

Dixon Unified School District  
Meeting of the Governing Board  
**Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012**  
**6:00 p.m. – Dixon High School Library – 555 College Way, Dixon, Ca 95620**

**Minutes**

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Dixon USD Governing Board meets on the First and Third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the Dixon Board Room located at 180 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 3, unless **otherwise noted above**. (Other meetings may be scheduled as necessary.)

The agenda is divided into four main sections:

- **CONSENT CALENDAR** – These matters typically include routine financial or administrative actions. Any item on the consent calendar may be pulled by the board or a member of the public to be discussed separately upon request. Consent items are usually approved with a single motion.
- **INFORMATION ITEMS** – These items are for information only and do not require any action by the Board. They are written unless otherwise noted on the agenda, e.g., oral.
- **DISCUSSION ITEMS** – This section is usually reserved for the First Reading of policies or Revised Policies. Other topics may also be discussed.
- **ACTION ITEMS** – These include significant policy, administrative, and financial matters, are classified by department, and will usually be acted upon individually.

An opportunity is provided for members of the public to speak on any item on the agenda at the time that item is addressed. In addition, there is a time for the public to speak on items that are not on the agenda. Speakers are allowed five minutes and are asked to complete a public comment form prior to the start of the meeting. (See Board agenda item, PUBLIC COMMENT.)

**District Mission**

We believe all students can learn. Therefore, it is our collective responsibility to ensure that all students do learn, grow, and succeed.

**Focus Areas for 2011-2012 include;**

1. Increase Student Learning
2. Improving the Learning Environment
3. Increasing Parental Involvement
4. Managing our Resources Effectively
5. Building Confidence in District Leadership

**Governing Board**

**Irina Okhremtchouk, President**  
iokhremtchouk@dixonusd.org

**Gil Piñon, Vice President**  
gpinon@dixonusd.org

**Herb Cross, Clerk**  
hcross@dixonusd.org

**Guy Garcia, Member**  
ggarcia@dixonusd.org

**Joe DiPaola, Member**  
jdi Paola@dixonusd.org

**Brian Dolan,**  
**Interim Superintendent**  
Secretary to the Board  
bdolan@dixonusd.org

**Schools**

Anderson Elementary School  
(707) 678-5508

Tremont Elementary School  
(707) 678-9533

Gretchen Higgins Elementary  
(707) 678-6271

CA Jacobs Intermediate  
(707) 678-9222

Dixon High School  
(707) 693-6330

Maine Prairie High School  
Continuation  
(707) 678-4560

Community Day School  
(707) 678-3680

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I. BUSINESS MEETING – 6:00 P.M. Meeting was called by President Okhremtchouk at 6:12 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

1. Irina Okhremtchouk, President-P
2. Gil Piñon, Vice President-P
3. Herb Cross, Clerk-P
4. Joe DiPaola, Member -A
5. Guy Garcia, Member-P
6. Justin Giardino, Student Member-A

II. NOTICE TO PUBLIC

Persons wishing to speak to agenda items may present their written request at this time. While the written request is optional, those making a written request will be recognized first. Persons wishing to introduce a subject not on the agenda may also present their request at this time. The Board President will recognize you for the discussion at the appropriate time. Non-scheduled agenda items will be introduced under Section VI on the agenda. Speakers will be allowed five minutes per topic.

III. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Consent Agenda
- B. Agenda March 22, 2012
- C. Acceptance of Donation of 1,296 #2 pencils
- D. FFA Leadership Conference

A motion was made by Vice President Piñon, seconded by Clerk Cross to approve Consent Agenda and unanimously carried.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: Persons wishing to introduce a topic within the subject matter jurisdiction of the District and not on the agenda may do so at this time. By law, subjects not on the agenda cannot be acted upon by the Board, except to briefly respond, clarify, or refer to staff for review and presentation at a future meeting. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person to maximum of twenty five minutes per topic unless extended by the Board President.

None.

VII. BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE DISCUSSION WITH THE GOVERNING BOARD ON THE 2012-2013 BUDGET

Mr. Dolan began by thanking the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) for their committed time. Tom Sprague, member at large; Kelly Huff, parent at Anderson; Julie Mustard, parent at Tremont; Christine Katzenmeyer, parent at Gretchen Higgins; Adrienne Kaufmann, DTA representative and Elementary Teacher; Courtney Kett, parent at C.A. Jacobs; Erin DeWeese, DTA representative and DHS Teacher; Suzanne Galloway, DTA Representative and DHS Teacher; Susie Altieri, SEIU representative; Gary Forcier, SEIU representative; Tracy Linyard, principal at Gretchen Higgins all introduced themselves to the Board. The purpose of the meeting tonight was to have a conversation between the Board and the BAC about what the BAC has been working on this year.

Ms. Nunley gave a brief presentation to the BAC about the Second Interim which she presented to the Board at the March 8<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. Ms. Nunley took all the categories and put them in stages ideal to where the district is at this time;

- Economic Environment
- State Budget
- Governor's Budget Proposal
- Flat Funding
- Trigger Language
- Weighted Pupil Formula
  - Budget
  - Revenues
- Assumptions
- Fund Balance Components

Mr. Dolan explained to the BAC that the projection of 2.9 million in cuts for 2013-14 is based on no relief from the state; this is the worst case scenario. Mrs. Deweese asked if taxes do not pass what are we looking at and Mr. Garcia explained that the District has budgeted for the worst case scenario and if the taxes do pass we will be looking at a positive 3%

reserve. If there is good news come November the District will be in a position to talk how about how to use those dollars and the District won't have to hold onto them to cover the 2013.2014 school year.

