

# Oakland Unified School District

Board of Education  
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## Minutes (Long)

**Tuesday, March 15, 2011**

**6:00 PM**

**Special Meeting**

**Board of Education Conference Room 320A, Paul Robeson Building, 1025  
2nd Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606-2212**

## **Measure "G" Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight Committee**

*Sylvester Hodges, Chairperson  
Bonnie Trinclisti, Robert Spencer  
Roseann Torres, Sharon Higgins  
Mary Loeser, Juana Barajas*

## A. Call to Order

*Chairperson Sylvester Hodges called the meeting to order at 6:10 P.M.*

## B. Roll Call

**Roll Call:** Present: Sharon Higgins, Mary Loeser, Juanie Barajas and Sylvester Hodges

Absent: Bonnie Trinclisti, Robert Spencer and Roseann Torres

## C. Speaker Request Cards/Modifications to Agenda

*None*

## D. Adoption of Committee Minutes



[10-2407](#)

**Minutes - Measure "G" Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight Committee  
- May 10, 2010**

Approval by Measure "G" Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight Committee of Its  
Minutes of May 10, 2010.

**Attachments:** [10-2407 - Minutes - Measure "G" Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight  
Committee - May 10, 2010](#)

**Tabled to a Date Certain**



[11-0639](#)

**Minutes - Measure "G" Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight Committee  
- September 28, 2010**

Approval by Measure "G" Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight Committee of Its  
Minutes of September 28, 2010.

**Attachments:** [Minutes - Measure "G" Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight  
Committee - May 10, 2010](#)

**Tabled to a Date Certain**

## E. Unfinished Business

### Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)

*Bonnie Trinclisti present at 6:10 P.M.*

**Roll Call:** Present: Bonnie Trinclisti, Sharon Higgins, Mary Loeser, Juanie Barajas and Sylvester Hodges  
Absent: Robert Spencer and Roseann Torres

### **Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)**

*Roseann Torres present at 6:15 P.M.*

**Roll Call:** Present: Bonnie Trinclisti, Roseann Torres, Sharon Higgins, Mary Loeser, Juanie Barajas and Sylvester Hodges  
Absent: Robert Spencer

### **Roll Call (Secretary's Observation)**

*Robert Spencer present at 6:15 P.M.*

**Roll Call:** Present: Bonnie Trinclisti, Robert Spencer, Roseann Torres, Sharon Higgins, Mary Loeser, Juanie Barajas and Sylvester Hodges

## **F. New Business**

### **11-0636 2009-2010 Superintendent's Program and Financial Report**

Presentation of 2009-2010 Superintendent's Program and Financial Report.

*Artise Hardy, Budget Director, reviewed portions of the Measure G Spending Analysis 2009-10 by Resource and Program - As of June 30, 2010.*

*Ms. Hardy said the first page shows the actuals for 2009-10 by program and category. Detailed reports are contained in the summary.*

*Mary Loeser asked about Class Size Reduction money.*

*Vernon Hal, Deputy Superintendent, Business & Operations, said all of our schools have class size reduction.*

*Ms. Loeser said her school received funds for class size reduction last year. She said Measure G should have supplemented that.*

*Vernon Hal, Assistant Superintendent, Business and Operations, stated there is no Measure G cancellation plan. If a school has State funds for class size reduction, Measure G funds are extra to ensure we have class size reduction.*

*Ms. Loeser said the school chose not to use class size reduction and the school was given Measure G funds for class size reduction.*

*Robert Spencer said there would be no reason for the District to supplant the funds. Mr.*

*Hal said the money is District funds allocated out to the schools based on RBB. The class size reduction piece of Measure G is that it should be used on teachers and the RBB decision is made at the school site.*

*Ms. Hardy continued her review of the Measure G Spending Analysis 2009-10:*

*Program 1159 - Elementary Intervention/Prep Time*

*Adopted Budget: \$2,928,614*

*Working Budget: \$2,653,268*

*Actuals: \$2,653,268*

*Ms. Hardy said this category funds elementary teachers for one prep period and there is one for Special Education teachers.*

