

**DIXIE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

380 Nova Albion Way  
San Rafael, CA 94903

**Unadopted Board Minutes**

November 13, 2018

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PLACE AND DATE	Dixie School District, 380 Nova Albion Way, San Rafael, CA 94903 Meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018
CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order by Board President Brad Honsberger at 4:00 p.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT	Brad Honsberger, President Alissa Chacko, Vice President Jennifer Taekman, Clerk Marnie Glickman, Trustee Mark Schott, Trustee
MEMBERS ABSENT	None
ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT	Jason Yamashiro, Superintendent Tracy Smith, Assistant Superintendent, Ed Services Tanya Michel, Chief Business Official
APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION AGENDA	On a motion by Mr. Schott, seconded by Ms. Chacko, the Trustees approved the closed session agenda. Vote: 5-0. (Chacko, Taekman, Glickman, Schott, Honsberger)
PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS ON THE CLOSED SESSION AGENDA	None
RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER AND/OR TAKE ACTION UPON ANY ITEM ON THE CLOSED SESSION AGENDA	Gov. Code Section 54957.6 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS District Designated Representative: Superintendent Employee Organizations: All Employee Groups  Gov. Code Section 54957: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EVALUATION Title: Superintendent  Conference with Legal Counsel regarding anticipated litigation.
RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION	Mr. Honsberger reconvened the meeting to open session at 6:05 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE /PATRIOTIC SALUTE	The Pledge of Allegiance was said.
ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION	None

APPROVAL OF THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA	<p>On a motion by Ms. Chacko, seconded by Ms. Taekman, the Trustees approved the open session agenda. Vote: 5-0 (Chacko, Taekman, Glickman, Schott, Honsberger)</p> <p>At this time Ms. Glickman asked for direction to change 10-9-18 minutes. Mr. Honsberger explains that there will be opportunity to discuss minutes during consent agenda.</p>
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	<p>Dr. Yamashiro says there will be a celebration of life ceremony for Deborah Di Benedetto at Dixie School on November 28<sup>th</sup>. He shares that it continues to be a challenging time with the fires. However, we've have had good attendance at all of the schools. Students are engaged in learning and everyone is in helping out.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEMS IN SECTIONS 4-6	<p>None</p>
CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL BY A SINGLE MOTION	<p>Ms. Glickman moves to remove approval of minutes. Ms. Taekman seconds. Mr. Schott votes no. Mr. Honsberger votes no. Ms. Chacko votes no. Ms. Taekman votes aye. Ms. Glickman votes aye. In a vote of 3-2 approval for the minutes was not removed. Thereafter, on a motion by Mr. Schott, seconded by Ms. Chacko, the Trustees approved the consent agenda items. Vote: 5-0 (Taekman, Glickman, Chacko, Schott, Honsberger)</p> <p>Items on the consent agenda: Minutes of October 9, 2018 Classified Job Description Revision: Payroll Technician Classified Personnel: New Hires, retirements Certificated Personnel Actions – Staffing Changes Update Agreement – Revolution foods for lunch program Spurr Renewal Agreement for Natural Gas Services Certification by the Board of Monthly Payroll Order and Bills Title III LEA Annual Local Plan Update 2018-19 Bay Area Community Resources MOU</p>
PERSONNEL MATTERS	<p>DTA Report: Mr. Schott Motions that this is removed from the agenda. Ms. Chacko seconds All vote to remove the DTA report from the agenda. Vote: 5-0 (Schott, Honsberger, Chacko, Taekman, Glickman)</p>
SUBSTITUTE TEACHER RATE INCREASE	<p>In an effort to stay competitive personnel has requested a rate increase for substitute teachers from \$140 to \$150 per day. On a motion by Ms. Taekman, seconded by Ms. Glickman the Trustees approved the rate increase to \$150. Vote: 5-0 (Taekman, Glickman, Schott, Chacko, Honsberger).</p>

