



GOMPERS PREPARATORY ACADEMY

A UCSD PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

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GOMPERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS JOINT GCMS/GPA MEETING

September 15, 2009 5:00 P.M. Gompers Charter School Library, Cecil H. Steppe, Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Winifred Hudgies, Najib Mesdaq, Dede Alpert, Mari Cruz Avalos, Vincent Riveroll, Cecil H. Steppe, Bud Mehan, Michelle Evans, Rafael Hernandez, Kimiko Fukuda, Pete Chodzko and Tyler Cramer.

EXCUSED:

Cecil Lytle and David Valladolid.

GUEST VISITORS AND STAFF PRESENT:

Kathryn Strom, Jenny Parsons, Allison Kenda, Lisa Maples, John Bartholomew, Jeremy Hurlbert, Deborah Armusewicz, Julie Golokow, Marye Osborn, Jane Firpo, Karima Mosi, Cristy Halling, Eric Schneider, Robin Carroll, Joel Spengler, Mat Miyashiro, Veena Mansukhani, Christian Colon, Barb Robinson, Diana Solomon, Allison West, Katie Elliott, Karly Kerns, Najib Mesdaq, Serena Pariser, Rosemary Hobbs, Pilar Arballo, Andrea Franco, Leticia Lopez, Juan C. Rivera, Isaac Hermosillo, Julio Rangel and Juan Vargas.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 by Cecil H. Steppe, the Board Chair. There was no request for public comment.

Director Riveroll introduced Allison Kenda, who introduced the Academic Leadership Team, who then introduced their new staffs. Assistant Director Bartholomew introduced the new custodial staff.

Mr. Steppe reviewed the minutes from the Executive Committee Meeting, which included reports on Title I funds, testimony given at 21 and 28 July SDUSD Board of Education meetings, and 990s revised to cover GPA.

The June 15 minutes will be corrected to reflect that Dede Alpert was present and Marty Block is an Assemblyman, not a congressman.

Motion to accept June 15 minutes with corrections m/s/c/Hudgies/Mehan

The committee members reviewed the agenda items.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Steppe also relayed that he and Ms. Parsons have met with district staff and there will be a planning meeting on September 24 to decide what future plans will be for MTM/GPA. Mr. Steppe referred to two illustrations that shows GPA future construction plans as well as the still planned MTM bus terminal

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Riveroll shared a presentation of summer events including Operation Save our Field, Summer Camp, Culture Camp and Academic Camp, and the first two weeks of school.

Mr. Steppe pulled the following topics from the Director's Report for discussion: Enrollment, Update on Merger, and update on Special Education

Lisa Maples spoke about the recruitment efforts over the summer confirming that we have 788 students enrolled. Ms. Maples asserted that based on past history she is confident we will be able to meet our enrollment goals by October.

Allison Kenda updated the board about the Special Education portion of the Director's Report. Ms. Kenda stated that we will be spending the next year to get the staff the training that we need to implement a successful full inclusion program. According to Ms. Kenda, this is crucial to academic progress, as having 18% SPED has significantly impacted our ability to achieve at higher levels.

Jennifer Parsons spoke about the merger of GCMS/GPA. She updated the board with the news that we have been modifying the GPA charter and the Education committee is currently reviewing the changes and we will submit by October.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Chodzko deferred to Larry Tamayo for year-end financial reports.

Mr. Tamayo stated that the 2008-2009 school year came out positive \$435,000 due to conservative spending by the Executive Leadership Team, the District not charging a Special Day class fee, and the receipt of stimulus funds.

Mr. Tamayo relayed that the state government has required that stimulus funds included in the 2008-2009 budget, despite being received extremely late in the year. Because the funds will be spent in the 2009-2010 school year, our budget will be negative, but every school is in this position and we will not be penalized.

Senator Alpert clarified that there will be more stimulus funding coming this year; Mr. Tamayo affirmed.

According to Mr. Tamayo, overall, the school is in good financial standing with a healthy reserve.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Senator Alpert spoke about the development committee meeting on the 9th. Kathryn Strom reviewed the grants received, committed, or submitted over the summer months. Ms. Strom highlighted main points of her Development Plan for the year and spoke about planned endeavors such as the 2010 April Gala. Ms. Strom introduced Leticia Lopez, the Community/Parent Liaison, who spoke about her role and goals for the year.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Mehan relayed that the GPA charter had been circulated to the committee for a first reading; responses and changes must be back to the director by the first of October. He also related the news that Chancellor Fox has requested that GPA host a UCSD night date in the spring.

Dr. Mehan updated the board about Data Director and stated that training will be held in early October.

Dr. Mehan discussed the Memorandum of Understanding between UCSD and GPA, noting that this MOU will serve for three years rather than one year, as had previous MOUs between the two entities.

Dr. Mehan explained that the school district has set a new policy for volunteers on campus that is a little more restrictive and requires a bit more paperwork.

Dr. Mehan noted that he would be performing a study of academic achievement based on GPA attendance.

Dr. Mehan will present this study at the November board meeting as an Education Committee agenda item.

BOARD AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

Senator Alpert updated the board on the fact that Mr. Himelstein is no longer a board member. Christopher Weil is considering the position. Mr. Lytle is investigating the possibility of an additional member from UCSD. In addition, we have considered asking a member of the District Attorney's office to serve in the law enforcement capacity.

Mr. Steppe suggested that Senator Alpert contact Director Riveroll with names in order for him to follow up with potential board members.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by K. Strom