Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
San Mateo County Community College District
October 29, 2008
San Mateo, CA

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m.

Board Members Present: President Richard Holober, Vice President-Clerk Karen Schwarz, Trustees Helen Hausman, Dave Mandelkern and Patricia Miljanich, and Student Trustee Virginia Medrano Rosales

Others Present: Chancellor Ron Galatolo, Executive Vice Chancellor Jim Keller, Skyline College President Victoria Morrow, College of San Mateo President Michael Claire, Cañada College President Tom Mohr, and District Academic Senate President Patty Dilko

Pledge of Allegiance

DISCUSSION OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA
None

MINUTES
It was moved by Vice President Schwarz and seconded by Trustee Hausman to approve the minutes of the Study Session of October 15, 2008. The motion carried, all members voting “Aye.”

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD BY PERSONS OR DELEGATIONS
None

STATEMENTS FROM EXECUTIVES AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
Executive Reports were presented by Chancellor Galatolo, Skyline College President Morrow, College of San Mateo President Claire, Cañada College President Mohr, Executive Vice Chancellor Keller, District Academic Senate President Dilko, and Skyline College Associated Students Vice President Brittany Piccolotti. Copies of the Presidents’ Executive Reports were available for distribution at the meeting and are attached to the official minutes of record.

Chancellor Galatolo distributed a copy of the California Real Estate Law Newsletter, which the District is now producing, with the proceeds going into the Home Savings Incentive Plan.

President Morrow highlighted sections of her written report, including awards presented to Skyline students at the Society for the Advancement of Native Americans and Chicanos in Science Convention and at the Journalism Association of Northern California Conference. President Morrow announced that District Chief Financial Officer Kathy Blackwood will be at Skyline on October 30 to speak about the State and District budgets. President Morrow noted upcoming events at Skyline, including the Student Art Show, the Holiday Job Fair, and Concurrent Enrollment Night.

President Claire commended faculty, staff and students for their cooperation during construction at College of San Mateo. He thanked Louise Piper and the children at the Mary Meta Lazarus Child Development Center for their murals that are displayed on the fence around Building 5N’s construction zone. President Claire distributed the San Mateo County Loves Its Women 2009 Calendar to the Board, which features CSM faculty member Jane Williams and highlights messages about the importance of mammograms. President Claire said the follow up visit by the Accreditation Commission will take place on Monday, November 3. He also noted awards won by CSM students, including the editor of The San Matean and Cosmetology students.
President Mohr highlighted sections of his written report, including the $1.5 million grant which Cañada received from the U.S. Department of Education to help with science education. President Mohr said Cañada hosted a debate on Proposition 8 which was organized by Librarian David Patterson. "Frankie Meets Jimmy," a benefit concert for student scholarships, will be held November 8. President Mohr distributed a flier on Cañada's new Honors Transfer Program which will begin in spring 2009 with four new courses. The program was organized by Professor Patty Dilko in conjunction with others. Chancellor Galatolo commended Professor Dilko for her leadership, and President Mohr added that Chancellor Galatolo was part of the initiative as well.

Executive Vice Chancellor Keller said the District is dealing with prospective impacts of the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy, the State budget shortfall, and the budget for fiscal year 2009-10. EVC Keller said the long-term effects of the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy and the subsequent loss of $155 million from the County Pool are not yet known, but the County Treasurer has completely written off the loss, leaving the District with a loss of $25 million.

Because of the huge shortfall in the State budget that was passed recently, the District is anticipating mid-year adjustments. The State is deferring apportionment payments as a way to help balance the budget; in response, educational systems are considering mid-year Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANs). To issue a TRAN, the District can use the League's method or follow its own experience using Piper Jaffray as the underwriter. Sometime after the first of next year, the Board will receive information and a resolution to issue a TRAN and it might be necessary to issue another TRAN before summer.

EVC Keller explained how to determine the impact to the District of the State budget shortfall, depending on how the news is reported. The District's impact is one-tenth of one percent of the total State budget shortfall and two-tenths of one percent of the education portion of the shortfall. The District accounts for approximately 16% of the funds in the County Pool, of which approximately 3% is general fund related.

EVC Keller said CFO Blackwood is holding meetings at the Colleges, which will have to implement any adjustments that must be made.

