

MINUTES
October 21, 2015

MEMBERS

Pamela Mirabella, Area 1 Trustee
Christine Deane, Area 2 Trustee
Daniel Gomes, Area 3 Trustee
Mike Maxwell, Area 4 Trustee
Jeff Belle, Area 5 Trustee

ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Karen Sakata, Superintendent
Pamela Comfort, Deputy Superintendent
Bill Clark, Associate Superintendent, Business Services
Katie Gaines, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Terry Koehne, Chief Communications Officer
Mac Carey, Chief Technology Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Mirabella called the meeting to order at 5:19 p.m.

2. OPENING PROCEDURES

Maxwell moved, Belle seconded, and the Board voted 5-0-0 to approve the agenda as amended. (minutes pulled from Consent Agenda by President Mirabella)

Ayes: Deane, Belle, Mirabella, Maxwell, Gomes

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

3. CLOSED SESSION - None

4. RECOGNITIONS - None

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following shared concerns regarding an administrator: Melissa Wilson, Suzanne Heim, Bill Sorensen, Gary Wickman, Joanne Lindevald, Lynette Pitau, Jane Betty, Caty Porterfield, Neanna Mahrooq, Natalie Funke, Brandon Funke, Mercy Espinosa, Jerry Lindevald, Sandy Travagli, Greg Reichardt, Sue Fitch, and Steve Repetto.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Pulled from Consent Agenda

7.2 Board Meeting Minutes - October 7, 2015

Ms. Mirabella asked Board members if they had concerns regarding the amount of details included in the minutes. Hearing none she called for the vote.

Maxwell moved, Belle seconded, and the Board voted 4-0-1 to approve the minutes as presented.

Ayes: Deane, Belle, Maxwell, Gomes
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: Mirabella

Maxwell moved, Belle seconded, and the Board voted 5-0-0 to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda as amended. (7.2 Minutes, pulled by Mirabella)

Ayes: Deane, Belle, Mirabella, Maxwell, Gomes
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

7.3 Consider Granting of a Contra Costa County High School Diploma to High School Student from the Contra Costa High School Program - Student DVHS 1-10/21/15

7.4 Consider Granting of a Contra Costa County High School Diploma to High School Student from the Contra Costa High School Program - Student DVHS 2-10/21/15

7.5 Consider Granting of a Contra Costa County High School Diploma to High School Student from the Contra Costa High School Program - Student DVHS 3-10/21/15

7.6 Consider Granting of a Contra Costa County High School Diploma to High School Student from the Contra Costa High School Program - Student DVHS 4-10/21/15

7.7 Consider Granting of a Contra Costa County High School Diploma to High School Student MMS 1-10/21/15

7.8 Consider Granting of a Contra Costa County High School Diploma to High School Student-MMS 2-10/21/15

7.9 Consider Granting of a Contra Costa County High School Diploma to Adult School Student from the Contra Costa Adult School Program - Student CCAS 1-10/21/15

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

None

9. BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Information Regarding Petition to Establish the Rocketship Mt. Diablo (RSMD) Charter School

Ms. Mirabella stated a public hearing was held on September 16 regarding the petition to establish the Rocketship Mt. Diablo (RSMD) Charter School.

Petitioners Presentation

Chief Growth and Community Engagement Officer, Cheye Calvo, shared a PowerPoint presentation. He explained the mission of the school is to eliminate the achievement gap. The school focuses on serving students who are socio-economically disadvantaged.

Board Questions/Concerns

Mr. Belle expressed concern regarding teacher certification and English Learner progression. Ms. Mirabella shared concerns regarding racial balance and suggested using a weighted lottery. Mr. Gomes asked for clarification should one of Rocketship's schools be accused of mal, non, or misfeasance. It was explained there is an indemnification provision in the Memorandum of Understanding providing adequate protection for the County Office of Education (COE).

