

**Maricopa Unified School District  
Bond Oversight Committee**

**Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, February 19, 2013  
Maricopa School Library**

**Attendance:** Committee members present were: Robert Teel, Kristin Blanco, Walt Wisniewski, Jose Medel, Susie Snedden

Committee members absent: Alberta Stubblefield, Tina Wagner, John Crump

**Opening Items:** The Committee members agreed to designate Walt Wisniewski as the Chair for the meeting in Alberta Stubblefield's absence. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 P.M.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of July 31, 2012, were read and approved – Motion by Rob Teel; Second by Kristin Blanco. Barry Lindaman asked for clarification regarding the request by the School Board that the Kern County Superintendent of Schools office audit the bond finances for previous years per the Committee's request. Dr. Meier said that he would address the issue later on the agenda.

**Public Comments:** Richard Snedden said that if John Crump has chosen not to serve on the Committee, it affects the Committee's ability to reach a quorum. Dr. Meier said that he will contact John and confirm whether he is formally withdrawing from the Committee. Walt Wisniewski recommended that John Crump find a replacement that he can recommend to the Board for approval.

**Bond Financial Audit Reports:** Dr. Meier provided members with the 2011-2012 Bond Audit Report prepared by Roberts & James. He said that the Board did not approve hiring a different firm to conduct the audit (Nov. Board meeting) as per the Committee's request.

He said that all of the Annual Reports and Audits are on the school website [www.maricopaschools.org](http://www.maricopaschools.org) that meets the Prop. 39 requirements. In response to the Committee's request of the Board to conduct separate financial audits for the years 2008 to 2010, Dr. Meier said that at the Board's Sept. 2012 meeting, the members voted not to do so. Dr. Meier asked the Kern County Superintendent of Schools' office to review the District's borrowing from the bond fund to address cash flow shortages in other funds. The Kern County Superintendent of School submitted a determination that the District's borrowing from the bond fund was permitted under Education Code Section 42603.

The Committee approved a motion to review the 2012 audit and consider approval at the next meeting. Motion by Susie Snedden; Second Jose Medel.

**Prop 39 Bond Program Overview:** The school website now includes the Board's Prop 39 Policy and other pertinent bond information. The Committee members said that they would review it on the school website individually.

**Bond Financial Report:** Committee members asked Dr. Meier to provide them with a spreadsheet to show bond activity at each and every Committee meeting. He said that he will mail hard copies of the bond financial reports and also the spreadsheets for the construction bids/ projected costs and timeline.

**Projects / Timeline:** Klassen Corp.'s representative, John Karnes gave the Committee a project update. It took 13 months to receive approval from the California DSA but the state architect finally gave approval with

stipulations. The DSA asked them to “beef up” their plan. Some structural upgrades required included: placing a culvert alongside the gym to prevent water accumulation – the water will flow into a “swale” and release on the east side of the building. They will surround the building with a storm drain so there will be no standing water. They must also extend the concrete out further so that no water can get underneath the building. The state fire marshal wanted an upgrade of the “back-flow preventer.” DSA wanted a thicker, longer concrete retaining wall. They asked for an increase in size of the structural steel beams inside the main gym. A fire alarm beam detector proposal was exchanged for installation of 28 smoke detectors in the gym ceiling. DSA required an upgrade for the rough carpentry portion, primarily masonry support and block work to make the gym more solid. The swimming pool added another layer of reinforcing over 12 in. thick. The plumbing upgrades added significant cost that Karnes hopes can be reduced through negotiations. All of these added costs placed the project over budget. The School Board made some budget/project decisions that would keep the project within budget and still meet the DSA requirements. Some of those changes include: leaving the original tile in the bathrooms, choosing portable bleachers that would seat 322 (instead of permanent bleachers that seat 400), reducing the depth of the wading pool, reducing the number of swim lanes in the big pool from six to five. The total projected cost is \$5,628,144.

Walt Wisniewski asked if alterations will be accepted during construction. Dr. Meier said that requests for revisions will have to be approved by him.

John Karnes reported that the gym masonry is currently approximately four feet high, footings are poured and walls are ready to go up. By March 31, they hope to have the 26 feet high gym walls erected and by April, will be ready to install the 100 feet long structural steel tapered girders in the roof – dropped down onto bolts. The end of March they will excavate for the new pool. August 1, 2013 is the new target date for completion of the gym and pool.

Susie Snedden asked if they expected problems with the water system and did they still need to shut off the water to check for leaks? Dr. Meier said that Darwin Ellis contacted the West Side Water District and they didn't think it would be necessary. He said that the underground water is not thought to be related to a water leak. Joe Medel asked if the main water line was still the original line, and if so, should the fifty-year-old line be replaced? Dr. Meier affirmed that it is the original and said that the architects believed that the gym settling was due to water going under the boys' locker room. The settling was on the south and east sides of the gym. John Karnes said the situation was due to two components – collection of rain water under that section and the native “collapsible soil” of the area. Barry Lindaman said that Darwin Ellis did not believe that subsidence was due to a leak from the pool. Dr. Meier said that, subject to board approval, a project for the future might be to remove the old gym foyer (boys locker room.) For now they may use the locker rooms for storage, and can still use the gym.

The old pool has been removed and back-filled and will be used as a sand lot volleyball court.

Dr. Meiers invited the Committee members to attend future school board meetings (second Thursday of each month) where the project will continually be reviewed.

Walt Wisniewski asked about the District's Strategic Plan. Dr. Meier reported that they are on track – the four pathways are being implemented. The bond fund provided for much of these “Phase 2 Bond Projects” expenditures. Every high school student has a laptop computer. The teachers are being trained to teach technology. The middle school has two computer carts which provide 60 computers that are shared among 90 students. Dr. Meier said that these appropriations are included in the total project budget. They are holding off on some of the food service equipment purchases and also the electronic school signage.

Dr. Meier said that the Board voted to have the projects implemented according to their priority listing, gym and pool completed first before any additional projects conducted. All bond money is currently committed except for a contingency amount.

The Committee established a subcommittee of members Alberta Stubblefield, Susie Snedden and Kristen Blanco to review the 2012 audit and draft the Committee's 2012 Report to the Board & Public for review at the next meeting. If approved, the Committee will present it to the School Board at the Thursday, May 9, 2013 Board meeting.

The next meeting of the Bond Oversight Committee will be Tuesday April 16, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m. by Vice Chair Walt Wisniewski.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susie Snedden, Secretary