

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

September 22, 2020

Closed Session 4:00 pm  
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 (Oppenheim/Saavedra), unanimously.

**3. Public Comments on Closed Session Agenda**

There were no public comments.

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

The Board recessed to closed session at 4:32 pm.

**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 Gov Code 54956.9, (d)(2):**

**1. Conference With Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation**

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

**1. Confidential Settlement Agreement - Existing Litigation**

**2. Confidential Settlement Agreement - Existing Litigation**

**5. Reconvene into Open Session**

The Board reconvened into open session at 5:18 pm.

**6. Student Trustee Orientation**

Ms. Loebbaka welcomed the new student trustees to the board, and began with student introductions. Dr. Taupier introduced the Cabinet members and trustees, who then took turns explaining sections of the governance handbook, including the role of student trustees, process for planning agendas, and an overview of the District budget, curriculum, and administrative structure.

**7. Announcement of Reportable Action Taken in Closed Session**

Ms. Harlander reported that in regards to Item 4. D. 1, the Board approved confidential settlement agreement in case # 2020 06 0997 in the amount of \$65,000. Also, in regards to Item 4. D. 2, the Board approved confidential settlement agreement in case # 2020 07 0193 in the amount of \$40,000.

**8. Approve Agenda and Review Norms**

Mr. Saavedra read the Board Norms. M/S/C (Saavedra/Oppenheim), unanimously, to approve the agenda.

**9. Public Comment on the Consent Agenda**

There was no public comment on the consent agenda.

**10. Approval of Consent Agenda - ROLL CALL VOTE**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Dan Oppenheim and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

Yes Leslie Harlander

Yes Karen Loebbaka

Yes Dan Oppenheim

Yes Cynthia Roenisch

Yes Kevin Saavedra

**11. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

Ms. Harlander read the instructions for public comment and limited it to two minutes.

Richard Marshall, HS 1327 teacher, thanked the District for a safe learning environment, and requested not re-opening for in-class instruction until 2021.

Erik Berkowitz, Redwood teacher, urged support for Measure M, which will fund fine arts and classes that teach critical thinking skills.

Samantha Glickman, student, spoke about her concern with District action against recent antisemitic online posts.

Tanya Jaspering, Redwood Classified, urged the board to continue with online learning to keep students, staff, and families safe at home.

Curt Gebhard, Tamiscal teacher, urged everyone to support the passage of the parcel tax and pledged to take action.

## **12. Student Trustee Reports**

Lily Pashman, Tamalpais High School, reported on Back to School activities, the "One Tam High" theme, Tam Unity awards, and SOAR projects.

Anya Bodine-McCoy, HS 1327, reported on Leadership activities, ASB homecoming projects, SOAR and other student activities.

Natasha Stone, San Andreas High School, reported on the differences to school this year with distance learning. There is a school-wide discussion topic, "What is the truth?"

Charlie Boyden, Tamiscal High School, reported on Back to School Night, and how community spirit is hard to establish with distance learning.

Emily Fee, Redwood High School, reported on Leadership, ASB, and the 20% project - how to be creative with the use of time. She noted that the start of school with distance learning has improved from last year.

## **13. Trustee Considerations**

### **A. Update On Process To Rename Sir Francis Drake High School And Affirmation Of Temporary Designation As "HS 1327"**

Dr. Taupier outlined the policy, process and timeline for the Sir Francis Drake High School name change. Principal Seabury reported on the listening sessions and how that is differentiated from the Leadership Council (DLC) process to decide whether or not to bring a name change recommendation to the board. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

#### **Public Comment:**

Danette Citti commented on the process and is not in favor of a name change.

Duane Van Diem, Drake Historian, is not in favor of a name change and believes that there is a lack of understanding of the person Sir Francis Drake in a historical perspective.

John Geluardi, free-lance journalist, questioned the name change process and expense and is not in favor.

Mandy Downing, Redwood parent, had questions about community input and the process and funding for a name change.

Colette Scafani, Drake staff, is not in favor of a name change and stated that the drive for change is based on emotion and not facts.

Steve Dodge, HS 1327 graduate, stated that Drake is a symbol of white supremacy. He supports the re-naming.

Stephanie Graeter is in favor of the name change, and stated that Drake is a symbol of colonialism and white entitlement.

Serena Campbell, HS 1327 graduate, is in favor of the name change and would like to see real change now and unlearning of racism.

The board asked to clarify that the official name of Sir Francis Drake High School has not changed, and that HS 1327 is a temporary, supplemental name that can be used until the school is renamed or not. They discussed why the supplemental name is needed.

M/S/C (Roenisch/Loebbaka), unanimously: To affirm the implementation of the temporary supplemental designation of H.S.1327 until the Board considers a recommendation from DLC to formally rename Sir Francis Drake High School or DLC completes its process without providing a recommendation.

#### **B. Take Action on Resolution No. 20-8: Funding for Schools and Community**

The Board discussed this resolution and how the parcel tax Measure M is the most critical one for the District.

Public Comment:

Richard Marshall, teacher, encouraged support for the resolution and corresponding ballot measure, as it could help school districts in the State of California.

The Board did not take action.

#### **C. Take Action on Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan**

Dr. Taupier presented the learning plan (LeCAP) for board approval. There was one change in the report from the previous meeting, to note that CSEA job duties are under negotiation. M/S/C (Loebbaka/Saavedra), unanimously.

**D. Take Action on Resolution # 20-7: Intent to Convey a Public Utility Easement to PG&E and Calling Public Hearing - ROLL CALL VOTE**

Mr. Christensen presented a resolution needed to create a PGE easement on District property in cooperation with the city of Larkspur. This will allow for a public hearing at the next board meeting, and the final step of a resolution to create the easement.

**Motion Passed:** Staff recommend that the Trustees approve this resolution documenting the Board's intent to convey a public utility easement and calling for a public hearing in connection therewith. Passed with a motion by Kevin Saavedra and a second by Dan Oppenheim.

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

**14. Consent Agenda**

**A. Approve Minutes of the September 8, 2020 BOT Meeting**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Dan Oppenheim 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 September 22, 2020**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Dan Oppenheim and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

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

**C. Approve Purchase Orders over \$40,000 - September 2020**

**Motion Passed:** Passed with a motion by Dan Oppenheim and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

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

D. Ratify Contracts over \$40,000 - September 2020

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Dan Oppenheim and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

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

E. Ratify Contracts Under \$40,000 - September 2020

Motion Passed: Passed with a motion by Dan Oppenheim and a second by Karen Loebbaka.

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

15. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Taupier read a statement to denounce the recent antisemitic online posts that targeted Redwood and District Jewish students and families. A community forum will be held on September 30 to discuss ways to combat online antisemitism. The Racial Task Force met for the first time on September 17. The nine sub-committees will work collectively and in groups to recommend policies, action plans, and protocols. They will read the book "Just Schools" by Ann M. Ishimuru.

16. Board Communications

17. Trustee Reports

Ms. Roenisch reflected that with Back to School Night being online for the first time, parents seemed as hesitant as students are to participate on Zoom.

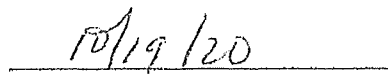
18. Conclusion

Mr. Saavedra reviewed the board's adherence to Norms.

19. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

  
Clerk

  
Date