

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tamalpais Union High School District**

November 17, 2020

Open Session 6:00 pm on Zoom webinar

Attended on Zoom

Trustees

Leslie Harlander
Karen Loebbaka
Dan Oppenheim
Cynthia Roenisch
Kevin Saavedra

Student Trustees

Emily Fee, Redwood High School
Natasha Stone, San Andreas High School
Anya Bodine-McCoy, SFDHS/HS 1327
Lily Pashman, Tamalpais High School
Charlie Boyden, Tamiscal High School

1. Call Meeting to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Tamalpais Union High School District (District) was called to order at 4:32 pm. A quorum was declared present.

2. Approval of Closed Session Agenda

M/S/C (Loebbaka/Roenisch), unanimously.

3. Public Comments on Closed Session Agenda

There were no comments.

4. Recess to Closed Session in the Superintendent's Office

A. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code 54957

B. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Gov Code 54957.6:

C. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Ed Code 54956.9(b):

D. With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Ed Code 35146:

1. Approve Waiver of Graduation Requirement Student A

5. Reconvene into Open Session

The board reconvened into Open Session at 6:04 p.m.

6. Announcement of Reportable Action Taken in Closed Session

Ms. Harlander reported there was no action taken in Closed Session.

7. Approve Agenda and Review Norms

Mr. Saavedra reviewed the Board Norms. M/S/C (Saavedra/Roenisch), unanimously.

8. Public Comment on the Consent Agenda

There were no comments.

9. Approval of Consent Agenda - ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander

Yes Karen Loebbaka

Yes Dan Oppenheim

Yes Cynthia Roenisch

Yes Kevin Saavedra

10. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Danette Citi spoke against changing the name of Drake High School, that it has caused division, and will not affect behavior.

Brad Beedle, Drake class of '77, objected to Principal Seabury, the name change process and sign removal.

Mia Eisenberg, Drake graduate, commented that racism exists and that those who oppose the Drake name change have insulted and harassed those in support of change.

Jaycee Casalnuovo, Drake graduate and coach, stated that a name change is not easy but is needed and the board should approve a name change if the Drake community brings forward a recommendation.

Eileen Fisher, Marin resident, commented in support of a name change, saying that this small gesture will have a big impact.

Jeff Boddington, Drake class of '72, said that much needs to be done to end racism, but to focus on education, not a name change.

Ken Meyer, San Anselmo resident and parent, voiced concerns on the Drake name change process and the primary role of the Board.

Christine Stewart, Drake class of '65, asked why signs were taken down without notice, who pays, and is not in favor of change.

Jack Parnell-Wolfe spoke in support of the name change, and urged the board to respond to current teachers and students, and listen to people who find the name hurtful.

Sabrina Egger asked the board to accept a name change.

Steve Dodge urged the board to change the Drake name, as it is a symbol of white supremacy and is hurtful to indigenous and people of color.

Serena Campbell, HS1327, spoke in support of the name change, rejecting Drake as a "white savior." BIPOC are tired of offensive symbols of white power.

Karen Adams, Drake class of '82, spoke against the name change because there wasn't input from the community and the name "doesn't matter."

Scott Chapman, Drake class of '76, spoke against name change, saying it is causing a wedge in the community, and history shows Drake wasn't destructive.

Lauren Miller Brown expressed gratitude to those trying to change the Drake name, as it would heal the trauma to BIPOC and make Marin more inclusive.

Kelsey Mahoney spoke in favor of name change and asked white people who are not comfortable with change to educate themselves on why Drake is offensive and oppressive to people of color.

John Geluardi, Drake class of '76, opposes the name change and says it is costly, historically inaccurate, and will have no tangible results.

Tanya Jaspering, Drake class of '83, spoke in support of the name change, and that it won't change fond memories for graduates.

Zianah Monroe, 2020 Drake grad, stated that old people attached to symbols of white power need to listen to BIPOC and change the name to show what we are about.

Lisa Jimenez, Drake parent, read a letter in support of removing the Drake name to get out of the past and into the future.

Kit Ross, 2008 graduate, stated that the name change will not erase history, but it will help students to feel safe at school. She urged the board to accept a name change.

