

CITY OF PASADENA  
City Council Minutes  
October 3, 2006 – 7:30 P.M.  
Pasadena Conference Center Rooms 103, 104, and 105  
300 E. Green Street

**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING**

**OPENING:** Mayor Bogaard called the special joint meeting of the City Council and Pasadena Board of Education to order at 7:44 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Phelps.

**ROLL CALL:**

Councilmembers:

Mayor Bill Bogaard  
Vice Mayor Steve Madison (Arrived at 7:53 p.m.)  
Councilmember Victor Gordo  
Councilmember Steve Haderlein  
Councilmember Chris Holden (Absent)  
Councilmember Paul Little  
Councilmember Joyce Streater  
Councilmember Sidney F. Tyler

Staff:

City Manager Cynthia Kurtz  
City Attorney Michele Beal Bagneris  
City Clerk Jane L. Rodriguez

Board of Education:

President Peter Soelter  
Vice President Scott Phelps  
Member Mike Babcock  
Member William Bibbiani (Absent)  
Member Prentice Deadrick  
Member Ed Honowitz  
Member Esteban (Steve) Lizardo

Staff:

Dr. Percy Clark, Jr., Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Stephen Hodgson, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Business Services  
Dr. George McKenna, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
Kathleen Duba, Deputy Superintendent

**WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING REMARKS**

Mayor Bogaard and President Soelter welcomed the community to the joint meeting, and thanked staff and all other persons who had assisted in the planning and arrangements for the meeting.

Mayor Bogaard and President Soelter presented commendations from the City and Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) to Charter Communications and VH1 Save the Music Foundation in recognition of their donations of musical

instruments that were distributed to various elementary schools in the District (Cleveland, Jackson, Willard, and Longfellow). The commendations were received by Craig Watson, representing Charter and VH1.

Vice Mayor Madison arrived at 7:53 p.m.

Mr. Watson thanked various organizations and individuals who had assisted in the fundraising efforts to purchase the musical instruments that had been donated to the schools, and acknowledged Joan Favre, Pasadena Education Foundation Executive Director, for her assistance in this fundraising project.

**STATUS REPORT BY MARTIN PASTUCHA, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, AND DR. STEPHEN R. HODGSON, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS SERVICES, ON CITY/SCHOOL JOINT FACILITIES PROJECTS**  
**Recommendation of City Manager/Superintendent of Schools:** This report is for information only.

Mayor Bogaard introduced the agenda item.

Martin Pastucha, Director of Public Works Department, reviewed the agenda report, noted the joint-use park project at Madison Elementary School was now open to the public and the renovation of the tennis courts at John Muir High School should be completed by the end of 2006, and responded to questions.

Dr. Stephen Hodgson, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, reported the District was moving forward with readying the Pasadena High School tennis courts in order to open these courts to the public during non-school hours at the end of October 2006, provided an update on possible construction of two softball fields at Pasadena High School, and responded to questions.

Councilmember Gordo encouraged the City and District to explore green space at additional school sites.

Councilmember Streater suggested the District explore alternative places for parking the buses at John Muir High School so that this area might be more effectively used for open space activities.

Board Member Lizardo elaborated on the identification of green space areas in the District.

President Soelter submitted an oversized thank you card and letters from Madison Elementary School students thanking the City and District for the improvements that were made to the playground/joint-use park area.

Discussion followed on the exploration of green space/recreation use at additional District schools, development of a tennis center or area that allows multiple court usage, and the need to balance tennis court usage for the public vs. organized tennis groups.

The following persons expressed concerns regarding the privatization and/or governance of joint-use projects:

Mary Dee Romney, Pasadena resident  
Bonita Olszewski, Altadena resident

The following persons spoke in support of joint-use projects involving tennis courts and/or expressed concerns regarding the need for multiple courts and accessibility of tennis courts for use by the public:

John Letts, Rose Bowl Tennis representative  
Mike Gealer, Los Angeles resident  
John McNall, Altadena resident  
Chris Kinard, Pasadena resident  
Brother J.C., Pasadena resident

The following persons expressed concerns regarding the financial support that is also needed for various types of joint-use projects (e.g., development of athletic fields and playgrounds at a number of the District's schools and support for arts and music programs):

Dr. Peter Dreier, Pasadena resident  
Renatta Cooper, Pasadena resident

Vice Mayor Madison suggested the City and District explore a partnership with the First Tee (golf) program that is available at Brookside Golf Course.

Patsy Lane, Director of Human Services and Recreation Department, discussed the coordination between the City and District on the scheduling and allocation of courts, and clarified that the City issues permits for City facilities and the District issues permits for District facilities.

