



El Tejon Unified School District
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Paula Regan, President

John Fleming, Trustee

Anita Anderson, Trustee

Dr. Ken Hurst, Clerk

Steve Kiouses, Trustee

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Saturday, October 27, 2012

3149 San Carlos Trail, Frazier Park, CA 93225

OPEN SESSION: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Frazier Park School

OFFICIAL MINUTES

On October 27, 2012 Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the El Tejon Unified School District was called to order at 10:13 a.m. by Trustee Regan. Trustee Anderson made the motion, seconded by Trustee Fleming at Frazier Park School, 3149 San Carlos Trail, Frazier Park, CA 93225.

VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYES, 1 ABSENT

Trustee Kiouses was absent.

FLAG SALUTE

Finn Franti led the Trustees and members of the audience with the flag salute.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Trustee Regan stated everyone in attendance would have a chance to speak without filling out a blue card. Since the meeting started fifteen minutes late, the meeting will end fifteen minutes late in order to give everyone a chance to speak. Representatives from Public Consulting Group were on the phone if needed for specific answers to questions. Trustee Regan stated there was much discussion among the board members on the location for this meeting. The thought process was to hold the meeting at a different venue to allow people who typically do not attend board meetings during the work week a chance to attend. There will be another meeting on November 7, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. to hear public comments.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing was declared open at 10:16 a.m. to receive public comments on the Facilities Review by Public Consulting Group.

MOTION: Trustee Anderson motioned to open the Public hearing.

SECOND: Trustee Hurst.

VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYES, 1 ABSENT (Kiouses)

DISCUSSION:

Melitsa Brennan thanked the board for having the meeting at Frazier Park School. She feels very strongly the best decision is to keep El Tejon School open and close Frazier Mountain High School. Trustee Regan explained no programs were being eliminated. High school services would continue and only the closing of a facility was being considered.

Jackie Fleming requested all school sites remain open. Frazier Park School has too many students and she was concerned for their safety. Parents are willing to volunteer and she hopes that everyone will work together and keep positive attitudes.

Linda Robredo asked if the money saved by mothballing historic El Tejon School will be used to hire new teachers and possibly instructional aides. She was curious if a report of the savings was forthcoming. Superintendent Kleier explained cuts the district had made in July to prepare if Proposition 30 does not pass. If it does not pass, there will be no need to cut teachers or have furlough days. If Proposition 30 does pass, the district is prepared to bring a teacher back to Frazier Park School. She has suggested to the board to mothball one school site, take back transportation of Special Education students to and from Bakersfield, and lower management costs by creating a Director II position and hiring two secretaries thus saving approximately \$250,000 no matter what happens with Proposition 30. The unknown is always what the state will actually give the district. We plan for the worst and hope for the best. Ms. Robredo thanked Superintendent Kleier for her explanation and asked for the item to be tabled.

Staci Watson moved her family from the city to be raised in the mountains. She has worked for both El Tejon and Frazier Mountain High School. She asked for the closing of one school to be tabled until the new board is elected.

Lark Shillig read a letter written by Chris Vaughn stating Frazier Park School is overcrowded. She will not allow her junior high age children to go to school at Frazier Mountain High School.

Lark Shillig thanked Superintendent Kleier for the possible savings of \$250,000. She read the Facilities Review and had an issue with specific numbers. She requested tabling the closing of one site. Since the review based declining enrollment numbers on the 2010 Census, she is hopeful with the Centennial Project, Caterpillar and other businesses opening soon our enrollment numbers will increase.

Susie McMahan thanked the board for holding the meeting on a Saturday. She stated downsizing is never successful and requested the board table the closing of one school site. She appreciated Superintendents Kleier's explanations but stated saving \$118,000 was not that much of a savings. She asked for outside resources to help with writing grants.

Tim Schantzen asked for budget and expense reports to be prepared in an easily understood format. He believes the board's biggest mistake is not sharing information. He is concerned about safety of students. He asked for continued study but not a vote.

Nita Waterhouse asked if there were any other ways to save the \$118,000 besides closing one school site. Sending 7th and 8th grade students to Frazier Mountain High School is a train wreck waiting to happen. She is concerned about the younger students being bullied by the older ones. She will not allow her child to attend and other families will leave as well. She understands the board has a tough job but stated the community is willing to help.

Kelly Franti asked for three meetings to discuss other items of interest and not just this issue. She asked to table until the next board meeting. Trustee Regan stated the closing of one school site is not an action item for today.

Sandra Spencer has worked at Mettler, Frazier Park and El Tejon Schools. There are disadvantages of having different age groups together but in the past she used the older students to help the younger ones. She is not in favor of having K-6 at Frazier Park School as it is overcrowded.

Sabrina Rouser is a parent with three children in the district. She comes from the corporate world and had a pay cut plus did not get a raise for three years. She stated the need to slice from the top. She also asked to table closing one school site.

Bill Waterhouse stated all parents need to be proactive and help raise money. Enrollment will always increase and then decrease. He asked to table closing El Tejon School. High school students need to be separate.

Art Bence stated he has been to board meetings and he has been the only person in attendance. It seems the only time parents show up is when sport programs are threatened. He has been tutoring students in math for years.

He stated parents need to get involved and not just complain. The stated the public should shut up and put up.

Trustee Regan thanked all for coming.

Dean Crabb said the people here today are begging you to not do something. Please listen to the community and do not close El Tejon School.

Trustee Regan thanked everyone for their input. She announced another Public Hearing for November 7, 2012 to be held at Frazier Park School at 7:00 p.m. for the board to hear public comments regarding the Facilities Review. There will be another time to speak regarding the Facilities Review at the November 14, 2012 regular board meeting.

ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

MOTION: Trustee Anderson motioned to adjourn the Public Hearing.

SECOND: Trustee Hurst.

VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYES, 1 ABSENT (Kiouses)

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Regan motioned for the adjournment of the Special Meeting of October 27, 2012 at 12:15 p.m., seconded by Trustee Anderson.

VOTE: 4 AYES, 0 NAYES, 1 ABSENT (Kiouses)

The minutes are an unofficial draft until reviewed, modified and approved by ETUSD Trustees approved by the Governing Board on November 14, 2012.

Clerk of the Board _____

