

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Wednesday, December 14, 2016 9:00 a.m. - Noon

CALL TO ORDER

President Mason called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

President Mason conducted Roll Call with all Board members present except Brian Lawrence, who participated via teleconference from 944 Market Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA, 94102.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gina Haynes shared her concerns about agenda dockets; several items contained confusing recommendations. She commented that agenda attachments have been removed and replaced without being noted in the agenda item, and that numbers have been manipulated in staff reports.

BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM

4.1 Board Governance Workshop

The Board and Superintendent will participate in a governance workshop led by Dr. Sally Frazier, consultant with Leadership Associates. There are two major outcomes:

1. Gain a clear understanding of the Board and Superintendent roles and relationship.
2. Review of the Brown Act.

Dr. Frazier led a warm up activity whereby each participant offered information about where he or she was born, sibling order in the family, and a childhood memory that came to mind.

The group discussed workshop norms. Reference was made to the manner in which the governance team typically interacts with each other. The use of electronic devices including cell phones, during meetings was discussed.

Participants shared their motivation for becoming an MDUSD Board member, as well as the legacy they wished to leave when they finish their time as a board member.

Prior to the Governance Meeting, Board members completed a Team Action survey. A review of the results offered the opportunity for the participants to go into depth about Board behavior and individual member perception of the effectiveness of the governance team. Specific areas requiring clarification were reviewed, the result of which was to establish a Governance Team Handbook subcommittee to review a draft document developed 5+ years ago and revise as needed. It was further agreed that an annual Board self-evaluation would be important to ensure Board members have clarity about how to operate as a governing unit.

Dr. Meyer provided a slide presentation on the Brown Act. The group held a discussion of the key concepts and Dr. Meyer provided clarification where requested. As a result of the discussion, specific language will be developed for the agenda and will be stated prior to public comment. The language will state that the Board will not discuss or take action at that time.

The group discussed Board-Superintendent roles/relationships including how best to work together to ensure normal day-to-day operations of the District. The Board will define the list of district organizations, determine the official representative of the organizations and the Board President will establish a length of time offered for input from each organization at Board meetings.

The current process for evaluating the Superintendent was discussed with all agreeing it has been effective. It was agreed that quality time should be devoted to the evaluation process as it is the key time for in depth communication between the Board and Superintendent.

ADJOURNMENT

President Mason adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Nellie Meyer, Superintendent

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