

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday
July 2, 2012
6:30 PM

Harding Elementary School
Auditorium
7230 Fairmont Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

MEETING AGENDA

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

- A.1 Pledge of Allegiance**
- A.2 Roll Call**

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

CONSENT ITEMS (Routine Matters)

Consent Calendar Items designated by "CI" are considered routine and will be enacted, approved and adopted by one motion, unless a request for removal, discussion or explanation is received from any Board member or member of the public in attendance.

***CI B.1 Peres Elementary School Modernization**

Comment:

The District is working closely with School Facility Consultants to identify eligibility for State Funds to support the modernization efforts to our schools. Our consultant has identified an additional \$1 million dollar of eligibility for Peres Elementary School under the State's Modernization program.

The funds may not be available until the 2016/2017 fiscal year. Staff is seeking approval from the Board to begin the planning, design, and construction of the MOD project ahead of the anticipated date of fund release. The funds will be transferred out of existing projects with an approved budget and be transferred back as soon as the State funds become available.

Recommendation:

Approve the \$1 million dollar fund transfer to begin the Peres Modernization project ahead of receiving the anticipated funds from the State.

Fiscal Impact:

Offset project to be determined, pending an overall budget reconciliation and update

***CI B.2 Peres Elementary School Modernization Project Contract Award Ratification**

Comment:

The next step in completing the modernization of Peres Elementary School is to begin renovations per the planned scope of work throughout the campus. Areas planned for construction include the multipurpose room in Building “D”; Library Building “E”; and exterior and lobby areas of Building “B”. Plans and specifications were prepared by HY Architects.

The District conducted a public bid process for the project. Bids were opened on June 27, 2012. Three Contractors submitted bids. They are as follows: S&H Construction, Inc, \$1,235,000; Villa Construction Company, \$1,377,158; Cal-Pacific Construction, Inc., \$1,493,000.

Recommendation:

Award the contract to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder after the expiration of the protest period

Fiscal Impact:

Funded from the Measure J Bond

C. ACTION ITEMS

*** C.1 Funding Dilemma / Authorization for Survey**

Comment:

In November 2008, the voters of West Contra Costa Unified School District overwhelmingly renewed the parcel tax that provides funding for our counselors, library staff, some of our custodians and psychologists, our athletic program as well as partial funding for class size reduction in grades K-3. In June of this year, 65.54% of the electorate supported renewal of the 2008 parcel tax with a 3¢ per square foot increase which would have generated an additional \$4 million. Because parcel taxes require a 2/3rd vote, the measure lost.

With the adoption of the budget, the Board has had to consider the impact of the loss of parcel tax funds on top of the devastating impact of the loss of \$40 million in revenue over the last three years and the potential loss of another \$12-13 million if the state tax measures are not successful.

In 2010 voters approved a \$380 million bond measure, Measure D 2010, to continue the building program that has brought nearly all of the district’s schools up to today’s construction standards. At the time of that Measure D 2010 passed, the Board and community believed that five of the district’s schools would be closed, Grant, Olinda, Shannon, Kennedy and Lake. Since that time and with the help of the Cities of Richmond and San Pablo, those schools have remained open. With a projection for stable to increased enrollment and with the current favorable bidding market, the Board may wish to consider an additional bond measure to complete the district building program to upgrade those five schools along with others such as Collins and Crespi that were not included in the prior bond measures.

With an early August deadline for placing a measure on the ballot, the Board needs to have good information about the prospect for passing either a parcel tax, bond measure or both in the November 2012 election. The Attorney General has determined that a school district may legally expend district funds to conduct surveys to assess the potential support and opposition to a measure, the public’s awareness of the district’s financial needs, and the overall feasibility of developing a measure that could win voter approval.

Recommendation:

That the Board discuss the funding dilemma and authorize the Superintendent to contract with Godbe Research to perform a random sample survey to assess the degree of voter support for a bond measure or parcel tax renewal or parcel tax renewal plus an extension in the general election in November 2012.

Fiscal Impact:

An amount not to exceed \$33,000

D. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School –July 11, 2012

E. ADJOURNMENT

* The public may only address items which are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Governing Board welcomes and encourages public comment. Members of the public may comment on items included on this agenda; however, we ask that you limit your comments to 2 minutes so that as many as possible may be heard. The total time for public comment for each item is limited to no more than 30 minutes. (Education Code §35145.5, Government Code §54954.3)

Special Accommodations: *Upon written request to the District, disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, will be provided. Please contact the Superintendent's Office at 510-231-1101 at least 48 hours in advance of meetings.*