

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
INFORMATION EXCHANGE WITH THE CLAYTON CITY COUNCIL
Wednesday, March 5, 2014 (6:30 p.m.)

City Council Members present: Hank Stratford, David Shuey, Howard Geller and Julie Pierce

Board Members present: Barbara Oaks, Cheryl Hansen and Linda Mayo

District representative: Dr. Nellie Meyer, Ed.D., Superintendent

OPENING

The meeting was called to order by Clayton Mayor, Hank Stratford at *6:35 p.m. Mayor Stratford introduced members of City Council, and Board President, Barbara Oaks introduced members of the MDUSD Board of Education present. Absent from the meeting were Jim Diaz, Clayton Councilmember, Brian Lawrence, MDUSD Board Vice President and Lynne Dennler, MDUSD Board Member.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Stratford.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment. Mayor Stratford invited President Oaks to introduce District staff. Members of the audience introduced themselves.

LOCAL CONTROL ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP) PRESENTATION BY DR. NELLIE MEYER

Dr. Meyer provided an overview of the LCAP/LCFF budget and spending, district planning and accountability surrounding LCAP.

CITY OF CLAYTON'S "DO THE RIGHT THING" CHARACTER INITIATIVE

Mayor Stratford provided an overview of the Clayton's city-wide "Do The Right Thing" character initiative, a program developed approximately 4 years ago to help promote a high level of character city-wide. Over the course of a year, six character traits are emphasized. Elementary School Principal, Irene Keenan, shared how the program is implemented at Mt. Diablo Elementary School. Posters and banners promoting the initiative are visible throughout the city and on school campuses. Selected students are recognized for their high level of character by City Council.

INFORMATIONAL EXCHANGE WITH THE CITY OF CLAYTON

Board Members and Councilmembers conversed on topics of mutual interest: school and district enrollment, school achievement and student testing, traffic safety, Common Core State Standards, planned improvement projects and communication between city and district staff.

- Dr. Meyer provided an overview of the Smarter Balanced testing and specifics to this first year of testing. Conversation surrounding student achievement and test scores ensued. Dr. Meyer explained Common Core State Standards and how they came to be developed and what teaching/learning will look like under these Common Core State Standards. MDUSD received \$6 million to be used to implement Common Core; these funds will be used to increase technology, provide professional development for staff, subject curriculum and materials for students.
- Mayor Stratford acknowledged that the time was nearly 8:00 p.m. and all agreed to continue the meeting beyond that time.

- Police Chief, Chris Thorsen provided an overview of traffic near district schools and measures the Police Department is taking to support traffic safety in areas surrounding schools in Clayton. Principal Keenan shared concerns her school staff has expressed, and what staff is doing to promote traffic safety at Mt. Diablo Elementary School. City Council and Board members discussed signage, partnering with Contra Costa County 511, promoting parent participation and strategies to increase traffic safety.
- Measure C Director for the district, Tim Cody, provided a slide presentation and briefly explained past, current and planned future improvement projects at schools in Clayton. New HVAC, updated classrooms and technology improvements are among the projects at Clayton schools. Currently, new Science classrooms are under construction at Diablo View Middle School. Councilmember Pierce requested to be provided the link to the district Measure C website in order to provide it to the Clayton community.
- Councilmembers and Board members expressed their desire to promote ongoing communication between the two entities and all agreed that the joint meeting was a positive step. The importance of parent volunteers was acknowledged and the possibility of the Police Department assisting with fingerprinting volunteers was expressed. Councilmember Shuey discussed parent volunteerism at the charter high school, and the possibility of City Council being included in a meeting to discuss expanding Clayton Valley Charter High School. A lengthy conversation on parent involvement and volunteerism ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at *8:35 p.m.

*Times listed are approximate.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Nellie Meyer, Ed.D.