*Program 9157 - School Security Officers*

*Working Budget: \$200,001*

*Actuals: \$213,299*

*Ending Balance: \$(13,298)*

*Ms. Hardy said information is detailed by object code.*

*Ms. Loeser stated this was not listed in Measure G. She asked if the District gets the money back in 2011-12?*

*Mr. Hal said No. In 2011-12 the Board has given us direction not to.*

*Chairperson Sylvester Hodges stated there is an agenda item for the Measure G Committee to have more say about the allocation(s) and to make recommendations.*

*Ms. Hardy continued her review of the programs and categories:*

*Program 9060 - New Teacher Project*

*Adopted Budget and Actuals:: \$843,876*

*Ms. Hardy said for 2009-10, the allocation provided restricted services in the Human Resources Department. Most of the dollars are for one of our community partners.*

*Chairperson Hodges stated he had a question about effectiveness of the allocation. Ms. Hardy stated we have been asked by Director David Kakishiba, Chairperson of the Board's Finance and Human Resources Committee, to look at the contract.*

*Chairperson Hodges asked about the retention rate for new teachers?*

*Barbara Gee, Executive Officer, Human Resources, stated we are working on the retention piece. By May we should have some data relating to new teacher retention.*

*Sharon Higgins asked if the New Teacher Project is part of the Oakland Teaching Fellows?*

*Ms. Gee said the New Teacher Project is an organization that we are partnering with. The Oakland Teaching Fellows is the preliminary recruiting piece. The middle school initiative is part of the relationship. They screen and consult with principals.*

*Ms. Gee stated we are looking at running our own in-house credential program for special education. Ms. Gee stated we use Oakland Teaching Fellows to fill high needs in the areas of math and science. We are using District teachers with the curriculum.*

*Mr. Hal stated there are less resources to fund items. The school determines the number of FTEs to fund as it goes through the budget process.*

*Mr. Hal said the State Budget and Governor's Proposal is predicated on certain taxes being extended. We built our budget on the assumption that the taxes will not get extended.*

**Discussed**

### **11-0637 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Oversight Committee Annual Reports to the Board of Education**

Discussion, timelines and possible adoption of proposed 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Measure "G" Oversight Committee Annual Reports to the Board of Education.

*Robert Spencer stated the District has a District Budget Advisory Committee (DBAC).*

*Secretary Edgar Rakestraw said the DBAC became inactive with State Administration; that changed again when the Board took over local control.*

*Vernon Hal, Deputy Superintendent, Business and Operations, said we would be looking at one less piece of the elephant. It would be very difficult because all the funds have been melded with others prior with General Purpose funds. The kind of pro active advice going into those budget process would be from a DBAC. He urged an active role from the DBAC. He said we have been doing what we are supposed to do with the monies. The audit piece is missing. Our auditor is going to start the audit for 2009-10. They are preparing a sample testing list and we will be getting the audit for 2008-09. That seems to fulfill the basic requirement for voters. Mr. Hal said he is unsure if the parcel tax measure was spent appropriately because of the elephant problem. He said a more important question by the voters would be if the money was spent effectively? We have been assured that the money was spent where it should have been spent. The problem he has with doing this in arrears is the District spent money on a policy officer.*

*A committee member asked if that money was going to be reimbursed for future use?*

*Mr. Spencer said retroactively, if we get these funds, if the money was not appropriately spent, we can make that part of the report.*

*Bonnie Trinclisti stated, historically, the reason we have middle school electives is because this Committee said we needed it to happen. We have drafted the priority in for Measure G funding and all other priorities were interpreted from the language. We can at least*

*advocate for the things we believe are important. She is not interested in the retrospective piece.*

*Sharon Higgins read a portion from the Committee Bylaws about committee responsibilities to oversee Education Parcel Tax revenues received and expended.*

**Discussed**

**11-0638 2011-2012 Measure G Proposed Uses**

Report on District's proposed use of Measure "G" Funds for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.