Councilmember Haderlein suggested the Recreation and Parks Commission be directed to develop a policy that would take into consideration the need to balance accessibility to tennis courts for the public with accessibility for organized users.

On order of the Mayor, the report was received and filed.

**PRESENTATION BY DR. GEORGE McKENNA III,  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, SCHOOL OPERATIONS  
AND SUPPORT, REGARDING STUDENT ENROLLMENT,**

**FALL 2006, AND YOUNGHEE JANG, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION, REGARDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, FALL 2006**

President Soelter introduced the agenda item.

Kathleen Duba, Deputy Superintendent, reviewed information regarding academic achievement contained in the agenda report; discussed various programs that will continue to be used to reach the District's academic target of 80% proficiency in all areas by 2009 (e.g., curriculum resource teachers, coaching/mentoring teachers, intensified language arts series, focused staff development, and tracking of quarterly assessments to adjust instruction based on student needs); and responded to questions.

Board Member Deadrick commented on the District's current status and progress in academic achievement and on the need to address issues involving those students who are not reaching the standards set by the District.

Dr. George McKenna, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, reviewed current enrollment data contained in a handout titled "Pasadena Unified School District Enrollment as of Tuesday Oct. 03, 2006 – Day 19" that was distributed by District staff.

Brief discussion followed on trends in the enrollment data and the impacts of enrollment on the relationship between fixed costs and reduced revenues.

Board Member Honowitz commented on the need for citywide efforts to provide affordable/workforce housing that might positively impact the enrollment situation.

On order of the Mayor, the report was received and filed.

**UPDATE FROM CHIEF BERNARD MELEKIAN, PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT, REGARDING SAFE SCHOOLS TEAM PROGRAM AND SCHOOL SECURITY PROVIDED BY PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Mayor Bogaard introduced the agenda item.

Police Chief Bernard Melekian provided an update of the implementation and activities of the Safe Schools Team program; noted the number of reported incidents was significantly lower than last year and truancy had decreased; commented on the relationships being built between the Team, students, and school staffs and the support being provided by the District's principals and staff; and provided an update on the hiring of security officers caused by vacancies in that position and on the preventive steps that can be taken because

of the presence of the Team officers on the school campuses. Chief Melekian responded to questions regarding training for hostage/shooting situations and outreach being conducted with public and private schools, ongoing gang issues and tensions, and development of a training module for security officers. The Chief thanked Dr. George McKenna for his assistance in coordinating the Team's work on campus.

Vice Mayor Madison commented on possible benefits to the community resulting from a strong presence of the police on campus.

Dr. George McKenna, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, complimented the Safe Schools Team, voiced the principals' and students' appreciation of having the officers on campus, and commented on the benefits of having the Team on campus.

The following person expressed concerns regarding safety issues involving overcrowded schools, use of portables, and traffic control problems at the sites located in Altadena:

Walter Olszewski, Altadena Town Councilmember  
speaking as an individual

On order of the Mayor, the information was received.

**REPORT FROM DR. GEORGE McKENNA III, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, SCHOOL OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT, ON SECONDARY REFORM PHASE 1 – ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

President Soelter introduced the agenda item.

Dr. George McKenna, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, reviewed information contained in the handout titled "Alternative Education Programs" that was distributed by District staff on three components of the District's alternative education programs: Credit Reclamation (Continuation School), Center for Independent Study (CIS), and Rose City Community Day School; and discussed the District's commitment to expand the Continuation School and CIS programs to bring back students who have been dropping out because they have fallen so far behind in school. Dr. McKenna provided a brief update of the District's efforts to locate a site for the expanded programs, and responded to questions regarding possible coordination with the Pasadena Community College on these programs.

On order of the Mayor, the information was received and filed.

**UPDATE FROM PETER SOELTER, BOARD PRESIDENT,  
ON PUSD SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS SEARCH**

President Soelter briefly discussed the search process related to the Superintendent of Schools position and the status of the process; noted that the search firm had been gathering input from the community on the qualifications and characteristics that the community would like to see in a superintendent and the challenges that are to be met; outlined the timeframe for the search, with a targeted date for the new superintendent to start by the beginning of the second semester, and distributed a brochure for the Superintendent position.

Board Member Honowitz indicated there has been heavy community participation in the process.

On order of the Mayor, the information was received and filed.

**PRESENTATION BY DR. TAKASHI WADA, CITY HEALTH OFFICER, AND CAROL LAVAL, PUSD HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATOR, ON CITY/PUSD JOINT VENTURE PROJECT FOR PRE-EMPLOYMENT PHYSICALS**

Mayor Bogaard introduced the agenda item.

Janice Torres, City Human Resources Manager, briefly described the implementation of a joint venture project involving pre-employment physicals.

