

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

November 19, 2019

Kreps Conference Room
395 Doherty Drive, Larkspur, California
Phone (415) 945-1020 - FAX (415) 945-1026
www.tamdistrict.org

Attendance

Trustees

Leslie Harlander
Karen Loebbaka
Dan Oppenheim
Cynthia Roenisch
Kevin Saavedra

Student Trustees

Matty Darragh-Ford, Drake High School
Kara Kneafsey, Tamalpais High School
Charlotte Pearson, Tamiscal High School
Lauren Steele, Redwood High School
Absent: Devona Times, San Andreas HS

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 4:48 p.m. in Kreps Conference Room, Redwood High School, Larkspur. A quorum was declared present.

2. Approval of Closed Session Agenda

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

3. Public Comments on Closed Session Agenda

There were no public comments on the Closed Session agenda.

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

The Board recessed to Closed Session at 4:49 p.m.

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

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

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

1. Consideration of Student Matter - Confidential information involved

2. Consideration of Student Matter - Confidential information involved

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

5. Reconvene into Open Session

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 6:03 p.m.

6. Announcement of Reportable Action Taken in Closed Session

There was no reportable action from Closed Session.

7. Approve Agenda and Review Board Norms

Ms. Roenisch read the Board Norms. M/S/C (Saavedra/Roenisch), unanimously, to approve the agenda, with the addition of Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda to follow Item 9.

8. Public Comment on the Consent Agenda

There was no public comment.

9. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

10. Student Trustee Reports

Charlotte Pearson, Tamiscal High School, reported on upcoming finals and a Thanksgiving potluck, as well as a holiday party plans for the CEC.

Matty Darragh-Ford, Drake High School, congratulated Drake Girls Water Polo for winning NCS. She also reported on successful SOAR presentations, leadership collaboration, and Student Senate discussions on a new plan for SLCs.

Kara Kneafsey, Tamalpais High School, reported on NCS finals, Leadership classes collaborating with MLK Academy and Willow Creek 8th grade students, and the start of a Tam Student Senate.

Lauren Steele, Redwood High School, reported on the SOAR anti-racism presentations, and the re-scheduled Homecoming Dance that will be a winter formal.

11. Trustee Considerations

A. Report on Youth Vaping Prevention

Mr. Wes Cedros, Senior Director of Student Services, gave an extensive report on vaping prevention efforts in the Tam District, including the scope of student use, the challenges for staff to prevent use, the response to Grand Jury recommendations, and Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) programs in our schools. He also covered many of the intervention strategies used on campuses. Mr. Jon Hirsch, TUPE

Coordinator at Redwood High School, provided feedback on intervention techniques and anecdotes from his teaching experience.

Public Comment:

Larisa Tempero, Tamalpais parent, advocated for the use of scent dogs on campus to detect vaping and illegal substances on campus.

Tanya Miler, Tamalpais parent, spoke in support of the scent dog program.

The Board discussed anti-vaping strategies. Mr. Cedros and Mr. Hirsch commented on legal issues and the downside of having scent dogs on campus.

B. Public Hearing on Proposed Parcel Tax

Ms. Harlander recessed the meeting for a public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Public Comment:

Barbara Owens, former teacher and trustee, thanked the Board for their commitment to the community and high quality programs for students, which is dependent on parcel taxes.

Pascale Sisich, Fairfax resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed parcel tax.

James Holmes, Larkspur resident, spoke in opposition to the \$190 increase in the proposed tax.

Lisa De Gennaro, Mill Valley resident, spoke about the impact of additional taxes on lower income property owners.

Bruce Bogan spoke about the risk of failure for the proposed parcel tax, and suggested a lower amount.

Laura Effel, Larkspur resident, expressed dismay, suggesting the board did not consider alternate options.

Philip Rice spoke about the series of parcel taxes in our District, where the money is going, and term of the proposed tax.

Joe Rapp, Greenbrae resident, proposed the consolidation of school districts into one Marin school district to reduce costs.

Debbie Bennett, Tiburon resident, spoke in support of the tax to support the continuation of high quality educational programs in our District.

The hearing was closed at 7:47 p.m.

C. Discuss and Take Action on Resolution 19-6 for a Parcel Tax

Dr. Taupier opened by reviewing actions over the past five years, including a Fiscal Advisory Committee, \$5.8 million in ongoing reductions in the budget, ten community forums for feedback, newsletters, several community mailers, and seven board meeting agenda discussions leading up to this agenda item. In addition, the Tam District has recently received the highest credit rating, Aaa, from Moody's, and refinanced existing bonds with \$4.5 million in savings to taxpayers.

Mr. Oppenheim noted the need to attract and retain teachers, build up budget reserves, and reduce the equity gap at a time of continued enrollment growth.

Ms. Loebbaka referred to State mandated costs that are beyond the control of the District. Dr. Taupier also noted that increased enrollment is expected, with slight dips, beyond the next ten years, and an independent Oversight Committee will monitor all parcel tax proceeds. The board reviewed the Resolution 19-6 and made minor edits on pages 1 and 7 before voting for approval. Student trustee roll call votes concurred, with 3 Ayes (Kneafsey, Pearson, Steele), 1 Abstain (Darragh-Ford), and 1 Absent (Times).

Motion Passed: Staff recommends that the Board adopt Resolution 19-6 for a Parcel Tax Measure for inclusion on the March 3, 2020 ballot. Passed with a motion by Karen Loebbaka and a second by Kevin Saavedra.

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

D. Discuss Meeting for a Mission Statement Workshop

The Board discussed scheduling dates for this workshop. Pending confirmation from all trustees, the meeting will be held on January 7, 2020, from 5:00-7:00 pm in Kreps.

E. Discuss the Annual Organizational Meeting

The Board discussed the structure of the annual organizational meeting and who is interested in serving as President for 2020. The Board Bylaws must be revised at the next meeting, to allow Ms. Harlander to serve a third year. She is the only trustee willing and able to fill the President's position for the coming year.

12. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Minutes of the November 6, 2019 BOT Meeting

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

B. Approve Personnel Summary for November 19, 2019

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

C. Approve Purchase Orders over \$40,000

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

D. Ratify Contracts Under \$40,000

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

E. Ratify Contracts over \$40,000

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

F. Approve Request for Alteration to School District Property

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

G. Declare as Surplus and Authorize Book Disposal, Tamiscal High School

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

H. Approve Disposal/Resale of IT Department Obsolete Equipment

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

13. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Taupier commended TUHSD sports teams, all of which have done a terrific job in the fall season. A special shout out went to Girls and Boys Water Polo at Drake, Girls Volleyball at Tam and Redwood, and Redwood Varsity Football.

14. Trustee Reports

Ms. Loebbaka reported on the death of a recent grad from TUHSD, related to accidental use of Fentanyl.

15. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

By request, this item was moved up on the agenda after Item 9, to allow comments earlier in the meeting.

Public Comment:

Christopher Lang, Fairfax resident and bicycle coalition member, spoke in support of more bicycle commuting, which will lessen parking issues in the residential areas surrounding schools.

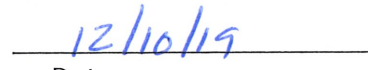
16. Conclusion

Ms. Roenisch reflected on the Board's adherence to Norms.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.


Clerk


Date