Following a brief break, the Board reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

Public Comment

The following spoke in support of approving Rocketship Mt. Diablo Charter School: Barret Burkett, Merle Hall, Judy Wilson, Colleen Coll, Cristina Gutierrez, Alison Blair, Andy Blair, Jaime Lopez, Silvia Barajas, Daniela Muna, Hourig Ayanyam McCray, Hilda Hilano, Danny Etcheverry, Alexandria Martinez, Lety Gomez, Marcela Martinez, Mirbel Flores, Blanca Elisea, Maricela Arias, Mayeli Rivera, Eva Heredia, Jamie Juni, Blanca Carbajal, and Teshone Jones.

The following spoke in opposition of approving Rocketship Mt. Diablo Charter School: Nellie Meyer, Mary Louise Newling, Deb Cooksey, Leyla Benson, John Yeh, Barbara Oaks, Denise Lambert, Simon Santana, Cheryl Hansen, Steve Elster, Wendy Stark, Isabel Lara, Anita Johnson, Sandra Willbanks, Ona Keller, Sara Savacool, Dan Reynolds, Lee Cyr, Guy Moore, Tammy Carr, Lenard Matthews, Nester Guadron, Brian Espinoza, Angeles Gutierrez, Blanca Colin, Dorothy Weisenberger, Oscar Reyes, Liza Rios Dinoffer, Nallely Malaspina, Beth Miller, Julieta Maldonado, and Carmen Garces.

Dannis, Woliver, Kelley (DKW) Presentation

DWK Legal Counsel, Clarissa Canady and Lauren Charneski, addressed staff's recommendation of conditional approval and explained each condition in detail. They noted if conditional approval is granted, the petition could be rescinded if all conditions are not met.

Board Questions/Concerns

President Mirabella said she thinks having fourteen conditions in the MOU is a rewrite of the petition. Mr. Gomes explained his concern that RSMD board meetings are held outside the district area. Ms. Deane stated the charter issue is a matter of philosophy and it is possible that a different system will meet the needs of some students. Mr. Maxwell remarked he is in favor of charter schools if they are done correctly.

9.2 Consider Action to Conditionally Approve the Petition to Establish the Rocketship Mt. Diablo (RSMD) Charter School and Adopt Resolution No. 5-15/16 and Related Factual Findings, or to Deny the Petition

Deane moved, Belle seconded and the Board voted 1-4-0 to conditionally approve the petition for Rocketship school. Motion failed.

Ayes: Deane
Noes: Maxwell, Belle, Gomes, Mirabella
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Point of clarification by Clarissa Canady and Lauren Charneski, DWK, who explained that in order to deny the petition the Board must vote to deny the written findings which were provided to them.

Gomes moved, Deane seconded, and the Board voted 5-0 to deny the petition based upon the findings.

Ayes: Deane, Belle, Mirabella, Maxwell, Gomes
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

10. CABINET MEMBER UPDATES

None

11. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

None

12. CORRESPONDENCE

President Mirabella shared that Board members have received correspondence regarding the Rocketship Mt. Diablo Charter School petition.

13. EVENTS CALENDAR

BOARD MEETING DATES		
Board Meeting	January 14	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	February 4	5:00 p.m.
Board Retreat	February 18	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	March 4	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	March 18	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	April 15	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	May 6	5:00 p.m.
Budget Workshop	May 20	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	May 20	6:00 p.m.
Budget Workshop	June 3	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	June 3	6:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	June 17	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	July 15	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	August 12	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	September 2	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	September 16	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	October 7	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	October 21	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	November 4	5:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	December 9	5:00 p.m.

14. BOARD REPORTS

Mr. Belle visited Rocketship, and Ayers and Meadow Homes elementary schools. He attended two high school football games. Mr. Belle and Ms. Deane attended the Masters in Governance training. Ms. Mirabella visited Meadow Homes and Oak Grove Middle School as well as Rocketship in San Jose. On September 23 she attended the Contra Costa Community School State of the Districts address.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 p.m.