

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

**MINUTES FOR MEETING OF April 15, 2015**

Opening

The Citizens' Oversight Committee held a meeting in the Facilities/Construction Building D, 85 Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

\*All handouts can be viewed at the District office, Business Services 25 Churchill Avenue.

Members present:

Mr. Jim Cowie, Chair Person, Parent, PTA Member (Absent)  
Mr. Bruce Whitson, Vice-Chair, Business Organization Member  
Mr. Todd Collins, Taxpayer Organization Member  
Ms. Catharine Garber, Member, Business Organization Member  
Mr. Walt Hays, Member, Senior Citizen  
Ms. Arianne Teherani, Member, Parent (Absent)  
Mr. Daniel Teo, Parent

Others present:

Mr. Tom Hodges, fs3|Hodges Construction Management

District Staff Present:

Dr. Robert Golton, Bond Program Manager  
Mr. Ron Smith, Facilities Project Manager

Site Visit

The Committee toured the Palo Alto High School Performing Arts Center construction site.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Public Comment

Ann Lumsdaine said she wanted to remind the Committee that the bond specifications include an intention to improve indoor air quality. PTA Council recently adopted a resolution that the District should adopt an indoor air quality management plan. The American Association of School Administrators has flexible plans and three simple reasons to do this which are student health, student performance, and liability. Student health and student performance can be raised simply by improving indoor air quality. While there is very strong evidence connecting asthma, student health, and student performance with indoor air quality, there is also evidence connecting mental health issues including depression in a lot of different ways. How will the District defend not doing what was in the bond measure for student health. The District should do what it needs to do and it may actually improve student mental health.

Review of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Whitson moved to approve the minutes of January 21, 2015. Motion carried 4-0.

Program Status Update

Hodges and Golton reported on the status of the following projects:

- Gunn Miranda Drop-off Traffic Signal Replacement
- Gunn Central Building
- Gunn Spangenberg Theatre
- Paly Science Building
- Paly Performing Arts
- Paly Library
- Paly Tower Building
- Paly Gym

Member asked about the Health and Wellness Center for the Gunn Central Building? Hodges stated the new principal at Gunn had a bigger vision of what the Health and Wellness Center should look

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like and was given permission by the Superintendent to revisit the project with the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee agreed with the changes and requested to go to the Board with a program change.

Member asked if the weeds growing up and above the fence line along Embarcadero side can be cleaned up. Smith said they will ask staff to work on this.

Member asked if when they budget for projects that will extend over a period of time, do they try to anticipate what the inflation will be. Hodges said yes, for example with the master plan projects for the high schools, the group 1 projects were escalated five percent and almost 20 percent for the last round of projects.

### Budget Update

Golton reviewed with the Committee the budget transfers into reserve funds from completed and nearly completed projects. These include projects at Gunn High School, Palo Alto High School, Jordan Middle School, JLS Middle School, Terman Middle School, Duveneck Elementary, Fairmeadow Elementary, Hoover Elementary, Ohlone Elementary, and elementary school classroom improvements.

\*For a detailed list of projects, please view the Board report from the March 24, 2015, Board meeting, Discussion item 11 at the following link:

[http://pausd.org/community/board/downloads/pkt\\_150324.pdf](http://pausd.org/community/board/downloads/pkt_150324.pdf)

Member asked if the Taisei settlement was included in this budget review. Golton said yes.

Member asked if the elementary reserves came from the middle schools. Golton said some of it came from the middle schools, some interest earnings, and other areas. Member clarified that there were no middle school reserves, right? Golton said correct. Member asked why not? Hodges answered that if they looked back at the original scoping for the middle schools list, everything on that list was funded so there were no projects left.

### Report on Enrollment Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) 2014 COC Annual Report April 15, 2015 Agenda Next Meeting and Future Meetings Schedule

Golton reported the first meeting of the Enrollment Management Advisory Committee will take place on Monday and they will meet every other Monday to discuss management of enrollment.

Cowie and Whitson will start work on the annual report.

The next COC meeting is scheduled for July 29, 2015. The agenda will be worked through email.

July 29, 2015

October 21, 2015

January 2016

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.