



17575 PEAK AVENUE MORGAN HILL CA 95037

15600 CONCORD CIRCLE MORGAN HILL CA 95037

Meeting Location:	Committee Member	Steve Tate
Morgan Hill Unified School District	Committee Member	Larry Carr
Superintendent's Conference Room	Committee Member	Rich Constantine (Alternate)
15600 Concord Circle	Committee Member	Don Moody
Morgan Hill, CA 95037	Committee Member	Ron Woolf
	Committee Member	Shellé Thomas (Alternate)
	Staff	Steve Rymer
	Staff	Steve Betando

**CITY /SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2014
MINUTES**

Trustee Woolf convened the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

Present: Mayor ProTempore Marilyn Librers, Councilmember Larry Carr, Trustees Shellé Thomas and Ron Woolf, City Manager Steve Rymer, Chief of Police David Swing, City Staff: Karl Bjarke, Chris Ghione; Superintendent Steve Betando, District Staff Kirsten Perez, Anessa Espinosa, Julie Zintsmaster (minutes)

Guests: David and Miho Gerard, community members

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. David Gerard addressed the Committee regarding the benefit of affordable housing for teachers near schools, specifically Britton, El Toro, and Walsh, and the benefits to students and teachers.

Councilmember Carr explained that the City does have programs to assist teachers and public service employees with down payment and loan assistance. City can look into housing assistance programs from the State.

DECLARATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA

The Agenda was posted per Government Code 54954.2

1. Information / Discussion Items

1) City of Morgan Hill updates

L. Carr: announced the State of the City by Mayor Tate tonight at 7:00 pm at the Community/Cultural Center. The City is deep into the General Plan update process. Trustee Thomas is actively engaged on General Plan Advisory Committee; last night large meeting; strong consideration for schools. There are 3 alternatives to study for General Plan based on various population caps by 2035. Following a detailed analysis of the 3 alternatives, a recommendation will be presented to the General Plan Advisory Committee.

Trustee Woolf added that the last board meeting included a presentation of the District's demographics and projections from new housing projects. The District will check with the City to confirm that all housing projects were included in the study. District will also work to identify where students are moving to and from and numbers of students attending private schools. Looking at land that District has for future facilities; (S Rymer asked for a copy of the study – district will send.) Trustee Thomas made the point that it is important when looking at the General Plan to address the pockets of low income and poverty by revitalizing the areas.

2) Police Department updates

Chief Swing: 52 total reports at all schools, half way through the school year; common reports: fighting, drug related; similar numbers at both high schools; assigned school program continues; officers are at their assigned schools on a regular basis; continue to receive compliments about the program from staff and community members. Superintendent Betando stated that at County Superintendents' meetings, other superintendents are reporting a spike in marijuana related cases; Chief Swing indicated that Morgan Hill has not seen a spike in this area; believe it is a win for California that there will not be a ballot measure for legalizing marijuana; in those areas where it is legalized, they are seeing a huge spike in marijuana related cases – driving under the influence, etc.

3) United Way/MHUSD Read-In

Superintendent Betando: On March 4, members of the community will be at the schools in pre-kindergarten through third grade classes reading to children; there are 101 spots for readers; district is signing up readers throughout the community; the event was started by Mayor Tate asking schools for ideas of projects for United Way to support; the Read-In was born and it fits United Way's goal of literacy in early grades. Readers will tell a little about themselves to the children, their role in the community, etc.; the hope is that this is an inaugural event; some principals may invite prospective kindergarten students to come with their parents; the books that are read will stay in the classroom and a second copy will go to the school library; the program will help build classroom and school libraries.

4) Healthier Kids Foundation Initiative

Chris Ghione reported that last fall the City partnered with the Healthier Kids Foundation to get all students on health insurance; Morgan Hill had the highest percentage of uninsured youth; Councilmember Carr found the initiative and brought it to the City's attention; Alicia Alvarez has been working out of the Friendly Inn for 3 months; goal for this year is to have 170 new youth on health insurance; making contacts with local organizations; will go into each school and work with principals to enroll children; 26 new enrollees to date; the District is working on an MOU for exchange of information. The District will have registration tables set up at Open House nights and other school activities to help guide parents through the process. The program also connects youth to

the summer lunch program.

