

LA HABRA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting  
500 N. Walnut St.  
La Habra, CA 90631  
September 8, 2011

<b>Call to Order Regular Meeting</b>	The formal call to order of the Board of Education Meeting of the La Habra City School District was called by Board President, Linda Navarro Edwards, at 4:05 p.m.
<b>Board Members</b>	Board Members Present: Linda Navarro Edwards, President Susan M. Hango, Vice President Paul S. Rodriguez, Clerk Sharon H. Brown, Member Sandi Baltes, Member
<b>Administrators</b>	Administrators Present: Susan Belenardo, Superintendent Teresa Egan, Administrative Director Educational Services Teri Louer, Administrative Director Student Support Services Karen Kinney, Chief Business Official
<b>Public Comment on Closed Session Items</b>	Board President, Linda Navarro Edwards, recognized Kevin Jacobson who wished to comment prior to Closed Session. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Jacobson shared concerns with the 'interruption of Class policy' listed in Sierra Vista's Panther Handbook. While he realizes forgetting lunches is a family problem, the policy just doesn't work for him and he wanted this known at the top level.</li> </ul> <p>Trustees gave recommendations for possible solutions compatible with abiding by the policy which has been in place for many years.</p> <p>Trustees adjourned to Closed Session at 4:35 p.m.</p>
<b>Work/ Study Session</b>	Chief Business Official, Karen Kinney, provided a review of the Unaudited Actuals Financial Report which Trustees will be requested to certify during the business meeting. Although the report indicates a decent reserve, it won't cover the recommended 3% reserve in 2013-2014. Some savings were realized last year with employee contribution to insurance and employee changes to family insurance coverages. It is anticipated there could be midyear cuts with trigger reductions in ADA and transportation. The estimated cut in ADA funding of \$250 per student would amount to approximately \$1,300,000. Declining enrollment is a concern with a loss of almost 200 students over last year. Discussion was held as to the impact of the declining enrolment coupled with the possibility of additional reductions in funding midyear.
<b>Second Call to Order Regular Meeting</b>	Board President, Linda Navarro Edwards, called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:05 p.m.
<b>Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag</b>	Board President, Linda Navarro Edwards, asked Carol Argomaniz to lead the pledge of allegiance to the flag.
<b>Report from Closed Session</b>	Board President, Linda Navarro Edwards, reported that in Closed Session, the Board of Trustees had unanimously approved the Superintendent's satisfactory evaluation for the year 2010-2011. Her contract is extended for an additional year through June of 2015.
<b>Action Item: Adoption of the Agenda</b>	On a motion made by Susan M. Hango, and a second to the motion by Paul S. Rodriguez, Trustees unanimously adopted the agenda for September 8, 2011.
<b>Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of: August 25, 2011</b>	The minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 25, 2011 were unanimously approved by Trustees on a motion made by Paul S. Rodriguez, and a second to the motion by Susan M. Hango. <sup>1</sup>
<b>Correspondence</b>	None
<b>Superintendent's and Trustees' Report</b>	Superintendent, Susan Belenardo, reported an incident beginning the school year with a student being struck by a car near Imperial Middle School. The boy is recovering from his injuries and should be back in school in 5 to 6 weeks. The traffic is reported to be getting better with each day as she, Teresa Egan, and Teri Louer have been out at the schools in the mornings. The new District pamphlet, 'Our Heritage is Our Future' was presented and will be made available for distribution through the schools and local agencies. Ron Morrish will

