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### MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 8, 2008

<p><u>Opening</u></p>	<p>The Board of Education of Palo Alto Unified School District held a Regular Meeting in the Board Room at 25 Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto, California. Dana Tom, President, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Member Barbara Klausner participated for the entire meeting via phone from the David Packard International Faculty Residence, Peking University, Beijing, 100871, People's Republic of China. Notice was posted for public access at the location.</p> <p>Members present:  Mr. Dana Tom, President  Ms. Barb Mitchell, Vice President  Ms. Melissa Baten-Caswell  Ms. Barbara Klausner  Ms. Camille Townsend</p> <p>Others present:  Dr. Kevin Skelly, Superintendent  Dr. Marilyn Cook, Associate Superintendent  Dr. Scott Bowers, Assistant Superintendent  Mr. Scott Laurence, Assistant Superintendent  Dr. Robert Golton, Interim CBO  Mrs. Cathy Mak, Interim CBO</p>
<p><u>Closed Session</u></p>	<p>The Board adjourned to closed session for Employee Appointment/Employment pursuant to Government Code §54961 – Principal; and Conference with Labor Negotiator, Dr. Scott Bowers, regarding PAEA, CSEA, and Non-represented groups pursuant to Government Code §54957.6.</p>
<p><u>Reconvene in Open Session</u></p>	<p>The Board convened in open session at 6:35 p.m. Tom announced that the Board took no action during closed session.</p> <p>Also in attendance:  Mr. Andrew Tesler, Student Member, Gunn  Ms. Kairen Wong, Student Member, Paly</p>
<p><u>Approval of Agenda Order</u></p>	<p>MOTION: Baten Caswell moved to approve the agenda order. Townsend seconded. Motion carried 5-0.</p>
<p><u>Student and Staff Successes</u></p>	<p>Skelly voiced concern and support for Kate Hill, who suffered a stroke. He also noted staff and student successes.</p>
<p><u>Student Board Member Reports</u></p>	<p>Tesler reported on sports accomplishments, a Code Red drill, the drug and alcohol assembly, and the Prom. Wong reported on Prom, the 2008 election process, the school newspapers, a proposal to redo the senior deck, the Science Olympiads, sports results, and the possibility of changing the Paly bell schedule.</p>
<p><u>Superintendent's Report</u></p>	<p>Skelly introduced Michael Milliken, the new Principal of Jordan, and Mary Pat O'Connell the new Principal of Nixon.</p>
<p><u>Approval of Consent Calendar</u></p>	<p>MOTION: Townsend moved to approve the consent calendar, with the exception of the minutes for February 12, 2008 and Resolution 2007-08.11 – National Volunteer Week. Items approved included Certificated and Classified personnel actions; Minutes of March 11, 18, and 19, 2008; Uniform Complaint (Williams Settlement and Valenzuela/CASHEE Lawsuit Settlement) Quarterly Report; and Approval of Participation in Community-Based English Tutoring Program for 2008-0. Mitchell seconded. Motion carried 5-0.</p>
<p><u>Action</u>  Resolution 2007-08.11 – National Volunteer Week</p>	<p>Townsend and Baten Caswell gave some background information and statistics.</p> <p>MOTION: Townsend moved to approve the resolution with the addition of the following statement, following the statement about the contribution of time from students: "Whereas, a significant number of parents contribute their time and efforts to assist students in their academic and social growth."  Baten Caswell seconded. Motion carried 5-0.</p>

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### Information

Update Regarding the Development of 2020 Strategic Plan

Skelly introduced representatives of McKinsey & Company, the firm hired to guide the district through the strategic planning process. Staff and representatives of McKinsey & Company made a presentation focused on: overview of the strategic planning process; preview of the survey results; high-level priorities for stakeholders by theme; themes and goals for the district; early list of initiatives for academic excellence and learning, staff recruitment / development, budget trends, infrastructure, and governance; the four main elements of the strategic plan; potential vision and mission statements; and next steps. Skelly suggested more information could be presented at the next Board meeting.

Board discussion occurred during included breaking up the data by grade level, counseling, the selection of school subjects chosen to be included in the surveys, the reporting of comments collected from the surveys, completion of focus groups, getting clarity on the meaning of "one year's growth" for all students, wording of themes and goals for the district, language programs, a possible trend toward more part-time staff and the effect this may have on recruitment, the process for understanding emerging topics of concern, writing the initiatives in a stronger aspirational manner, the meaning of "global awareness" and the Global Learning Initiative, simplifying the mission and vision, where social, emotional, and physical health of students as well as non-core subjects fit in to the strategic plan, and how new initiatives are developed and selected for focus.

### Public Comment

Giselle Galper said having a measurable goal was very important to parents. In addition, she observed that while a great deal was expected of teachers, this was not an affluent district. Uniform curriculum across the district was important to her.

Additional Board comments focused on when a broad perspective could be achieved during an ongoing, long-term process like this; narrowing the focus to a smaller number of goals and accomplishing them well; making Goal 1 more inspirational and specific; including parents and community in the mission statement; and adding a reference to improving instructional practice to the goals.

### Open Forum

There were no requests to speak.

### Discussion

Approval of New High School Courses for 2008-09

Skelly said the goal was to have students come into ninth grade ready to take science courses beginning with biology. Burton Cohen, Director of Secondary Education, introduced Jacquie McEvoy, Paly Principal; Norm Masuda, Paly World Language Instructional Supervisor; and Kathy Lawrence, Paly Science Instructional Supervisor. Lawrence said the courses were developed by staff with the involvement of middle school teachers, parents, and administrators.

