

BALLARD SCHOOL DISTRICT

2425 SCHOOL STREET
SOLVANG, CALIFORNIA 93463
(805) 688-4812

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 15, 2023
3:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Clerk of the Board, Art Kaslow called the meeting to order at 3:26 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Tracey Cassidy was not present. The two other board members were present. There were approximately 25 people in attendance.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Art Kaslow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting – Wednesday February 15, 2023

The regular meeting held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, was approved on a motion by Sean Conroy, seconded by Art Kaslow and passed unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Public Comment 1- Student Alumni: Letter read from peer (identifies as non-binary student, praised Ballard's sense of acceptance among peers and staff. The reckless abuse of power, specifically against trans students, is shocking and disheartening. Does not support a change to the Parent Right policy.
- Public Comment 2- Parent Alumni: In spirit of inclusion, urge the board to consider changing meeting time away from afternoons to evenings or provide Zoom option to watch live, provide DEI training for staff. The lack of diversity at Ballard School perpetuates a lack of understanding. Advocates ALL people treated with dignity, respect and acceptance.
- Public Comment 3- Parent Alumni: School provided video/literature in the past where parents had the option of having healthy conversations in the home about topics such as Sex Education. Encourages informed consent and mutual respect for all differences.
- Public Comment 4- Current Parent Rights have not been updated since 2010. With the rapid amount of change in the world, seeking a vote for a revision to the outdated Parent Rights policy at the next board meeting. Cautions against "ambush" tactics; reiterates communication is everything.
- Public Comment 5- Thanked board for changing dynamic at the board meeting. Urging a review of the current Parent Right policy and asking for an "opt out" option for curriculum. Asking parents to be notified prior to other parents or non-staff people in the classroom. Emphasize parents as the #1 influence and school should be inclusive of ALL beliefs. Insist on transparency. Requesting Parent Rights as an action item at the next meeting.

- Public Comment 6- Parent Alumni: Encourage parent/grandparent volunteers in classroom, board has responsibility to continually review out-of-date board policies as well as prompt reporting in order to not place the district in jeopardy of lawsuits.
- Public Comment 7- Encourages Civil Rights. In a 95% Anglo community, it is difficult to adequately understand the perspective of black and brown communities. A lack of diversity in staff and student population fosters unconscioned biases. Impact perceptions and you impact communities.
- Public Comment 8- addressed self as Jane Doe as a symbolism to the privacy of all people. This is not a case of transphobia but one of transparency and knowing what is going on within the school in order for parents to be prepared and equipped to have conversations with children and avoid misinformation via social media.
- Public Comment 9- Spoke in support of love/ respect for the family, parent rights, encourages transparency of who is in the classroom and what is being taught. Urges the board to examine current policy, make changes and set as action item at next board meeting and to bring current policy up to date.
- Public Comment 10- speak in support of civil rights. Public schools have a legal obligation to provide safe and equitable education for all students regardless of race, ethnicity, gender as well as provide space for students to safely express who they are. Cautioned board against politicizing topics but ensuring respect and compassion for children growing up in 2023. Supports DEI training for staff and inclusive education for students.

6. INFORMATION SECTION

Pam Rennick provided information about upcoming events at Ballard School

a. Calendar

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| • Wed. 3/15 | School Board Meeting @ 3:30pm |
| • Wed. 3/15 | 6 th Grade Student Tour – Solvang School |
| • Thur. 3/16 | 6 th Grade Parent Information Meeting @ Solvang |
| • Wed. 3/22 | PTA General Association Meeting |
| • Mon. 3/27 | *County Superintendent's Meeting |
| • Tues. 3/28 | *SAC meeting |
| • Tues. 3/28 | * SARB Meeting |
| • Thurs. 3/30 | 3 rd /4 th to Sacramento |
| • Thurs. 3/30 | Regular Dismissal |
| • Fri. 3/31 | Minimum Day (12:00 Dismissal) |
| • Mon. 4/3 – 4/10 | Spring Break |
| • Mon. 4/10 | No School |
| • Thur. 4/13 | Spring Sing |
| • Fri. 4/14 | World of Oceans Assembly |
| • Wed. 4/19 | School Board Meeting @ 3:30pm |

Superintendent Off Campus is denoted by an *

b. Board Members' Comments & Correspondence: **None**

c. PTA Report:

Barn Bash was a success. It had a nice turnout, and the needed funds were raised. The final numbers will be released after invoices and receipts have been tallied. The next PTA meeting will be held by Zoom in the evening next Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

d. Superintendent's Report

Schools for Sound Finance Reports
Week Ending: February 10, 2023

Week Ending: February 17, 2023
 Week Ending: February 24, 2023
 Week Ending: March 3, 2023

7. CORRESPONDENCE

The superintendent may share pertinent correspondence at this time.

