

BELMONT-REDWOOD SHORES SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING OF  
OCTOBER 2, 2008  
MINUTES

BOARD  
MEMBERS

PRESENT: Mrs. Jeni Benelli  
Ms. Catherine Bonnar  
Mrs. Karen Clancy  
Mrs. Cathy Wright (arrived at 5:50 p.m.)

ABSENT:

STAFF: Dr. Emerita Orta-Camilleri, Superintendent  
Mrs. Nellie Hungerford, Assistant Superintendent, Business Svcs. & Operations  
Ms. Penny Weaver, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Svcs. & Personnel  
Mrs. Diane Ribotta, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

President Benelli called the meeting to order at 5:31p.m.

OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD CONCERNING  
ITEMS ON THE CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

No one wished to address the Board.

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION

At 5:31 p.m. President Benelli adjourned the Regular Board Meeting. At this time, the Board adjourned to Closed Session.

CALL TO ORDER

President Benelli reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Trustees, staff members and citizens in the audience joined President Benelli in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Benelli announced the meeting was being tape recorded. President Benelli stated that the Board met in Closed Session and action was taken to change the start time to 6:00 p.m. for future Board Meetings.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Mrs. Clancy, seconded by Ms. Bonnar the Board approved the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms .Catherine Bonnar  
Mrs. Cathy Wright  
Mrs. Karen Clancy  
Mrs. Jeni Benelli

Motions Approved Under the Consent Agenda

Item #

7.a. The Board of Trustees approved the personnel actions as presented.

Certificated Personnel

Hiring Anna Kieturakis as a, Probationary, 1.0 FTE English Second Language, Language Arts, Remedial Reading Teacher at Ralston Middle at an annual salary of \$62,432 effective August 20, 2008.

7.b. That the Board of Trustees approved the following Special Education Contracts.

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Type-Services</b>	<b>Provider</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>New Contract</b>
* Kristen Kuykendall	SLP	Staffing Options and Solutions	9/22/2008	6/12/2009	\$98,400.00
Kelly Norton	OT	Educational Based Services	9/22/2008	6/12/2009	\$38,438.00
* Michelle Foosaner	PT	Private Contractor	9/17/2008	6/12/2009	\$4,000.00
<b>Replacing previous contractors</b>			<b>Total New Contracts</b>		<b>\$136,838.00</b>

7.c. The Board of Trustees approved warrant batches 39 through 54 as presented.

7.d. The Board of Trustees accepted the donation as presented.

*Ralston Middle School:* Eric Pleschner has donated a Canon Printer valued at \$150.00 to be used as a classroom printer.

*Nesbit School:* Kathy Moskovitz has donated a trumpet valued at \$300.00 to be used for the Music Program.

Susanne Commisso has donated preschool toys and materials valued at \$400.00 to be used for the Preschool Program.

7.e. The Board of Trustees adopted the Timeline for Development for the 2008-09 Budget.

7.f. The Board of Trustees approved the Williams Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report for the period ending September 2008.

7.g. The Board of Trustees approved the 2008-09 District Goals as presented.

7.h. The Board of Trustees approved contracts for the BTSA Advisors as presented.

7.i. The Board of Trustees approved a contract with Meehleis Modular Buildings, Inc., to provide design work of modular buildings for the new Redwood Shores School for a sum not to exceed \$50,000.

7.j. The Board of Trustees adopted Resolution #5 supporting the Belmont-Redwood Shores Red Ribbon Week campaign for the week of October 20-24, 2008.

7.k. The Board of Trustees accepted the Summer Programs Report as presented.

7.l. The Board of Trustees approved the request for the job share of a position at Ralston Middle School between Maria Bertollo, Para Educator and Nina Stahl, Para Educator, from October 8, 2008 to June 10, 2009.