Ms. Nunley presented the process the BAC went through this year to the Board. They first chose areas that were at the highest priority to them and then scaled down even further and went from there. President Okhremtchouk asked Ms. Nunley and the BAC to explain the spreadsheet. The spreadsheet attempted to organize the areas of operation for the District into a concise, clear format. It also indicates different levels of service or performance, an effort to assess the quality of service in each area. Mr. Dolan stated that Cabinet helped scale down and completed the matrix in January and brought it back to the BAC. The BAC then voted their top 15 priorities and focused on the items that received 6 or more votes. This was not about costs but an attempt to inform what things the BAC felt the most compassionate about. Ms. Nunley then asked the BAC what their priorities were if they had \$100,000 and then went up from there in amounts and the BAC was very consistent on their priorities;

- CSR
- Maintenance
- Full time Vice Principal at CAJ
- Elementary Counseling
- Student Technology

President Okhremtchouk asked the BAC if Physical Education teachers at the elementary schools were discussed. The BAC responded and stated that they discussed physical education teachers in depth and decided that there were higher priorities and the physical education teachers couldn't go back as they were since the state has changed the way educational time is set up. Co-President Amy Circo thanked the BAC for engaging in conversation on this matter and stated that DTA and Mr. Dolan had spent a lot of time on this matter as well and both agreed with the BAC that finding a cost effective way to bring back physical education teachers is a huge challenge and expressed interest in any ideas they may have. She also expressed that teacher's have enjoyed the super Wednesday's with the 90 minute block of prep time and that the physical education program has gotten better each year. President Okhremtchouk agreed it is not manageable but at the same time the District needs to treat physical education like any other class and make sure the District is educating the kids during this time.

SEIU Co-President Carlos Augusto stated since class sizes have gotten bigger he has conversations on a daily basis with teachers. They are all trying really hard and are starting to get frustrated and their stress level has reached a peak. It is very challenging for the teachers. CSR guidelines require implementation in this order. Grade 1,2, then either K or 3. Mr. Dolan stated for Maintenance it would be a relatively small cost of adding a new person, equipment, then factoring savings from not going to outside vendors. The district would save on an in-house person to do the work and save with outside vendors.

There was also discussion about increasing the Vice Principal at CA Jacobs from part time to a full time position. Things are happening at CA Jacobs and it is an overwhelming feeling that the District is not meeting the needs of the students and control. The students need a greater learning experience and currently there is not enough administrative people power.

Mrs. Villarreal shared some good news with regards to the BAC's number 4 priority of elementary counseling. SELPA has been able to get ahold of some one time money to hire elementary counseling for 4 hours a day per site. These would be extra funds with more services as well but this is one time moneys for mental health related service through Children's Nurturing Project.

With the current state of technology teachers and student are is not able to access the Treasures program to the full extent. Mr. Monachello stated the district currently has 858 computers; 104 newer than 4 years old, 6 reside in the yearbook class, 8 at Maine Prairie and the rest of the 104 are all staff computers. About 750 are older than 4 years old and won't run treasure and won't open up the District's new website. The District is doing a disservice to all of our students because they don't have the technical skills. Member Garcia was interested in looking into Grants or one time money.

Member Garcia asked Letty Allen what the District has to present to the County to except our budget. Mrs. Allen stated that the District needs to develop and identify a plan it can implement Member Garcia suggested a trigger plan of our own.

Mr. Dolan asked the BAC to speak to the issue of what to cut if the worst case scenario occurs. The consensus view expressed was that we cannot make further cuts to staffing or programs and that all employees will have to consider concessions to help get the District through.

The discussion continued and explored a Bond for maintenance, facilities, and technology. It is a way to enrich our programs and increase student education. Ms. Nunley asked the Board if they would be interested in the BAC exploring a possible Parcel Tax and Bond. The majority of the Board agreed.

VIII. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, ACTION

A. Cecile Nunley, Chief Business Official

1. Resolution to Authorize a Bridge Loan from Solano County Treasurer – Tax Collector Action  
Ms. Nunley brought the Resolution to Authorize a Bridge Loan from Solano County Treasurer to the Board due to the deferrals just in case we need the cash, “overdraft protection”.

A motion was made by Clerk Cross, seconded by Vice President Piñon to approve Resolution to Authorize a Bridge Loan from Solano County Treasurer – Tax Collector and unanimously carried.

Interest rate if we do use it. The % is low  
Herb  
Gil

2. Resolution to Authorize a Constitutional Advance from Solano County Treasurer-Tax Collector Action  
Ms. Nunley brought the Resolution to Authorize a Constitutional Advance from Solano County Treasurer for an advance on the District’s property tax.

A motion was made by Clerk Cross, seconded by Vice President Piñon to approve Resolution to Authorize a Constitutional Advance from Solano County Treasurer-Tax Collector and unanimously carried.

Herb  
Advance on our property tax  
Gil

IX. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Budget assumptions on the April 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

X. BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Irina Okhremtchouk  
Gil Piñon  
Herb Cross  
Joe DiPaola  
Guy Garcia

XI. COMING EVENTS

- April 2 – 6 Spring Break
- April 19 – Board Meeting

XII. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Public Employee Employment Superintendent – Government Code Section 54957  
The closed session item Public Employee Employment Superintendent was cancelled.  
Irina  
Gil

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CLOSED SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT –8:41p.m.