DEVELOPER FEE REPORT 2017/18	Government Code 66006 requires an annual accounting of the developer fees collected by the district within 180 days of the last day of each fiscal year. Tanya Michel, Chief Business Official, presented the 2017/2018 developer fee report for the board's consideration. The developers fee report is given annually and every 5 years. On a motion by Mr. Schott, seconded by Ms. Taekman the Trustees approved the 2017/2018 Developer Fee Report. Vote: 5-0 (Schott, Taekman, Glickman, Chacko, Honsberger)
CHANGE ORDER #1 VALLECITO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MODERNIZATION PROJECT	Dr. Jason Yamashiro, Superintendent Dixie School District, presented a change order #1 request for the Vallecito Modernization Project to the board for consideration. The change order would result in an overall decrease in project costs of \$135,450. On a motion by Ms. Glickman, seconded by Mr. Taekman the Trustees approve change order #1 for the Vallecito Elementary School Modernization Project Vote: 5-0 (Schott, Taekman, Glickman, Chacko, Honsberger)
BOND PROJECT UPDATE	Dr. Jason Yamashiro, Superintendent Dixie School District, presented an information only report of the updates completed at Vallecito, Mary Silveira, Dixie and Miller Creek. He showed the board a Power Point presentation with photographs of: Vallecito's new benches, lighting and new flooring at Café Val. Mary Silveira's quad with new cement planters lining the rim. Classroom modernizations such as raised ceilings, technology upgrades and new lighting. Dr. Yamashiro explained that the new lighting will save energy and money.
RESOLUTION #2018/19/06 REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF MODULAR BUILDINGS FROM ENVIROPLEX FOR PROJECT PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF THE PIGGYBACK CONTRACT. FIRST READING	Superintendent Yamashiro explained that Resolution 2018/19/06 is before the Board for a first reading and discussion. He introduced Todd Lee from Greystone West to review the resolution and respond to questions and recommendations from the Board Members.
PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS IN SECTIONS 7-8 OF THE AGENDA	<p>Mr. Honsberger explained the process for public comments. He asked that people address the board and not the audience. He instructed people to refrain from personal attacks and side comments.</p> <p>Speaker #1 urged the board not to go forward with an unfunded ballot measure. She said it could create turmoil in the community.</p> <p>Speaker #2 has lived in the district for 21 years. She is a former board member. She remembered in 2003 when parents petitioned for a name change. She regrets that the board she served on did not take action to change the name of the district.</p>

Speaker #3 said that she would donate \$20,000 to fund the vote so the community could voice their opinions. She believes that Dixie means Many things to many people and she asks that we let people vote.

Speaker #4 says that as white nationalism increases we have to be conscious about what we do locally. He says that the impact of the name Dixie is clear on African American families. He urges the board to follow the Brown Act. He says the public vote in 2020 would draw national attention to Marin County.

Speaker #5 asks if the word Dixie will go away if we change the name of the district. He notes the word is used coast to coast. He notes if you spend 100s of man hours and 10s of thousands of dollars you won't get rid of the name Dixie. He concluded by saying that when there is national consensus that the word Dixie should be removed, then the district should act.

Speaker #6 urges the board not to follow a ballot measure. She says it is time the name of the school is changed.

Speaker #7 Talked about the history of James Miller.

Speaker #8 says that at one time 72 languages were spoken at Vallecito. She says that we can take something from the past and make it positive.

Speaker #9 reads James Miller quotes from the IJ 1997. She talked about James Miller's character.

Speaker #10 says that she believes it is a moral obligation to change the name of the school district if it doesn't make people feel welcome. She goes on to say that this makes people feel like access to education is not equal.

Speaker #11 says he thinks all these things divide a community and we should let Dixie be Dixie.

Speaker #12 explained that her name means sister who walks with bears. She said that her family name is Dixie. She said that we were on Miwok land and explained that Miwok means "people of the east".

Speaker #13 noted that she thought the rules of the meeting were not applied evenly.

Speaker #14 wanted to know who engaged the camera person. He shared that his mother in law was in a Japanese internment camp. He said it's important to come to terms with the past and changing the name of the school district will not change the past.

Speaker #15 said that is he personally offended by the name Dixie. He

stated that safe inclusive communities are more important than test scores.

Speaker #16 said that he glad the new board will be set. He shares that he is hopeful that new board will be capable and proactive on this issue. He thanked the current board for their service.