7.m. The Board of Trustees approved the revised unaudited actuals (J-200) report of District revenues and expenditures, as required by law, for the fiscal year 2007-2008.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mrs. Wright requested Mrs. Ribotta amend the Minutes of September 18, 2008, under the NEW SCHOOL GRADE LEVEL CONFIGURATION heading with the following:

The K-5 spectrum referred to the transition plan eventually leading to a K-5 school and preventing the school board from being locked into opening the school on day one as a K-5. The spectrum provided the board the flexibility to deal with the uncertainty of enrollment numbers and keeping the children's best interest in mind.

Moved by Ms. Bonnar, seconded Mrs. Wright by, the Board approved the Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held on September 18, 2008 as amended.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms .Catherine Bonnar  
Mrs. Cathy Wright  
Mrs. Karen Clancy  
Mrs. Jeni Benelli

STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE FOR PUPIL TEXTBOOKS RESOLUTION #6  
PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Weaver explained that the District is assuring the community that there are sufficient textbooks and learning materials for the District's students.

President Benelli opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m.

No public comment, President Benelli closed the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m.

Moved by Mrs. Clancy, seconded Mrs. Wright by, the Board of Trustees approved Resolution #6 assuring compliance with Education Code 60119(c) for adequacy of instructional materials and content alignment for pupils in the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms .Catherine Bonnar  
Mrs. Cathy Wright  
Mrs. Karen Clancy  
Mrs. Jeni Benelli

SPEAKERS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

President Benelli announced that this portion of the Agenda provides Trustees, staff members and audience members an opportunity to address the Board on any item on the agenda or not included on the agenda. President Benelli also stated that public comments would be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker per topic.

1. George Metropulos, 2014 Monroe Ave, Belmont. Mr. Metropulos provided the Board of Trustees with a letter. Mr. Metropulos stated concerns about the BFA contract.
2. Kristin Mack, 812 Covington Rd., Belmont, stated concerns about the BFA contract.

PUBLIC HEARING

Discussion of the transition plan for the students in the Shores area beginning 2009-2010.

Dr. Orta-Camilleri explained the purpose of tonight’s discussion. She provided the audience with handouts. The handouts had 4 options of transition and 2 options for policy on transitioning siblings. Dr. Orta-Camilleri asked the audience to form 4 working groups and list the pros and cons for the options listed.

The audience was reminded that the new school would have a K-5 grade level configuration so their responses should consider this in their discussion.

**Option A- K-1<sup>st</sup> in Fall of 2009 and 2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> in Fall 2010**

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opens classrooms at Sandpiper.</li> <li>• Easier to open new school.</li> <li>• Helps ensure new school will open.</li> <li>• 08-09 first graders don’t need to change schools (3 yrs, in a row).</li> <li>• More stability for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.</li> <li>• More time between transitions for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.</li> <li>• STAR test begin, more stable resource.</li> <li>• K&amp;1<sup>st</sup> are new students to Shores’ schools – no transition – can stay at school of residency.</li> <li>• Least intrusive – no attachment to Sandpiper.</li> <li>• Stability.</li> <li>• Less transition.</li> <li>• Allows more classroom space at Nesbit.</li> <li>• Gives students benefit of support facilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Might not free up as many classrooms.</li> <li>• K-1 configuration limits school community.</li> <li>• Very full Sandpiper</li> <li>• Miss out on Buddy Program</li> <li>• Don’t know actual #’s of students per grade level.</li> <li>• K-1<sup>st</sup> too small of band – no “buddy system”.</li> <li>• EXTRAS – Option A, B &amp; C are all the same except for grade spread.</li> <li>• Strong sibling policy – important.</li> <li>• Can available classrooms accommodate GIS boundary students?</li> <li>• Sandpiper too full.</li> <li>• Increase cost to maintain portables at Sandpiper.</li> </ul>