Chancellor Galatolo said he received an email from the State Chancellor saying the budget shortfall is anticipated to be $8-10 billion, which translates to a $2-5 billion hit to Proposition 98 money, $200-500 million to the community college system, and $4-10 million to the District. Chancellor Galatolo said he is confident that working together as a team, the District will come through this crisis.

District Academic Senate President Patty Dilko acknowledged the four professors who will teach the courses for the Honors Transfer Program, as shown on the flier, and also thanked Chancellor Galatolo for his support. President Dilko said Professor Martin Partlan has been elected Vice President of the Academic Senate. The Senate has developed a proposal for a pilot to study the effect of plus-minus grading which will be brought to the Board. A taskforce on a compressed calendar will meet for the first time tomorrow and the process will be presented to the Board. The taskforce for the Educational Summit has met and is excited about creating and enhancing conversations with high school faculty. In response to the recommendation from the Accreditation Commission that District Rules and Regulations be reviewed, the Faculty Senates at the Colleges are working on Chapter 6. Revisions to the first half of the chapter will be presented to the Board this semester and the other half will be presented next semester. The section on intellectual property will require careful review because things have changed dramatically with online education, digital publications, etc.

Brittany Piccolotti, Vice President of Associated Students Skyline College (ASSC), distributed a list of past and upcoming events; a copy is attached to the official minutes of record. Ms. Piccolotti also highlighted other items on the report; she said the Skyline Organization and Club Council (SOCC) has added three new clubs, and ASSC and SOCC have donated funds to support various events and programs. All executive positions on ASSC are filled and five senator positions are open. Students attended the meeting of the State Senate for California Community Colleges in San Jose. Student representatives continue to be involved in the shared governance process at the College and District levels.
STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
None

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS: CHANGES IN ASSIGNMENT, COMPENSATION, PLACEMENT, LEAVES, STAFF ALLOCATIONS AND CLASSIFICATION OF ACADEMIC AND CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL (08-10-2A)
It was moved by Trustee Mandelkern and seconded by Vice President Schwarz to approve the actions in Board Report No. 08-10-2A. The motion carried, all members voting “Aye.”

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA
The Consent Agenda consists of the following Board Reports:

08-10-1CA Ratification of First Quarter District Warrants, 2008-2009
08-10-2CA Approval of Child Development Services with the City of Pacifica
08-10-3CA Denial of Claim against the District by Callum McCulloch

It was moved by Trustee Hausman and seconded by Trustee Miljanich to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried, all members voting “Aye.”

Other Recommendations

ADOPTION OF DISTRICT ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR 2009-2010 (08-10-1B)
It was moved by Vice President Schwarz and seconded by Trustee Miljanich to approve adoption of the calendar as presented. Vice President Schwarz noted that last year, there was concern on the part of students regarding the date of commencement. Student Trustee Medrano Rosales said all issues were resolved on the proposed calendar for 2009-2010. After this discussion, the motion carried, all members voting “Aye.”

AUTHORIZATION FOR EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR TO EXECUTE OR RENEW CONTRACT WITH AN ENERGY SERVICE PROVIDER FOR PURCHASE OF NON-CORE GAS (08-10-101B)
It was moved by Vice President Schwarz and by Trustee Hausman to authorize execution or renewal of a contract as outlined in the report. The motion carried, all members voting “Aye.”

ACCEPTANCE OF EXTERNAL FUNDS (08-10-102B)
It was moved by Trustee Mandelkern and seconded by Trustee Hausman to approve the acceptance of funds as outlined in the report. The motion carried, all members voting “Aye.”

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY OF SAN MATEO FOR LEGAL SERVICES (08-10-103B)
It was moved by Trustee Hausman and seconded by Vice President Schwarz to approve the agreement as outlined in the report. President Holober said he would vote no for the reasons he expressed at the June 11, 2008 meeting. Noting that a firm mentioned in the board report charges $160 per hour for an associate and $270-$290 per hour for experienced attorneys, Trustee Mandelkern asked what the blended rate of that firm would be compared with the blended rate of $188 per hour charged by the County. EVC Keller said the District believes the rate would be higher than $188. Trustee Miljanich said it is not unusual for attorneys to charge $300-$400 per hour. President Holober said some firms have a public sector rate which is lower than the rate for private corporate clients; he believes the rates quoted in the board report are public sector rates. After this discussion, the motion to approve the agreement carried, with one “No” vote and the remainder of the Board voting “Aye.”
INFORMATION REPORTS