<p>Board Meeting Minutes September 8, 2011 Page 2</p> <p>Superintendent's and Trustees' Report (Cont.)</p>	<p>be visiting the end of September and staff has met with parents in planning a schedule for opportunities for all to benefit from his message. A luncheon is being planned as well as an evening meeting open to all interested parties. Dr. Belenardo reported that of 423 requests for a transfer out of the District, 298 have been granted while 88 students have transferred into the District from outside. Last year, we had 490 out, and 87 in. We have made a significant impact on transfers, Teri has been holding the line and working with our other districts. As of today, we have 102 students at Imperial and 99 at Washington who have not yet received the Tdap immunization. Clinics will be held at each school soon to accommodate these students and hopefully reach 100% prior to the date students would need to be excluded from school.</p>
<p><b>General Matters Action Item:</b> Consent Calendar</p>	<p>Trustees unanimously approved the Consent Calendar on a motion made by Susan M. Hango, and a second to the motion by Paul S. Rodriguez:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Approval of Staff Development for designated employees to attend conferences/workshops as attached to these minutes.<sup>2</sup></li> <li>➤ Approval of Independent Contractor Agreements as attached to these minutes.<sup>3</sup></li> <li>➤ Approval of extra pay requests per employee's contract's provisions and Education Code requirements as attached to these minutes.<sup>4</sup></li> <li>➤ Approval of changes in select employee's status as attached to these minutes.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>➤ Ratification of Certificated and Classified new hires as attached to these minutes.<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>
<p>Information Item: Personnel Commission Appointment</p>	<p>Superintendent, Susan Belenardo, explained to Trustees that their appointment to the Personnel Commission, Dawn Stille, expires on November 30, 2011. At that time, Trustees will need to consider reappointment or an appointee for the next term.</p>
<p>Information Item: La Presa Drive</p>	<p>Chief Business Official, Karen Kinney, explained that during the Summer, the District had been contacted that the District may own a portion of La Presa Drive. Through research, it has been determined that a portion of the street in front of El Cerrito School is owned by the District. There are issues regarding paving of the street which is badly in need of repair. Karen reviewed the history of how this property was developed and how ownership came to be. The cost to repair the street would be approximately \$376,000. By working through the City, our portion could be paved for \$83,000 by piggybacking on the City's bid. The challenge for the three homeowners who own the other part of the street, is not realistic for them. There would be an additional \$5,000 needed for the sidewalk repairs for the District with a total liability of approximately \$102,000. Funds from modernization would be considered as a source to fund this project.</p>
<p>Information Item: Enrollment Report</p>	<p>Board President, Linda Navarro Edwards, recognized those speakers who wished to address the Board on enrollment numbers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Becky Laubie – grandmother of a Kindergartener at Ladera Palma School – Ms. Laubie voiced her serious concern for the number of kindergarteners in her grandson's classroom and the crowded conditions. She has 28 years in this district, raised children in this district and has taught in this district. She and her grandson have looked forward to his beginning Kindergarten only to find 35 children crowded into a classroom that is only 729 square feet, 25 boys and 10 girls. As a teacher, she knows that this is impossible! "These numbers were not an opening of the year phenomenon; all 35 of these kids had their paperwork in and were registered one week before school started, so this is not something that happened on opening day. Everybody knew they were coming." She asks why this has not been corrected as 35 wiggly 5-year olds cannot possibly receive adequate instruction in the limited space. She closed with the statement that we need to reduce the class sizes to offer all students the opportunity they deserve.</li> <li>• Fin Waller – Father of a Kindergarten son at Ladera Palma School – "35 kids in a Kindergarten class? What's going on here? How could this have been allowed to happen?" He stated that one of the most important aspects of a child's education is the proportion of children to an instructor. He would like to go on record knowing that the people in this room are looking very closely at addressing this issue, "it will not be allowed to stay by the parents of these children!"</li> <li>• Blythe Waller – Mother of a Kindergarten son at Ladera Palma School – Mrs. Waller is a Kindergarten Teacher and has taught Kindergarten 10 years and 1<sup>st</sup> grade for 3 years. Her child has 35 children in his Kindergarten class, this is too many children for 1 Teacher to instruct. Children are supposed to be reading and writing sentences by the end of Kindergarten. She knows it will be impossible for 35 children to achieve this in a ½ day program. She teaches in Los Nietos District where they have 20 to 1 in Kindergarten for full day. She and her husband applied for a Transfer and were one of the ones denied. She wants for her child to have the chance for success and have the best education possible. She doesn't feel this is what La Habra School District is offering her child. She asks that the ratio of</li> </ul>