*Artise Hardy, Budget Director, reviewed the three-page handout for the 2011-2012 Measure G Proposed Budget, Page 2 of the handout detailed 2011-12 Measure G funding for Middle School Electives Funding in RBB for 2011-12 by school site for a total of \$922,815. Page 3 detailed RBB School Site Allocations and Programs versus Central/Administrative for 2011-12. Total School Allocations \$17,815,534; Art Programs \$500,000; Oratorical Fest \$132,000; Central Support \$150,000; Measure G Funding Directly to Schools and School Programs \$18,597,534; and Measure G Funding for Central Sites and County Fees \$2,039,102.*

*PARCEL TAX PROVISION:*

*REDUCE CLASS SIZE - \$13,087,537*

*Ms. Hardy said the \$13,087,537 will be allocated to school sites.*

*Mary Loeser stated class size reduction is estimated at \$20 million and is to ensure we have class size reduction on top of what we get from the State. She said her school does not have class size reduction anymore. She said Oakland voters are paying to have class size reduction.*

*Chairperson Hodge said we are not the only district. Even though the State is not coming through, we need to acknowledge that it is a high priority. We are somewhat supplanting the State's negligence.*

*Ms. Loeser asked about middle school electives. We have to instruct the District we have no way of assessing the impact or if the funds were used for electives. Chairperson Hodges asked about the committee representing the public interests and giving the public a report if we do not know that?*

*Vernon Hal, Deputy Superintendent, Business and Operations, said the programmatic piece will be available at the next Committee Meeting.*

*Committee Members agreed by consensus to hold the next Measure G Committee Meeting on Tuesday, April 26, at 6PM.*

*Ms. Hardy continued her review of the 2011-12 Measure G Proposed Budget: She said the information has been reviewed by the Finance and Human Resource Committee with one change for the Attract and Retain Qualified Teachers. A placeholder*

*in the amount of \$944,415 has been placed for a Program to Retain Teachers - Years 1-5.*

*REDUCE CLASS SIZE*

*1112 Class Size Reduction - \$3,400,000*

*1191 Basic Class Size Reduction - \$9,687,537*

*Ms. Hardy said the allocation is for school sites which can only be used to fund teacher salaries and benefits.*

*Ms. Loeser said the District allocated a number of teachers for her school and they have no class size reduction. She asked why the school received Measure G money for teachers since the school has no class size reduction.*

*Mr. Hal said the District allocates funds, not FTES, based on the number of kids that the money generates. The school determines how to use the resources.*

*Mr. Hal said the District has 30 to 40 less schools and we are at a point where there has been a choice about class size and school size. Approximately 80 to 90 percent of the Unrestricted budget comes from the State; ADA and revenue are the biggest piece. There is approximately \$170+ million of revenue for kids going to school and our ADA has leveled off. Schools have to make the difficult decisions about what to buy with their funds.*

*Mr. Hal said McClymonds does not have a counselor. McClymonds is a high school with less than 300 kids. We can pose the question if the school should be open and at what point. There were three high schools on that campus with enrollments of 250 each. We are trying to offer all our academic A-G offerings because we owe it to the kids.*

*Mr. Hal said there are \$3 million in a Balancing Pool which goes to schools to provide the bare minimum. He would like to address the 700 to 1 counseling ratio.*

*Mr. Hal talked about the community schools model. That is a work in progress and will look at the quality of our schools. Some of the work that has been done is not sustainable. We have to look at it holistically and be equitable for all of our offerings.*

*Chairperson Hodge said class size reduction makes a difference, but we cannot afford it.*

*Sharon Higgins said there is a lot of talk about spending a lot of money and taxes in producing results.*

*Robert Spencer said one of the most commonly cited facts is that we are the most improved urban school district over the last six years. What practices can we attribute to that success?*

*Barbara Gee, Executive Officer, Human Resources, stated she has seen the data inquiry disciplines that were not there before. We do RBI three times a year. We also have a strong handle on managing structure. Effective teachers will help us produce the test scores. With a community schools vision, we have a more holistic score card.*