CONSIDERATION AND  
POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF  
CORRESPONDANCE TO  
MS. MARNIE GLICKMAN  
REGARDING ALLEGED  
BROWN ACT VIOLATIONS

Manuel Martinez, Attorney At Law, distributed and read a proposed letter in response to Ms. Glickman's letter regarding alleged Brown Act violations. Hard copies were made available for the public to view. Mr. Martinez requested the Board's authorization for legal counsel to put the letter forward on district letterhead. Mr. Martinez recommended the board consider taking a Brown Act refresher. Ms. Chacko agrees that a Brown Act refresher would be a good idea. On a motion from Mr. Schott and seconded by Ms. Chacko the Trustees approved the correspondence to Ms. Marnie Glickman. Vote: 5-0 (Schott, Taekman, Glickman, Chacko, Honsberger)

CONSIDERATION AND  
POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF  
CORRESPONDANCE TO  
MR. BRUCE ANDERSON  
REGARDING ALLEGED  
BROWN ACT VIOLATIONS

Manuel Martinez, Attorney At Law, distributed and read a proposed letter in response to Mr. Anderson's letter regarding alleged Brown Act violations. Hard copies were made available for the public to view. Mr. Martinez requested the Board's authorization for legal counsel to put the letter forward on district letterhead. On a motion from Ms. Taekman, seconded by Mr. Schott the Trustees approved the correspondence to Mr. Bruce Anderson. Vote: 5-0 (Schott, Taekman, Glickman, Chacko, Honsberger)

REVIEW,  
CONSIDERATION AND  
APPROVAL OF A  
RESOLUTION REGARDING  
DIXIE NAME CHANGE  
ADVISORY BALLOT  
MEASURE (FIRST  
READING)

Ms. Glickman asks why it's on the agenda when we read it in the last meeting. Mr. Schott Motions to table the agenda item. Ms. Taekman seconds. All vote in favor of tabling the agenda item. Vote: 5-0 (Schott, Taekman, Glickman, Chacko, Honsberger)

REVIEW,  
CONSIDERATION AND  
APPROVAL OF A  
RESOLUTION REGARDING  
DIXIE NAME CHANGE  
ADVISORY BALLOT  
MEASURE (SECOND  
READING)

Ms. Taekman stated this is the board trying to take leadership and get community input. The process that allows the community and the board to discuss this issue was overlooked. Ms. Chacko notes that manner in which this issue was raised bypassed the process and removed the community from the discussion. Ms. Chacko went on to say that this resolution allows the board to bring the community into the discussion and allows the board to gather information. Mr. Honsberger said he doesn't feel qualified on his own to make this decision. With 14,000 members of the community, Mr. Honsberger noted, we need more input and discussion. This resolution might give us more time for that. He said that it is his duty as a trustee of the district to get more input from the community that supports our schools. Mr. Schott said that he appreciates everyone's voice. He went

on to say that everyone should feel welcomed to express their opinions. Mr. Schott expressed that if we start to drift from our common denominator being students, we are drifting from our firm ground. Mr. Schott noted that there are places in the community where the name “Dixie” exists and could easily be changed. Mr. Schott explained that he believes there should be many free exchanges of conversation about the name change. Mr. Schott said he thinks the petition is a horrible tool that will continue to anger folks. He said that we need to hear from the whole community and a ballot allows people to make decisions in private about what their heart says. Mr. Schott also said that tossing a petition to the board would rob the majority of the community the opportunity to be heard. Ms. Glickman said that Mr. Bruce Anderson raised this issue in 1989 as a parent. Ms. Glickman went on to make the following points. 1. This board is in a lame duck session. The two new trustees can revoke the resolution. 2. The board has a moral obligation to lead. 3. Ms. Glickman doesn’t think the issue should be relegated to a majority vote. 4. The advisory ballot will not stop people from petitioning to change the name. 5. Ms. Glickman said that the advisory ballot invites contributions from any source. There is nothing to stop the KKK from funding the advisory election. 6. Ms. Glickman said that protests in Berkeley were violent and that can happen in Marin. Mr. Schott explained that any petition would be inadequate because it would not address the whole community. However, the advisory ballot would allow the new board to reference the decisions of seasoned board members. It would also allow the new board time to season itself and to understand what the priorities of the board are. Mr. Honsberger said the name is one thing that the Dixie School Board can reach a good community consensus and bring the community back together. Ms. Chacko said she doesn’t believe the 15 signatures represent the 14,000 members of the community. She concluded by saying the way this issue was brought to us, bypassed the community. On a motion from Mr. Schott, seconded by Ms. Taekman the board approved the resolution regarding the Dixie name change advisory ballot. Mr. Schott: AYE, Mr. Honsberger: AYE, Ms. Chacko: AYE, Ms. Taekman: AYE, Ms. Glickman: NOE. Vote 4:1

