

**MEASURE A - STRONG SCHOOLS BOND
CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
PALO ALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF January 21, 2015

<u>Opening</u>	<p>The Citizens' Oversight Committee held a meeting in the Palo Alto High School, Media Arts Building-2nd Floor Board Room, 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto, California.</p> <p>*All handouts can be viewed at the District office, Business Services 25 Churchill Avenue.</p> <p>Members present: Mr. Jim Cowie, Chair Person, Parent, PTA Member Mr. Bruce Whitson, Vice-Chair, Business Organization Member (Absent) Mr. Todd Collins, Taxpayer Organization Member Ms. Catharine Garber, Member, Business Organization Member Mr. Walt Hays, Member, Senior Citizen Ms. Arianne Teherani, Member, Parent Mr. Daniel Teo, Parent</p> <p>Others present: Mr. Tom Hodges, fs3 Hodges Construction Management</p> <p>District Staff Present: Dr. Robert Golton, Bond Program Manager</p>
<u>Site Visit</u>	<p>The Committee toured the Palo Alto High School Performing Arts Center construction site.</p>
<u>Call to Order</u>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.</p>
<u>Public Comment</u>	<p>There was no request for public comment.</p>
<u>Review of Agenda</u>	
<u>Approval of Minutes</u>	<p>MOTION: Hays moved to approve the minutes of October 15, 2014. Motion carried 6-0.</p>
<u>Program Status Update</u>	<p>Hodges presented slides on the following projects: -Gunn Central Building project -Gunn Performing Arts Center -Gunn Spangenberg Theatre -Paly Building 500 -Paly Library -Paly Tower building -Gunn Miranda Drop-off</p> <p>Member asked about noise rules at the Gunn school site? Hodges said they abide by the City of Palo Alto rules on hours of operation and they also check in with the school on testing dates for finals, SATs, ACTs, etc. Golton said the construction team also meets on a regular basis with Gunn staff.</p> <p>Member asked about the construction period at Gunn? Hodges said they have estimated about a year and a half.</p> <p>Member asked how long do they usually estimate for DSA approval? Hodges said they usually estimate it will take nine months.</p> <p>Golton said the District and Taisei have settled on the Palo Alto High School Media Arts project. Golton said the Superintendent has established a committee to discuss enrollment and next steps.</p>
<u>Briefing on PAUSD</u>	

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Enrollment Management Committee

On December 9th, the Demographers projections were presented to the Board and they indicated elementary enrollment is not projected to increase over the next five years so this takes away the need for a 13th elementary school. For the last three years they have had 11 month cohorts; they moved the admission date back for kindergarten by a month for three years. School districts in California have had a decrease in kindergarten enrollment for the last three years but the demographer says even if that is factored in, the enrollment is still decreasing. Golton referred to page two of the Superintendent's report that states:

Given that the enrollment in the elementary schools has not increased significantly in the last few years and is not projected to do so, coupled with the fact that Terman Middle School is near capacity and both JLS and Jordan middle schools currently enroll more than their 1,100 student rated capacity, I am eager to establish a Superintendent's Advisory Committee to explore enrollment issues and identify and address the problems created by our enrollment growth. The charge of the proposed Committee is not restricted to making recommendations regarding a thirteenth elementary school. Instead, the Committee will explore a range of solutions after first articulating underlying problems. Solutions may involve opening a thirteenth elementary school, a fourth middle school, a K-8 school, or none of these. The Committee will likely explore other options for managing enrollment growth as well, and while they will not make determinations regarding attendance area boundary changes, moving current choice programs, or recommending new ones, they could recommend that the District pursue these options or make other innovative suggestions.

The Superintendent believes the Committee will be done by May 2015 with this process.

Update on Future Projects

Golton presented a graph with a timeline on the following projects:

- Paly Theatre
- Paly New Gym
- Paly Library
- Paly Science Addition
- Gunn Central Project

Member asked why the move-in date for the Paly Theatre is placed for August if the construction will be completed in March? Hodges said there is a lot of equipment that needs to be moved in and tested. There is lighting that will be put in after so there is a lot of setup and all that takes time.

Member asked about budget for the Paly Athletic Facility? Golton said \$24 million from the donor and it projects that the gap of \$12 million will be made up with District funds. Hodges said during conceptual design, they asked the Board for a budget of \$300,000 for DSA approval and soil studies.

Member asked who the architect is for the Paly Theatre? Golton said Jeremiah Tolbert.

Member asked about parking being an issue at Paly? Hodges said yes, once they start the Paly Gym project there will be a net loss of 62 parking spaces. Golton said the Assistant Principal Jerry Berkson is adjusting the permit spaces available accordingly.

Members asked about painting Gunn and Paly high schools? Golton said it is not budgeted for but he will bring the topic up with Superintendent McGee and report back.

April 15, 2015 Agenda

The next COC meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2015. The agenda will be worked through email.

Next Meeting and Future Meetings Schedule

July 29, 2015
October 21, 2015
January 2016

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.