Letter from School's Legal Service

Pam Rennick commented on a letter from James D Simson (Schools Legal Service) in the board packet. The attorney made a revisional public copy which omitted names. Responding to a question: Pam Rennick clarified that there is a Parent Handbook, Parent Rights and Board policies. The statues, by California law, explicitly offer "opt out" provisions for parents: 1) Sex education, 2) HIV prevention which is offered in 8th grade, and 3) surveys. There are three protected classes related to privacy laws: disability, medical, transgender. There are state standards which provide details on subjects taught.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

The board will be asked to approve all the following items by a single vote unless any member of the board or public requests an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered and discussed separately.

a. Approval of Warrants

- 728014 – 728022 (2/10/2023)
- 729300 – 729307 (2/21/2023)
- 730612 – 730625 (3/3/2023)

Pam Rennick commented on the following warrants:

Number	Amount	Payee	Description
Page 1 728015	\$1,293	Flowater	Water machines- repair and filter
728016	\$1,034	Flynn's Heating and Air	Heating problems
728017	\$430.11	Gina Floyd	Scanner- Office Supplies
728019	\$1,052.50	Linda Carlson	Medical Reimbursement
Page 2 729301	\$30	Budi Kazali	Live Scan for camp
729304	\$275.72	Georgeann DeGoede	St Patrick's- food items for lessons
729305	\$2,160	Schickville Music	Music Instruction (final payment)
Page 3 730613	\$76.81	Aniesa Ballinger	Library Supplies
730614	\$825	Children's Creative Project	Michael Katz Storyteller Assembly
730615	\$2,270	CompuVision	Technology Services
730616	\$6,020	Diane Turner	Financial Services
730617	\$900	Eric Hemming	Technology Support
730618	\$174.21	Mandy Young	Medical Reimbursement
730623	\$1,800.78	So. Ca. Gas	Utilities- two months
730624	\$1,680	Woodruff Strings	Music Instruction

b. Approval of Certificated and Classified Payroll: 2/28/2022

The consent agenda was approved on a motion by Art Kaslow, seconded by Sean Conroy and passed unanimously.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. COVID 19

Pam Rennick will update the board on district issues related to COVID-19.

Pam Rennick shared that the Santa Barbara County Public Health has updated the protocols for K-12 schools. The new protocols do not require testing students to come back to school. The quarantine time will likely change and although testing is recommended, it will no longer be required. Staff still fall under the OASHA guidelines, which have not changed.

b. Discussion regarding Board Policy Updates

Parent's Rights and Responsibilities, BP 5020 AR 5020

Public comment was heard regarding the Parent's Rights and Responsibilities policy. In the absence of the board president, a special meeting regarding this agenda item will be created and posted. No action was taken.

Discussion regarding Board Policy Updates with Gamut through the California School Board Association(CSBA)

The Gamut proposal will be reviewed at the Special Meeting. No action was taken.

c. First Reading of 2023/2024 School Calendar

Background: Ballard strives to align the school calendar with the Santa Ynez Valley High School and Solvang School Districts.

Recommendation: Approval of the first reading of the 2023/2024 School Calendar with the second reading scheduled for the board meeting in April.

Pam Rennick shared the proposed school calendar and how it relates to SYVHS and Solvang School calendars. The first read of the calendar was approved on a motion by Art Kaslow, seconded by Sean Conroy and passed unanimously. The second reading will be at the April 19, 2023, board meeting.

d. Review and approval of the Cooperative Agreement between Ballard School District and the Santa Ynez Valley Special Education Consortium under the Santa Barbara County Special Education Local Plan Area for the Operation of Special Education Programs and Services.

Background: Ballard School District has a cooperative agreement with the Consortium for our Special Education Services, as do all schools in the valley. The agreement has no changes except for some updated language regarding transportation.

Recommendation: approve the Cooperative Agreement between Ballard School District and the Santa Ynez Valley Special Education Consortium under the Santa Barbara County Special Education Local Plan Area for the Operation of Special Education Programs and Services

Pam Rennick shared the Cooperative Agreement between Ballard School District and the Santa Ynez Valley Special Education Consortium under the Santa Barbara County Special Education Local Plan Area for the Operation of Special Education Programs and Services. The cooperative agreement was approved on a motion by Art Kaslow, seconded by Sean Conroy and passed unanimously.

10. BUSINESS MATTERS

a. 2nd Interim Budget

Background: The board will review the 2nd interim report

Recommendation: Approval of a positive certification of the 2nd Interim Report

b. Review Budget Attachment

c. Review Current Board Report: Funds 01, 14, 17 25

Pam Rennick shared the 2nd Interim budget and summary report and reviewed it with the board. In way of background, the 2nd interim brings into clearer focus the numbers compared to the budget. In June, the most accurate numbers are reviewed as well as adopting the budget for the upcoming fiscal year (July-June). Pam pointed out the insurgence of one-time Covid monies that will disappear. They have specific uses, which Ballard has utilized, and have specific areas and timelines. Over the coming few years, the revenues will decline, which only brings us back to a more normal bottom line, but in the meantime, the fund 01 balance looks very healthy. All fund balances are as expected. There was discussion about interest bearing accounts and Pam reiterated that all monies are held at SBCEO and have specific rules governing how it is used.

The 2nd interim budget was approved on a motion by Sean Conroy, seconded by Art Kaslow and passed unanimously.

11. FACILITIES None

12. PERSONNEL MATTERS

13. NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Unless otherwise announced, the next regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 3:30 PM. A date/time of Special Meeting will be posted in advance.

14. ADJOURNMENT Time: 5:12 pm.



Art Kaslow, Clerk of the board



Date