Melissa Oviedo spoke to support the Drake name change, to stop the erasure of native stories and unceded lands.

Geena Logan, Drake parent, said that changing the name creates a divide and it is better to focus on education to end racism.

Maya Haussamman, 2014 Drake grad, urged the board to listen to BIPOC and their perspective, and change the Drake name to remove the "white savior" narrative.

Jen Coleman spoke in favor of a name change. Listen to students and create a school where everyone feels safe.

Peter Eisenberg, Drake parent, spoke in full support of a name change to show the community where we stand.

Emi Abe, Drake graduate, commented on those who attack BIPOC and people in favor of a name change. Both sides of the community have been heard, but the board needs to listen to the minorities who are hurt by the Drake name.

Miki Abe, Drake graduate, commented that the board should approve a name change if the DLC brings forth a recommendation.

Clara commented that Marin has a race problem and anti-name change people have attacked BIPOC. The board should approve a name change if recommended by DLC.

Mara Menachem supports a name change and read part of a letter asking for empathy and understanding, and urges the board to take action.

Megan McAra, parent, is in support of a name change, and quoted her 9-year old son who answered the question, what good will a name change do? "It will make kids feel more safe."

Maureen McManus, Drake parent, is not in favor of a name change because the cost could be used to enhance education. She said the entire community was not involved in the survey and the process is not transparent.

Zamira Solari thanked the board for listening and commented on the additional pain for those who are hurting if the name doesn't change. She suggested an outreach will provide funds to cover costs of changing the name.

Craig, Drake class of '72, opposes the name change because of the cost, the pandemic, and the erasing of history.

Brandon Johnson, Drake graduate, thanked the board for taking up this issue, and reminded that the cost will not come from District funds. There is hope in changing the name.

Veronica Wilson, Mill Valley resident and RHS Alum, emailed the board to voice support for the Drake name change, and to ask for expulsion and suspension data to be made public.

11. Student Trustee Reports

Charlie Boyden, Tamiscal High School, reported on re-opening plans, safety measures, and CEC activities.

Natasha Stone, San Andreas High School, reported on the focus of connectivity webinars shared by a counselor, and Thanksgiving cookie distribution for students.

Anya Bodine-McCoy, HS1327, reported that freshman orientations have started to introduce new students to the campus, and groups are meeting to get ready for in-class instruction. Leadership did training with Dr. Lori Watson and want to continue with more students.

Lily Pashman, Tamalpais High School, reported on a successful drive-thru trick or treat, hubs for connectivity on campus and in the communities, food basket distribution, and appreciation to the Foundation for tech grants to enhance classroom instruction.

Emily Fee, Redwood High School, reported on a Leadership survey, racial equity training, food baskets, and brainstorming for return to class celebrations.

12. Trustee Considerations

A. Racial Justice Task Force update

Dr. Kimberlee Armstrong reviewed the work of the committees over the past three months, and how they are building a background of understanding and context in order to embed upwardly mobile learning into the system. The board discussed what this means and how they can support the work.

Public Comment:

Dr. Citi suggested that considering criticism of critical race theory and popular books on race could be helpful to understand racism.

Mia Eisenberg commented on the need for student-centered discussions and that acknowledgement of all hate speech including antisemitic comments should be included in the work of the Task Force.

(? Name not given) commented that the recent antisemitic posts online should be mentioned in the meeting.

Robert Ovetz, Drake parent and Task Force member, asked for more action, less "listening sessions," and a mission and timeline to keep members engaged in the work.

Lisa Jimenez, HS1327 parent, commented that goals and outcomes, access and dialogue, is needed in the Task Force, along with more student voice.

Lauren Miller, Redwood graduate, said tasks should be assigned and a plan is needed before March.

Fel Agrelius, student, referred to the Anti-Racist Education Resolution and stated a need for student outcomes, timeline, action items, and more meetings for this urgent work.

Dr. Armstrong clarified some of the questions and asked members to trust the process. This Task Force is unique and will use feedback to direct tasks going forward between January and March (not starting in March).