*Ms. Loeser said class size reduction is a major issue. A few families will be leaving our*

*school district because we do not have class size reduction. There is inequality. All the QEIA schools have ridiculously small class sizes. She is concerned about class size reduction.*

*Mr. Hal said the state maximums are 36. With what we get of U S. dollars, what we have left to spend, 85% of that goes to schools. If you add a small number of schools, we could probably do more things.*

*Ms. Loeser said she can't see that RBB changed at all.*

*Ms. Hardy continued her review of the 2010-11 Measure G Proposed Budget:*

*TO MAINTAIN ELECTIVE COURSES FOR STUDENTS  
1598 Middle School Electives (3) - \$922,815*

*The allocation all goes to middle schools in the District.*

*ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS - ALAMEDA COUNTY  
9000 County Collection Fee - \$366,955*

*Ms. Hardy said we have created a new subset for the County Collection Fee. Taxes are paid twice a year.*

**Discussed**



## **11-0659**

### **Amendment - Measure "G" Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight Committee Bylaws**

Discussion and possible adoption of recommendation to the Board of Education requesting Amendment of the Measure "G" Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight Committee Bylaws, Committee Duties, adding Section 5(d) - By June 1 annually, or other date determined by Committee, provide an advisory opinion to the Board of Education, prior to the annual adoption of the District's budget, as to whether District's proposed annual Measure "G" expenditures, in the opinion of the Committee, are consistent with or likely to conform to the intent and purposes of Measure "G".

**Attachments:** [09-2093 - Bylaws - Measure "G" Parcel Tax Oversight Committee](#)

*Chairperson Hodges stated the Measure G Bylaws gives the Measure G Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight Committee responsibility and guidelines as to Education Parcel Tax revenues received and expended in the preceding year. Section 9 allows for timely recommendation to the Board.*

*Chairperson Hodges said he discussed this with staff. The Committee has not completed the two-year post review and the Committee may be unable to express opinions about the various allocations. The Committee will be asking the District for authority to participate in the process at an earlier stage.*

*Chairperson Hodges read the proposed amendment listed on the agenda:*



*Approval by Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Measure G Committee, of Amendment of the Measure G Parcel Tax Independent Citizens Oversight Committee Bylaws, Committee Duties, adding Section 5(d) - By June 1 annually, or other date determined by Committee, provide an advisory opinion to the Board of Education, prior to the annual adoption of the District's budget, as to whether District's proposed annual Measure G expenditures, in the opinion of the Committee, are consistent with or likely to conform to the intent and purposes of Measure G.*

*Mary Loeser said June 1 is late as budgets are made up in March. The committee opinion process should start earlier if we are going to have an impact on the budget process.*

*Chairperson Hodges said we have to deal with the process. We believe that this will allow it to get on the agenda for committee.*

*Sharon Higgins asked when we will start the process for 2012-13?*

*Vernon Hal, Deputy Superintendent, Business & Operations, said we get information from the Governor by January 10. For next year we will start the conversation a lot earlier. We have to start the budget development cycle earlier, especially for Measure G.*

*Ms. Loeser asked what would be the point of meeting before January if we do not get the information?*

**A motion was made by Roseann Torres, seconded by Mary Loeser, that this matter be Recommended Favorably as Amended. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** Adv Aye: 0  
Adv Nay: 0  
Adv Abstain: 0  
Aye: 7 - Bonnie Trinclisti, Robert Spencer, Roseann Torres, Sharon Higgins, Mary Loeser, Juana Barajas and Sylvester Hodges  
Nay: 0  
Recused: 0  
Preferential Aye: 0  
Preferential Abstention: 0  
Preferential Nay: 0

## **G. Public Comments on All Non-Agenda Items Within the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of the Committee**

*None*

## **H. Introduction of New Matter(s)**

*Committee Members by agreed to schedule the next Committee Meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2011, at 6:00 P.M.*

## I. Adjournment

*Chairperson Hodges adjourned the meeting at 7:55 P.M.*

Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_