Chris Ghione: program serves children age newborn to 18; sometimes turns into families getting health insurance. The Community Asset Builders Group – meets the 3rd Friday of month at noon – anyone connected with organization that serves youth may attend – great interaction between community-based organizations. Tomorrow, Boys and Girls Club will give a presentation.

5) Focus Academies Update

Betando: full STEAM ahead with PA Walsh and SM/G. Staff affirmations at this time--who wants to stay and be part of the new program; also reaching out to all staff who may be interested in the focus areas to transfer in; looking at effects on demographics; it's about choice and options for students and parents. Students within the school's attendance area will have priority to attend; others can choose to enroll or choose to transfer to another school (choice placement); the academies are generating excitement, as well as challenges (other schools are expressing interest in the focus program idea.)

P. A. Walsh, received "Most Caring School" award from Project Cornerstone; will be honored on March 21 at the Asset Development Breakfast.

6) Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Kirsten Perez explained the LCAP process is underway; community team from Morgan Hill went to Sacramento to speak to State Board of Education; 13 community members participated including: Mayor Tate, Chief Swing, Chamber President John Horner, Board Members, Superintendent and District Administrators; community members are now involved in the LCAP process providing input to 8 priority areas; working on action plans; have had 2 meetings; one more on March 5; the draft action plans will be introduced at 2 regional community meetings – one at Los Paseos and one at El Toro – dates are on website; meeting separately with district parent advisory committees and groups. Superintendent Betando was approached by State Superintendent Torlakson at a recent Superintendents Symposium; he thanked Morgan Hill for the team that came to Sacramento and modeled the value of making LCAP truly what they had envisioned; giving flexibility to local communities and making it work through collaboration.

7) Measure G Projects

Chrome books for school sites; starting at Martin Murphy Middle School; will roll out across the district; Charter School of Morgan Hill is receiving a \$5 million gymnasium/multi-purpose room; currently in design; new utilities are required; as soon as approved by DSA will start construction. Other Measure G projects include the Bonfante Johnson Education Center; San Martin/Gwinn and Walsh focus academies.

a) Traffic Flow at P.A. Walsh

Walsh traffic flow project – Main Avenue and Peak Avenue; (joint project with City for Peak Avenue parking); Karl Bjarke added that the City likes the plan and will have some additional funds for the project; parking upgrades will go

through State separately to speed its completion; buses will still park along Peak Avenue; need to work to avoid stop sign at Claremont; once District has a finalized plan a meeting will be scheduled with residents across the street on Peak to answer questions and present plan.

b) Britton Middle School

Britton Middle School will be renovated; one option is classroom buildings along Monterey Road; want to maintain the "look" of the downtown; council and board members agreed that the corner of Keystone and Monterey would be a good location for a join-use project (library or theater); Thomas suggested teacher housing, apartments, meeting rooms; flood control project along Hale Avenue is adjacent to the Britton property; plans need to alleviate current bottle necks.

8) Communication, collaboration, and outreach activities

a) Sobrato WASC Review (Western Association of Schools and Colleges)

Betando: Sobrato staff put together a booklet of their self-review; WASC team will arrive March 9 for a 3 day visit to validate self-review; can get up to a 6-year accreditation; Sobrato has a 94.5% graduation rate and all graduates meet A-G requirements; Sobrato just received a grant for funds to help get disadvantaged students into advanced placement classes.

b) School highlights at Council meetings

Yes. Send student programs; so many exciting programs; would be very informative

2. Approve minutes of City/School Liaison meeting of December 19, 2013

Motion: L Carr; Second: S Thomas; Ayes: Unanimous

Trustee Woolf: Last night went through the calendar of events for the City of Morgan Hill; something for everyone; so many community activities; complimented the effectiveness of the email that comes from the City; Councilmember Librers mentioned the City's new Facebook page "Engage Morgan Hill"

3. Topics for next meeting:

S Rymer: (1) invite CEO of Boys and Girls Club; taking over the El Toro Youth Center; want to become part of the fabric of Morgan Hill; not duplicate services; they will work within the current structure and have ideas for expanding; (2) General Plan Update presentation; (3) Quick tour of new council chambers

ADJOURNMENT -- meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

Next Meeting: (all meetings start at 8:30 a.m.)
Friday, April 25, 2014 (MHUSD)