B. Return to In-Person Learning Update

Dr. Taupier presented slides to illustrate the hybrid model, safety protocols, student expectations, testing and challenges related to return to in-person instruction in January 2021. Two schedule options are being considered and will be decided in December. She thanked the parent advisory for their input and formulation of the plans.

Public Comment:

Tim Mullery, CSEA President, asked questions about classroom supervisors.

Mandy Downing, Redwood parent, asked about freshman orientations prior to January.

Elise Holland asked about how cohorts are assigned and what options are available.

Dr. Taupier referred to slides to clarify questions.

C. Budget Update with Parcel Tax Election and Potential Future Expenditure Reductions

Mr. Corbett Elsen, CFO, presented a budget update given the passage of Measure M. He thanked Co-Chairs Dana Linker-Steel and Jennifer Ginsburg for their tremendous efforts to support the renewal of the parcel tax. Mr. Elsen presented two options to use in the First Interim Report in December. The board directed him to use Option #2 (slide 8) related to potential expenditure reductions. Dr. Taupier clarified that the

budget can be adjusted after the revenue forecast and other information is received.

D. Discussion of Annual Organizational Meeting

Ms. Harlander reviewed items to be determined at the December 15 organizational meeting.

E. Discussion of Board Communications

Ms. Harlander suggested a procedure to determine what items will be included in a "Board Highlights" email following each meeting. The board will decide what to include at the end of the meeting.

13. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Draft Minutes from the October 27, 2020 BOT Meeting

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander
Yes Karen Loebbaka
Yes Dan Oppenheim
Yes Cynthia Roenisch
Yes Kevin Saavedra

B. Approve Personnel Summary for November 17, 2020

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander
Yes Karen Loebbaka
Yes Dan Oppenheim
Yes Cynthia Roenisch
Yes Kevin Saavedra

C. Approve Waiver of Graduation Requirement for Student A

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander
Yes Karen Loebbaka
Yes Dan Oppenheim
Yes Cynthia Roenisch
Yes Kevin Saavedra

D. Ratify October 2020 Batch Details and Warrant Register

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander

Yes Karen Loebbaka
Yes Dan Oppenheim
Yes Cynthia Roenisch
Yes Kevin Saavedra

E. Approve Purchase Orders over \$40,000 - November

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander
Yes Karen Loebbaka
Yes Dan Oppenheim
Yes Cynthia Roenisch
Yes Kevin Saavedra

F. Ratify Contracts over \$40,000 - November

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander
Yes Karen Loebbaka
Yes Dan Oppenheim
Yes Cynthia Roenisch
Yes Kevin Saavedra

G. Ratify Contracts under \$40,000 - November

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander
Yes Karen Loebbaka
Yes Dan Oppenheim
Yes Cynthia Roenisch
Yes Kevin Saavedra

H. Declare as Surplus and Authorize Book Disposal, Tamalpais High School

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander
Yes Karen Loebbaka
Yes Dan Oppenheim
Yes Cynthia Roenisch
Yes Kevin Saavedra

I. Declare as Obsolete a 2005 Ford F-150 Truck and Authorize Disposal - Maintenance & Operations Department

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Cynthia Roenisch and a second by Karen

Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander

Yes Karen Loebbaka

Yes Dan Oppenheim

Yes Cynthia Roenisch

Yes Kevin Saavedra

14. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Taupier made a statement related to the recent continuation of antisemitic posts online targeting the Jewish community that were brought to the attention of staff recently. The latest posts are being investigated by police and will not be tolerated. She thanked the parents and students who alerted the district to the posts.

15. Trustee Reports

Ms. Harlander reported on a conversation with Laura Effel of COST related to consolidation of school districts, and conversations with parents regarding the potential Drake name change.

Mr. Saavedra reported on a possible district bond refunding to save taxpayers' money.

Ms. Loebbaka reported on the parent advisory committee that is working with the Superintendent on the plans for school reopening in January. She also mentioned possible adjustments to grading procedures to take into account the difficulties of remote learning for some students.

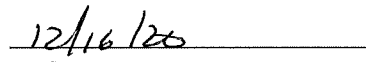
16. Conclusion

Mr. Saavedra reflected on the board norms.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.


Clerk


Date