Board discussion focused on possible tradeoffs with existing classes in order to accommodate these new classes, world language competency, the possibility of making the new science class a UC lab-qualified course, plans for bringing the Mandarin program to the middle schools, how a new class would be evaluated for success, alignment of AP programs between the two high schools, and the importance of teaching both language and culture in foreign language classes.

The Board agreed this item would return on the consent calendar at the next meeting.

### Discussion

Certification and Adoption of Chemistry Book – Palo Alto High School

Cohen said this was for certification and that the books were standards aligned, which would allow for the release of funds needed to purchase materials. This book would be used in conjunction with the current 15-year-old text.

The Board agreed this item would return on the consent calendar at the next meeting.

### Discussion

Certification and Adoption of Biotechnology Book – Palo Alto High School

Cohen said both Gunn and Paly staff were involved in the selection process. This was for certification that the book was standards aligned, which would allow for the release of funds needed to purchase materials. Board discussion included the reason Paly and Gunn were using different texts and the possibility of attaining D elective credit for biotechnology.

The Board agreed this item would return on the consent calendar at the next meeting.

### Discussion

Authorization to Seek Bids for the Installation of a New Aquatic Center at Gunn High School

Golton reviewed the history of this topic as well as the timeline. Board discussion included parity of dollars spent on the two high schools and timing of funds being used.

The Board agreed this item would return on the consent calendar at the next meeting.

### Action

Authorization to Award the Contract for the Gunn and Palo Alto High School Synthetic Turf Installation and the Gunn Lower Field Improvements

Golton said the revised agenda item stated the results of the bidding process. He reviewed the local experience of O.C. Jones and Sons.

MOTION: Baten Caswell moved to extend the meeting to 10:45 p.m. Mitchell seconded. Motion carried 4-1 Townsend voted No.

Board discussion included the possibility of Paly getting a synthetic turf infield, the softball infield, the funding source of Gunn's \$25,000 contribution, and the presentation of additional pieces of a project on an action item in relation to the two-meeting rule.

MOTION: Mitchell moved to accept the donation of \$50,000 from the Gunn High School Sports Boosters to partially fund a synthetic turf baseball infield. She also moved to approve the award of a contract

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for synthetic turf installation at Palo Alto and Gunn high schools and the lower turf upgrades at Gunn High School to O.C. Jones and Sons in the amount of \$4,658,000. Mitchell further recommended the Superintendent or his designee be authorized to execute change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% or \$465,800. Klausner seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

### Information

Request for Qualifications for Architects to Provide Planning and Design Services

Golton said this was not a bid, but rather a notice that the district would be sending out requests for qualification (RFQ) for architects. These architects would begin work after the bond passed in June 2008. The Property Committee would be involved in this process, and the Board would be asked to approve the selected architects.

Board discussion included the need for multiple architects to work on different projects, the need to understand the facility needs of the secondary sites, and the involvement of staff in the creation of the RFQ and the selection process.

### Discussion

Authorization to Bid Summer Maintenance Projects

Golton said there were eight summer maintenance projects. He added that staff would work to achieve economy of scale by grouping projects together, because there were a number of similar projects at different sites. Board discussion included the manner of selection for summer projects.

The Board agreed this item would return on the consent calendar at the next meeting.

### Action

Authorization to Award a Contract for Hoover Daycare Modular

Golton described the history of this project.

Board discussion included past district work done by the bidding contractors and communication with PACCC (Palo Alto Community Childcare) during this process.

MOTION: Mitchell moved to approve the award of a contract to ESR Construction in the amount of \$340,000 for one modular daycare building at Hoover Elementary and its installation, and that the Superintendent or his designee be authorized to execute change orders in an amount not to exceed 10% or \$34,000. Baten Caswell seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

### Discussion

Resolution 2007-08.12 – Proposed Issuance of Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes

Mak described the reasoning for the issuance of these notes. Board discussion included the possibility of cash flow challenges for the upcoming year.

The Board agreed this item would return on the consent calendar at the next meeting.

### Discussion

Resolution 2007-08.13 – Classified Reduction in Service

Bowers said the position being laid off was because the National Science Foundation grant funding would not be renewed. Board discussion included the source of funds paying for this position.

The Board agreed this item would return on the consent calendar at the next meeting.

Board Members' Reports / Correspondence / Board Operations / Recognition

### Reports

Townsend said the City of Palo Alto's May Fete Parade themed, "Moving and Grooving" would be held on May 5. On behalf of the Palo Alto Recreation Foundation, Townsend asked that administrators and Board members walking in the parade wear plaid in keeping with the Black and White Ball theme: "Plaid to be Here."

Baten Caswell said information on the bond measure proposal was shared with members of the School City Liaison Committee at the last meeting. In addition, she attended the prior week's PTA Council meeting where it was announced the PTA Council would be participating in upcoming activities enabling them to voice concern with the state budget. In addition, Madeline LeVine, who wrote *The Price of Privilege*, would be speaking at Gunn the following evening.

Townsend said Paly students would welcome students from Seattle who were cycling the coast in a green team effort.

Mitchell attended the PiE (Partners in Education) Board meeting and reported that a Spring Fling Dine Out fundraiser would be held on April 22. In addition, PiE planned to conduct its annual Honor Your Teacher campaign, and its annual retreat would be held on April 18.

Tom said he had submitted a proposal to CSBA for Mitchell, Townsend, Skelly, and himself to give a presentation on Board practices at the upcoming conference. He also reported CSBA election results, including his election.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

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Secretary to the Board