IDENTIFICATION OF  
FUTURE MEETING DATES

No action

BOARD TO IDENTIFY AND  
DISCUSS COSTS OF  
POSSIBLE DISTRICT  
NAME CHANGE AND  
INSTRUCT  
SUPERINTENDENT TO  
REPORT BACK

Ms. Chacko said that at the district level there are the hard costs of new signage, painting busses, staff time, tax returns, real property records, titles, title insurance, registration and title on vehicles, warranties, district’s attorney time and tracking bond issuance. Soft costs may be found in CANDO, would we see a drop in participation or an increase? Mr. Schott says he would welcome looking out of state to see what their experiences are with name changes and associated costs. Mr. Schott went on to say he’d like to hear back a range. He went on to say that this would bleed through all of our legal documents. Ms.

Taekman raised the issue of rebranding and the costs associated there. Mr. Honsberger said that SRCS is rebranding and we should talk to them.

CALIFORNIA  
DASHBOARD LOCAL  
INDICATORS UPDATE  
NOVEMBER 2018

Ms. Smith Assistant Superintendent presented an update on the California Dashboard of local indicators. Ms. Smith noted that we met all of our goals. Ms. Smith explained that Priority #3 asked us to add parent and family engagement and we met our goals there. We are conducting parent and community surveys.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON  
ITEMS NOT SPECIFIED ON  
THE AGENDA

Speaker #1 shared a poster with guiding principles for how she conducts meetings. She said that she was a medic at the antiviolence rallies in Berkeley. She went on to say that she would be happy to see some community forums held on the name change issue.

Speaker #2 said that we don't know the number of kids who don't feel safe at school but they have to have a voice. He said that he appreciates Ms. Glickman. He went on to say that this is a chance for the board to do the right thing and he thinks the right thing is obvious.

Speaker #3 said she has been attending equity meetings at Vallecito. Asked why they are not district wide. She said that she thinks we should make the decision about the name change soon.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Memorial for Deb DiBenedetto November 28, 2-4:00pm at Dixie Elementary.  
Can Do Auction November 28-December 10th

REPORTS BY BOARD  
MEMBERS ON MEETINGS  
ATTENDED

Ms. Taekman reported that she had meetings at all 4 schools last month. She observed that the staff works so hard and the kids are really engaged.

Attend MCMS back to school night (August)

Meeting with Superintendent (August)

Telephone Conference with Superintendent Burke (September)

Attend MCMS Jared Huffman assembly (September)

Telephone conference with Candidate Nguyen (September)

Telephone conference with Candidate Hutchinson (September)

Volunteer for Run As One Event (September)

Attend Golden Bell meeting (October)

Attend Dixie Candidate Forum (October)

Meeting with Principal Foehr and classroom visits at Val (October)

Meeting with Principal Remmers and classroom visits at MES (October)

Attend Golden Bell Meeting (November)

Meeting with Principal Anderson and classroom visits at Dixie (November)

Meeting with Principal Treewater and classroom visits at MCMS (November)

Ms. Glickman said that her highlight was volunteering with Dixie Elementary Green Paws and decorating vases with leaf prints.

Ms. Chacko said that she had been a chaperone on the recent Miller Creek Disneyland Trip.

Mr. Schott said that he had been to an interesting seminar on Vaping.

Mr. Honsberger said that he attended a Miller Creek cross country meet and a digital citizens meeting at Miller Creek. He attended a Courageous Conversations conference in Mill Valley. He noted that the meeting had a very communal feel to it.

Dr. Yamashiro noted that Miller Creek had their first bingo night and the turnout was great.

#### IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- Continue conversation about name change costs
- Possible addition of a committee to address property development in community
- Budget presentation
- Organizational transition
- Parcel tax report

#### ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Taekman, seconded by Mr. Schott the meeting was adjourned by the Board President Honsberger at 9:05pm. Vote: 5-0 (Schott, Taekman, Chacko, Glickman, Honsberger)

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Jason Yamashiro Ed. L.D.  
Superintendent, Dixie School District