**Option B- K-2<sup>nd</sup> in Fall 2009 and 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> in Fall of 2010**

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger school community more parents, volunteers.</li> <li>• More classroom space at Sandpiper.</li> <li>• Relieves some pressure on Sandpiper.</li> <li>• Allows more classroom space at Sandpiper.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 08-09 1<sup>st</sup> graders have to move 3 yrs, in a row.</li> <li>• Is new school big enough?</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> graders make 3 transitions.</li> <li>• Fewer resources for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders (library, assemblies, computer lab, learning center).</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> graders STAR testing.</li> <li>• Moving students to 3 schools.</li> <li>• 3 moves in 3 years.</li> <li>• Lack of supportive facilities.</li> </ul>

**Option C- K-3<sup>rd</sup> in Fall2009 and 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> in Fall 2010**

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates the most classroom space at Sandpiper.</li> <li>• Builds a larger K-3 school community faster.</li> <li>• Friendly for new families in the new school zone with K-3 students.</li> <li>• Increases the chance that current Sandpiper parents assigned to new school would opt to go to new schools.</li> <li>• Maximum relief on Sandpiper.</li> <li>• Science &amp; Music for 4<sup>th</sup> &amp; 5<sup>th</sup> could be focused at one school.</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> &amp; 5<sup>th</sup> can graduate from Sandpiper as a unit.</li> <li>• More room at Sandpiper.</li> <li>• Programmatic flow – buddy system.</li> <li>• Captures more siblings – less transition for families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there enough space for new students at new school.</li> <li>• NSS may not accommodate 4 grades.</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> graders make 3 transitions in 3 years.</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> graders – STAR testing.</li> <li>• Might break up siblings.</li> <li>• Different start times.</li> <li>• Temporary transportation impact.</li> <li>• Sandpiper 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> have already been at Nesbit. 3<sup>rd</sup> school if go to new one.</li> <li>• Not enough classroom for K-3<sup>rd</sup>.</li> </ul>

**Option D- Mid year transition for grades outlined in A, B & C**

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Willingness to be flexible.</li> <li>• Efficient use of facilities.</li> <li>• Support facilities for transfer students (library, Lab, Multi-use).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too disruptive.</li> <li>• Can't see benefit of move.</li> <li>• No real effect on Sandpiper (or no more than option A).</li> <li>• Disrupts teachers and students.</li> <li>• Difficult for PTAs to build.</li> <li>• Families may opt out for the year.</li> <li>• Too much transition at mid year.</li> <li>• Difficult transition for staff, students, parents.</li> </ul>

Input regarding policies for student transfers was also reviewed. Not all groups were able to complete this process.

**Policy 1**

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Like #1.</li> <li>• Keeping current students at Sandpiper.</li> <li>• Less disruptive to students.</li> <li>• Reduces traffic.</li> <li>• Graduate from school start.</li> <li>• Not splitting families.</li> <li>• Maximum flexibility.</li> <li>• Siblings stay keeping families together.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May not relieve over crowding at Sandpiper.</li> <li>• Longer time for new school to be operational at all grades.</li> <li>• May create problems at grades 4-5 in new school (ie, size) neighborhoods split.</li> <li>• No room for new students.</li> <li>• Hard to predict.</li> <li>• Less experience in new school (ie, PTA, etc.).</li> <li>• Keeps Sandpiper too big.</li> <li>• Lose parents leadership.</li> </ul>

**Policy 2**

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balances out student population.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Splitting up families – sibling issues.</li> </ul>

Dr. Orta-Camilleri thanked Ms. Linda McDaniel for her efforts in manually compiling the information in the Nesbit School & Sandpiper School Enrollment handout. She also thanked the community for their thoughtful participation and input.

1. Sue Kim-Ahn, 230 Isleford Lane, Redwood City, concerned about the stability and equity of the transition plans.
2. Bob Carlier, 5 Oceanside Way, Redwood City, concerned about the K-5 grade configuration of the new school.

President Benelli asked the Board Members for the date when the grade level configuration was made. The Board Members replied the decision was made at the June 1, 2006.