Carol Laval, District Health Programs Coordinator, provided an overview of the pre-employment physicals program.

Dr. Takashi Wada, City Health Officer, commented on the process in developing the joint venture.

Vice Mayor Madison and Dr. Wada highlighted a new Pasadena Health Department pilot project called the Pasadena Healthcare Link pilot project that provides a free 24/7 call center ((626.744.7445) for residents to call in and receive various types of health and referral services.

Board Member Honowitz suggested the City work with the District in getting information out via the District telephone service.

On order of the Mayor, the information was received.

**STATUS REPORT FROM BRIAN LEAGUE, MEMBER OF 7-11 COMMITTEE, ON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY**

President Soelter introduced the agenda item.

Brian League, 7-11 Community Advisory Committee Member, provided an overview of Phase 1 of the Committee's charge (review, evaluate, and offer recommendations regarding District properties, including outreach activities in the community); highlighted components of the Committee's draft report (nine guiding principles and recommendations), which is being revised and will be formally presented to the Board of Education on October 24, 2006; and outlined the steps to be taken in Phase 2 of the Committee's charge (review of projected enrollment information and possible impacts on future school sites).

Discussion followed on the public process in considering the recommendations on District properties, the District's process in declaring surplus property, the collaborative relationship between the District and the City regarding the properties, affordable housing issues involving use of the properties, balancing financial implications for the District related to use of the properties with the community's support for various types of uses for the properties.

Board Members Honowitz and Lizardo stressed the public's involvement in discussions regarding the Committee's recommendations and use of the identified properties.

Board Member Phelps expressed appreciation to the Advisory Committee for its work and commitment on Phase 1 of the project.

Councilmember Little suggested information be provided on a financial analysis of the different proposals for the properties and how the community investment in the properties is going to be recaptured by the community.

The following persons expressed concerns regarding changes proposed for properties that currently serve public school students and/or serve the Altadena community:

Walter Olszewski, Altadena resident  
Bonita Olszewski, Altadena resident

On order of the Mayor, the report was received and filed.

**UPDATE FROM SIDNEY F. TYLER, COUNCILMEMBER AND CHAIR OF MANAGEMENT AUDIT COMMITTEE, AND PETE SOELTER, BOARD PRESIDENT, ON MANAGEMENT AUDIT**

Mayor Bogaard introduced the agenda item.

Councilmember Tyler reviewed the agenda report, noted the Management Audit Committee had added a point to the scope of work to include an evaluation of the School Site Councils and their role, and highlighted the Committee's schedule.

Board Member Phelps thanked the Committee for its work in moving the management audit forward.

On order of the Mayor, the report was received and filed.

**REPORT BY MARSHALL AYERS, CONSULTANT, ARTS FOR ALL PROGRAM, ON ARTS PROGRAM IN PUSD SCHOOLS**

President Soelter introduced the agenda item.

Marshall Ayers, Arts Education Coordinator for Arts for All Program (consultant), provided an overview of the Arts for All Program and the arts education plan/program, highlighted collaborative activities with the City involving the arts, reviewed the progress report for the Program, and responded to questions.

Board Member Honowitz affirmed the benefits of the collaborative efforts of the City and District in various activities involving the arts.

On order of the Mayor, the report was received and filed.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING FUTURE JOINT MEETING**

Mayor Bogaard questioned whether the Council and Board of Education should formalize a joint meeting schedule and how this process would be structured.

Discussion followed on the value of holding joint meetings, use of a committee structure to address specific issues in addition to the joint meetings, and the frequency and format of the joint meetings.

By consensus of the City Council and Board of Education, City and District staffs will develop a proposal to be presented to the two bodies regarding the formalization of a joint meeting schedule with two meetings per year, with the understanding that committees may be used to augment the joint meetings.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Soelter and Mayor Bogaard again thanked the District and City staffs for their work in planning and preparing for the joint meeting.

Board Member Honowitz invited the public to a free event ("The Future of California Public Education") sponsored by the Five



Star Education Coalition featuring Alan Bersin, California Secretary of Education, to be held on October 18, 2006 at the Pasadena Senior Center.

**ADJOURNMENT**

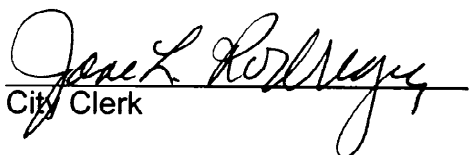
On order of the Mayor, the special meeting of the City Council and Pasadena Board of Education adjourned at 10:50 p.m.



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Bill Bogaard, Mayor  
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:



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Jane L. Rodriguez  
City Clerk