A thorough Facilities Master Plan was prepared that included input from various stakeholders. The plan has been adopted by the board. Mr. McFadden added that most of the district's facilities are between 45 and 50 years old.

Mr. Dennis Dunston added that the FMP focuses on items that would improve the educational experience of students, such as functional bathrooms, as well as to ensure that the district's facilities investment is protected.

Mr. McFadden reported that the community input was extensive and included review and input from the Fiscal and Facilities Advisory Committee, ongoing meetings with community leaders and local government agencies, presentations to school site councils and parent groups, and presentations to staff. The bond is modeled after what other school districts are successfully doing.

Tim Carty noted that the current state trend with bonds is that they are passed. Larger bonds tend to be successful due to low borrowing rates and low bidding trends. Jared Boigon said that the facilities are in need to be fixed and it is better to do so now so it is not as expensive to fix later. A plus is that PVUSD has had a thorough preparation process which will offer voters information based on real needs.

Mr. McFadden pointed out that the district has about 8 to 12 months left of deferred maintenance funds. The plan identified the following key facility and infrastructure needs: to ensure that all students have access to comparable standards in education, technology and safety; modernization and upgrades; technology and related infrastructure; completion of PVHS; replacement of aging water and sewer infrastructure; and upgrades for energy efficiency to achieve general fund savings.

Three scenarios of possible bond figures were presented by Mr. McFadden: Scenario 1 of \$210 million would complete the needed repairs as identified in the facilities master plan; Scenario 2 of \$160 million would complete many repairs at reduced levels; and Scenario 3 of \$110 million would complete some repairs but leave many untouched. The recommended scope of a bond would improve the educational environment of all school sites, accomplish the necessary instructional technology upgrades in the Aptos area schools, complete PVHS, realize savings to the general fund, work towards energy efficiency and sustainable building/operating practices to offset state budget cuts to class size reductions, teachers, and restore other programs and services. In addition, the bond would support two endowments, one in technology and one in maintenance to ensure the district protects its investments.

Mr. Carty presented information on financing options for a bond that included the assessment value per \$100,000 for \$100 million, \$150 million, \$175 million and \$200 million. It was noted that the survey indicated there is adequate voter support for all bond options.

Mr. McFadden commented on what authority the Board has in regards to the bond, which includes approval of conducting a bond election, the scope and size of the bond, a list of projects, process for community input, and the establishment of a bond oversight committee and subcommittees. If the board decided to move forward with the bond, the County Election Office needs to receive all pertinent information by August, which means that the Board would need to take action in the later part of June.

V. Public comment

Student Trustees Comments:

Anthony Barrios Pajaro Valley High, senior, mentioned that he is a bit concerned about going to college and not being prepared enough. He said that the lack of adequate labs at the school is a hindrance for students who are interested in science. The bond would be great to ensure that the school is better equipped and would give his little sister an opportunity to better enjoy the campus. Mayra Gonzalez, also a senior at PVHS, stated that people's talents are expressed in many ways and exceptional skills are developed with the right tools. She is a dancer from a young age but was unable to further explore those skills at her campus due to a lack of a performing arts center. Schools, she said, are a second home to students and the proposed bond would expand the school to offer students more opportunities to increase their potential. She thanked all for the wonderful work they are doing to ensure this happens for the school and the district.

Watsonville High School students Markus Serrano, Bianca Salgado and Iliana Reynoso commented on the great need to modernize the 119 year old school. They appreciate the effort to ensure that this happens. Markus mentioned that critical upgrades are needed in the schools' science labs, athletic fields need to be maintained, the cafeteria needs to be expanded to better meet the needs of food services, and the quad needs serious attention because it floods.

Public comment:

The following expressed their support for completion of PVHS: Joe Gregorio, teacher and football coach; JP Holbert, student athlete; Brenda Holbert, mother; Alex Carranco, coach; and Robert Gomez, athletic director.

The following expressed their support for improvements to Aptos High School, specifically technology infrastructure and improvements to their buildings: Doug DeMuth, science teacher, and Craig Miller, teacher.

Robert Hull, parent, commented on the lack of adequate technology in Aptos, which affects students who are interested in science. Regarding the bond, he mentioned that he would pay a disproportionately higher rate due to Prop 13. He asked the Board to consider a flat fee per parcel instead of a bond.

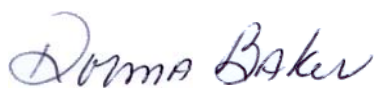
VI. Questions/Comments from the Board

The Board participated with comments and questions. The majority of the board expressed their interest in ensuring that if a bond is approved by the board and voters, that completion of PVHS be at the center to include an athletic field and an auditorium, as well as bring technology up to date at all sites so that all students are able to enjoy equitable educational, technological, and safety standards. It was mentioned that it would be important to ensure the bond projects generate local employment.

Mr. McFadden noted that the Board would have a resolution to adopt a bond with specific projects in late June. Staff would bring updates to the Board to discuss it prior to finalization. He noted that it seemed that the Board would support Scenario 1 and that they would prepare proposal as such.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the study session was adjourned at 8:30 pm.



Dorma Baker, Superintendent