<p>Board Meeting Minutes September 8, 2011 Page 3</p> <p>Information Item: Enrollment Report (Cont.)</p>	<p>student per teacher be reduced and that the children have a chance to learn the way her students do in her district with a 20 to 1 ratio. She asks the Board to please change the class sizes so that all children can learn.</p> <p>Dr. Belenardo reviewed the enrollment figures as of today and reported that the District is currently 27 students over projection, but 160 fewer than the end of last year. She indicated that it is not the District's intention to have 35 Kindergarteners in one classroom. She has been working very closely with the Principal to balance those numbers. A teacher will be added at Las Positas School and a 6<sup>th</sup> grade was added at Imperial Middle School. Numbers across the District are being closely monitored and necessary changes will be made. She reviewed the numbers at all levels and indicated where the numbers are being worked on for resolution soon.</p>
<p><b>Business Matters:</b> <b>Action Item:</b> Expenditure's Report</p>	<p>Trustee, Susan M. Hango, reported Expenditures dated September 2, 2011 signed by Linda Navarro Edwards, beginning with check #30-060349 and ending with check #30-060436 totaling \$218,926.36 from the General Fund, \$761.29 from Child Development, \$13,998.40 from Deferred Maintenance, \$27,201.75 from Capital Facilities and \$73,033.18 from Special Reserve with a Grand Total of \$333,920.98 and expenditures dated September 8, 2011 beginning with check #30-060437 and ending with check #30-060468 totaling \$417,806.44 from the General Fund, \$747.57 from Child Development, \$372.92 from Deferred Maintenance and \$20,215.73 from Capital Facilities for a Grand Total of \$439,142.66. Trustees unanimously approved the Expenditures' payments as presented with a second by Paul S. Rodriguez.</p>
<p><b>Action Item:</b> Budget Transfers</p>	<p>Chief Business Official, Karen Kinney, referred to the earlier work/study session where she had reviewed the Unaudited Actuals and necessary budget transfers to close the previous fiscal year. The revenue limits are dependent on unstable funding. She indicated some changes from the estimated actuals included MAA Federal funding which is not ongoing and a windfall was experienced this past year, use of one time funding of which \$2,193,621 was spent, Capital Facilities and Developer Fees. Ongoing expenses have been paid from one time funding which is a concern. \$300,000 as been committed for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Projects while \$3,792,492 has been assigned for declining enrollment / deficit spending and \$220,000 for equipment in the Cafeteria Fund. The State Budget was adopted with two triggers which are anticipated to occur in January. On a motion made by Paul S. Rodriguez, and a second to the motion by Sharon H. Brown, Trustees unanimously approved budget transfers #38-2011 - #50-2011 necessary to close the fiscal year for 2010-2011 as attached to these minutes.<sup>7</sup></p>
<p><b>Action Item:</b> 2010-2011 Unaudited Actuals</p>	<p>Based on the earlier work/study and discussions, Trustees took action to certify the Unaudited Actuals Report. On a motion made by Sharon H. Brown, and a second to the motion by Sandi Baltes, Trustees unanimously certified the filing of the 2010-2011 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report as required by Education Code 42100 as attached to these minutes.<sup>8</sup></p>
<p><b>Action Item:</b> Gann Appropriations Limit Resolution #51-2011</p>	<p>Chief Business Official, Karen Kinney, explained that the Gann Resolution is an annual statement of the District's estimated appropriations and is required for all Government agencies as a result of Proposition 4. On a motion made by Sandi Baltes, and a second to the motion by Sharon H. Brown, Trustees unanimously approved the annual adoption of district's estimated appropriations limit for the current fiscal year and the actual appropriations limit for the preceding fiscal year as attached to these minutes.<sup>9</sup></p>
<p>Items Not on the Agenda</p>	<p>Board President, Linda Navarro Edwards, recognized those persons wishing to address the Board on items not on the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Bert Elishaw – Parent – Mr. Elishaw explained that he had been here last May to request a Transfer for his son to attend the Brea Olinda District as he had been going to the Bo-Peep Program for two years. They wanted him to continue there because they wanted the best for their son but were told they didn't meet the qualifications for a Transfer. Their son is in the same class as the Ladera Palma parents have talked about and the classes are over 30 in size. They wish to see about moving to Brea and ask that their request for Transfer be reconsidered for Arovista, where he was for two years. They are at around 20 in a class. He indicated he had begun this process back in December of last year and hasn't gotten anywhere. Seeing what they are seeing after beginning the school year, they respectfully request the Transfer be allowed. He asked that the request be reviewed one more time.</li> <li>• Vicki James – Parent (Imperial Middle School) – Ms. James indicated she is new to La Habra, moved here in July. Her daughter was scheduled to begin 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Imperial and they were happy as they understood there was transportation to Imperial. She is currently unemployed but looking to go back to work. Without transportation being offered this year to Imperial, she has driven her daughter to school every day from where they live on North Walnut St. above Whittier Blvd. She was there the day the child was struck by a car. She saw what happened, she was so concerned, she came right down</li> </ul>

If Not on the Agenda  
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to the District Office that day to share her concern. Because of the lines wrapped around the school at dismissal time, it is an unsafe situation. The school is not designed to have a drive through. When you are dropping children off, there should be a way to go through to pick up the children and exit. She feels there needs to be a better procedure and parents need to be informed of a proper procedure to follow so there could be some sort of facilitated way to move the traffic through. What is going on right now is people are making 3-point turns, etc. to move through the area rather than sit in that line. Her own daughter walked at least 3 blocks the first day to get to where she was in her car waiting. If she were to stay in that line, it could take up to 45 minutes to an hour to get through without making an illegal turn. She noticed \$41,000 had been saved in transportation but asks if one life was lost, would it be worth it? She indicated she is willing to work on solutions with this School Board and give of her own time while unemployed to search for solutions. She questions that there are school buses that go to the school on the same property as the Middle School, but middle school children are not provided transportation.

Other Business from the  
Board

Board Member Sharon Brown stated that she and Sandi had met as The Community Outreach Committee and proposes 3 dates for Breakfast with the Board this coming school year, November 12<sup>th</sup>, February 11<sup>th</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at Carrows Restaurant in La Habra. Sandi Baltes mentioned that there will be a 9 – 11 Memorial at the corner of Whittier and Harbor Blvds. on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 7:30 a.m. Linda Navarro Edwards expressed her thanks to Paul Rodriguez for his immediate assistance to the child that was struck by a car near Imperial Middle School the opening week of school.

Adjournment

There being no further business meeting items before the board, Board President, Linda Navarro Edwards, adjourned the regular meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Board Minutes  
Approved:

September 22, 2011



Susan Belenardo, Ed.D.  
Secretary to the Board

<sup>1</sup> Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 8, 2011

<sup>2</sup> Staff Development

<sup>3</sup> Independent Contractor Agreements

<sup>4</sup> Extra Pay Approval

<sup>5</sup> Personnel Change of Status

<sup>6</sup> Certificated and Classified New Hires

<sup>7</sup> Budget Transfers

<sup>8</sup> Unaudited Actuals

<sup>9</sup> Gann Appropriations Limit Resolution #51-2011