REVIEW OF SMCCCD STRATEGIC PLAN 2008-2013 (DRAFT) (08-10-3C)
Vice Chancellor Jing Luan acknowledged the work of the District Strategic Planning Taskforce, which he co-chairs with District Academic Senate President Dilko. President Dilko said the draft has been shared at every level in the District; many suggestions were received and have been assimilated into the document. The Taskforce will review the plan again during November, assimilating further feedback from the Colleges. The final District Strategic Plan will be brought to the Board for approval in December 2008.

STATEMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS
Student Trustee Medrano Rosales attended the Student General Assembly in October and found the sessions very educational. A new Student Trustee Association for California Community Colleges was established. Student Trustee Medrano Rosales will be hosting the Student Art Show Reception at Skyline on November 19 and invited all to attend.

Vice President Schwarz attended the San Mateo County School Boards Association meeting where the presentation focused on algebra in the middle schools. She said there was interest expressed by several Board members about working together to make sure students are ready for college. Vice President Schwarz also said she was told by a person at the meeting that school districts pay sales tax but city councils do not and she would like to know if this is true; staff will investigate the question. Regarding the County financial situation, Vice President Schwarz said the County Treasurer will be summoned before the County Board of Supervisors at their November 4 meeting. President Holober and Trustee Mandelkern said they would try to attend. President Holober said he received an email from Supervisor Mark Church that there will be a Finance and Operations Committee meeting the same day and the County’s Investment Policy will be on the agenda. President Holober said it might make sense for the Board to state its position publicly that it supports investigation into what transpired regarding the County Pool. Trustee Miljanich said any such statement should be carefully crafted.

Chancellor Galatolo said the District is working with counsel on this matter. Vice President Schwarz asked that the Board emails sent to all District employees regarding the budget.

Trustee Mandelkern said he appreciated receiving a response regarding internet streaming of Board meetings. He said that because of the budget uncertainty, he recommends that the discussion be tabled and revisited in the future. Trustee Mandelkern attended the Shelter Network’s annual breakfast on October 23. The featured speaker was Oscar Juarez, a police officer cadet at College of San Mateo. Mr. Juarez suffered the death of his father and acts as the head of household, caring for his siblings and attending school while his mother works. The family used the Shelter Network during a period when they were homeless. Also at the breakfast, Trustee Mandelkern discussed the Regional Public Safety Center with the Burlingame chief of police.

Trustee Hausman attended a meeting in Washington, D.C. of a committee of the American Red Cross. She spoke about the Holocaust and War Victims Tracing Center, which traces Holocaust survivors and other victims of genocide. On November 18, the Red Cross will award a prize to an Israeli and a Palestinian who have worked together to help troubled people in the world.

President Holober attended a Housing Leadership Council luncheon at which the District received a prestigious annual award. He recognized Barbara Christensen for her work which has enabled the District to assist in solving the housing problem in the County. President Holober attended a special meeting of the San Mateo County School Boards Association which was called to address the Lehman Brothers loss. President Holober said the Association is active on this issue and the Board will continue to work with other districts.

Vice President Schwarz asked the Board to suggest alternate dates or times for the November Board meeting, in order to accommodate attendance at the Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame Induction honoring Cañada College. After discussion, the Board agreed to move the meeting to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12.

COMMUNICATIONS
None

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION
The Board recessed to Closed Session at 7:30 p.m.
The Board reconvened to Open Session at 9:25 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS TAKEN
President Holober reported that, at the Closed Session just concluded, the Board considered the personnel items listed on the printed agenda and voted 5-0 to approve the actions in Board Report No. 1-A and 1-B. The Board also held a conference with Agency Labor Negotiator Harry Joel and with legal counsel regarding one case of potential litigation.

ADJOURNMENT
It was moved by Trustee Miljanich and seconded by Trustee Mandelkern to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried, all members voting “Aye.” The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be a Regular Meeting on November 12, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in the District Board Room.

Submitted by

Ron Galatolo
Secretary

Approved and entered into the proceedings of the November 12, 2008 meeting.

Karen Schwarz
Vice President-Clerk