

# BOLINAS-STINSON UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## MINUTES

*Special Meeting between the  
Board of Trustees and BSUSD Staff*

**Tuesday, October 14, 2014**

*3:15-4:15 p.m. Bolinas Campus, Middle School Classroom*

### 3:15 ARRIVAL TIME AND REFRESHMENTS

#### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

*Board members present were: Dar, Pfeiffer, Siedman and Harmon; Trustee Marcotte was absent M/S/C by Siedman/Harmon/Unanimous*

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

*Principal Richardson made the following announcements:*

- An all school earthquake drill will take place on 10/16/14. The school will participate in the Great California Shake-out; Cathy Nichelini will lead Kindergarten students up the tsunami trail; when students are dismissed at 1:15, Bolinas Fire Chief Anita Brown will visit to review disaster procedures with staff.*
- On 3/16 at 11am grades 3-8 will participate in an assembly on the Cordell Bank*
- 10/20 is a staff development day*

*Grace Godino reported on a favorable assembly with an author sponsored by Copperfield Books*

*Anny Owen suggested a centering activity asking each person attending the meeting to state how they felt if they were forecasting their own personal weather.*

#### 3. Homework Policy

*The Board will solicit input from Staff regarding proposed changes to the homework Policy.*

*While the Board approved the revised Homework policy at the 10/7/2014 Regular Board meeting with a 3 to 1 vote (Pfeiffer), the Board wanted to survey staff as to their individual thoughts on Homework. Ideas shared were:*

- 1. Homework was given in the past to finish up schoolwork not finished because a student was goofing off.*
- 2. Reading at home should be encouraged*
- 3. Homework should be up to the parent to opt in to/out of*
- 4. Homework prepares students for later grades*
- 5. Homework allows parents a way to connect with their kids*
- 6. time per grade in the policy states "not to exceed"*
- 7. Homework should not impact grades*
- 8. Homework should match what is being covered in class; not busy work*
- 9. Homework preps them for high school and is in addition to what is covered during the day.*
- 10. Often students have homework due to poor time management skills during the day*
- 11. Certain students do better work at home without the influences of others in the classroom.*

12. *Policy should be used as a guideline; limits teachers on how much homework they can assign.*
13. *If no homework is given, what would be the response from Parents?*
14. *Recommend limits on screen time*

*Question: In Middle School, can the curriculum be covered in a school day?*

*Question: Would a longer day be an answer to no homework?*

*In the end it was decided to review the language in the policy to allow teachers flexibility*

#### 4. Common Core

The Board will hear from staff regarding Common Core transition.

*Principal Richardson began the discussion regarding Common Core implementation and TRI (targeted reading instruction) which recently began in the intermediate grades (gr 3-5). Staff and board shared the following:*

- a. Middle school is working with the formats in ELA (narrative, informational and persuasive), Informational reading/non-fiction and integrating with other curriculum*
- b. the library has increased the science and social studies collections, graphic novels for Middle School to appeal to a wide variety of reading skills*
- c. more non-fiction books will be purchased for TRI groups;(70%-non-fiction; 30% fiction*
- d. will be investigating math curriculum for adoption*
- e. will be revising the school report cards to reflect common core*
- f. Most of the teachers have been teaching with the common core format already*
- g. would like to see more curriculum integration with specialists*

OTHER QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

*Q: Clearly define the role of School Site Council*

*A: The SSC provides for another level of communication/issue solution rather than going directly to the Board*

- Arianne Dar and Christine Cunha will be at the Peoples Store on Thursday to field questions regarding Measure B. Supt. Carroll will host another Measure B info session on 10/22 at the Stinson Beach campus from 1-4.*
- Candidates night is tonight, 10/14 at 7pm in the Bolinas Campus Library*

*Q: What is the process if the Bond measure passes*

*A: (1) Mandated items first; projects we need to do; (2) Projects from FOFAC survey; (3) Committee to be formed*

FUTURE:

*What is the direction of the school*

*Review/Revise Strategic Plan*

#### 4:15 5. ADJOURN @ 4:25

*M/SD/C by Siedman/Harmon/Unanimous*

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