President Benelli gave the District's website address of [Belmont.k12.ca.us](http://Belmont.k12.ca.us) for those that would like to review the minutes of the June 1, 2006 Board Meeting.

1. Doug Crisman, 561 Cringle Dr., Redwood City, respectfully disagrees with the Board's understanding of the Minutes of the June 1, 2006 Board Meeting.
2. Robert Abbott, 336 Meridian, Redwood Shores, concerned about the configuration of the new school. Suggested the new school be a K-8.
3. Kathy Lange, 2055 Seabrook Ct., Redwood City, concerned about the facilities at the new school and the lack of budget.
4. Sanjay Patel, 469 Trident Drive, Redwood City, concerned that his and other's opinions are not being considered regarding the new shores school.

Mrs. Wright stated that the minutes are a snapshot of the Board Meetings. Mrs. Wright has updated the September 18<sup>th</sup> Board Minutes to reflect that the new school would be in the K-5 spectrum. Mrs. Wright stated that all decision made are in the best interest of the students in our District.

President Benelli asked Mrs. Hungerford for clarity regarding a K-8 configuration for the new shores school. Mrs. Hungerford state new school would not be able to offer the same curriculum as Ralston due to lack of classroom space.

1. Kathy Lange, 2955 Seabrook Ct., Redwood City, thanked Mrs. Cherie Ho for being a great Principal at Nesbit.

President Benelli clarified that currently, the new shores school will have no childcare facility on site. Dr. Orta-Camilleri is in the process of researching childcare providers for the new shores school and working with the Redwood City on the RFP and will present information at a future Board Meeting. Mrs. Wright asked Dr. Orta-Camilleri to update the community on discussion with Redwood City regarding a childcare provider for the new shores school. Dr. Orta-Camilleri thanked Mr. Max Keech for his support and efforts in attempts to obtain resources for the Districts daycare needs. The City of Redwood City will not assist with providing childcare services; however the City of Redwood City will provide technical support.

1. Bob Carlier, 5 Oceanside Way, Redwood City, reminded the Board that the residents; of Redwood Shores passed the Bond to build the new school.
2. Lisa Eliopoulos, 154 Monaco Dr, concerned about the equity of all students.
3. Suzette Gulsen, 3029 Seabrook Ct., Redwood City, concerned about the lack of afterschool care for the new shores school.

The Board discussed the options for transition to the new school. The Board reached consensus to remove Option D- Mid year transition plan.

The Board asked Dr. Orta-Camilleri what info will be provided by the demographic study. Dr. Orta-Camilleri clarified that the demographic study was complete, this new step will be to GEO Code of our current students into their attendance area.

Dr. Orta-Camilleri stated that once the coding was complete it would make the discussion on boundaries easier since we have data as to the number of students and grade levels for each of our sites. Dr. Orta-Camilleri suggested preparing three scenarios by working with community leaders and the school sites. These would be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

#### REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF

Nesbit Traveling Café – Dr. Orta-Camilleri thanked the Nesbit staff for questions asked regarding Para Professional – hiring & training, the work load of the upper grade teachers and the transition plan.

Mrs. Wright gave an update on Measure U fundraising – they are \$15,000 shy of their goal.

Mrs. Benelli gave an update on the Board Vacancy Interviews. The next Board Interviews are scheduled for October 6, and October 13, 2008.

Ms. Bonnar stated upcoming Traveling Café dates: Central on October 8<sup>th</sup>, Sandpiper on October 15<sup>th</sup> and Fox on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Ms. Bonnar mention that October 5<sup>th</sup> is Save the Music day at Twin Pines Park in Belmont.

Ms. Weaver shared her plans for Staff Development Day, October 10<sup>th</sup> at Ralston Middle School.  
Ms. Weaver invited the Board to attend and will send an agenda to each Board Member.

FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

Nesbit/Sandpiper survey for new school attendance.

Boundary Discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.