

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
BOARD RETREAT**

JUNE 9, 2009

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Marin Community Foundation
Oak Room
5 Hamilton Landing, Suite 200, Novato**

The Board shall act on posted items and shall not deliberate items that are not on the posted agenda.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to access the Board meeting room or to otherwise participate at this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact Bob Balestreri at 485-9414. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the Board meeting.

If you wish to speak, complete card available at entrance, give card to recording secretary, get recognition from the Chair. Public comment presentations will be limited to no more than 3 minutes each.

Government Code §54957.5 states that public records which relate to any item on the open session agenda for a regular Board meeting should be made available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Board. The Board has designated the Office of the Superintendent/President at 835 College Avenue, Administrative Center 123, Kentfield for the purpose of making those public records available for inspection.

AGENDA

9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Coffee (8:45 to 9:00 a.m.)

I. Welcome/Introductions (9:00 to 9:05 a.m.)
Board President Kranenburg

II. Call to Order, Roll Call and Adoption of Agenda (9:05 to 9:10 a.m.)

III. Comments from the Public (9:10 to 9:20 a.m.)

IV. Retreat Agenda Overview (9:20 to 9:25 a.m.)
Board President Kranenburg

V. Excellence in Trustee Leadership (Part 1) - (9:25 to 10:30 a.m.)
Bill McGinnis

Break (10:30 to 10:45 a.m.)

VI. Excellence in Trustee Leadership (Part 2) (10:45 to 12:00 p.m.)
Bill McGinnis

Lunch (12:00 to 12:30 p.m.)

VII. Excellence in Trustee Leadership (Part 3) (12:30 to 1:30 p.m.)
Bill McGinnis

A. Call to Order

B. Approve Revised Board Policy 2315 Closed Sessions

XIII. Adjournment

Dinner (5:30 p.m.)

BACKGROUND:

At the March 17, 2009 Board of Trustees meeting, a recommended proposal to revise a Board Policy in Chapter 2, Board of Trustees, was included in the agenda for a first reading.

At the time of second reading on April 21, it was requested that BP 2315 Closed Session be removed from the agenda to include additional legal citations to back up assertions made within the body of the Board Policy. The following sections were added to the policy to provide further clarification and verification: Civil Procedure Code Section 803 and Government Code Sections 3060 et seq., 54957.2, and 54963.

After review by the Board, the following Board Policy is hereby presented for a second reading and Board approval:

- BP 2315 Closed Session

RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent/President recommends that the Board of Trustees approve adoption of Board Policy 2315.

Closed sessions of the Board of Trustees shall only be held as permitted by applicable legal provisions including but not limited to the Brown Act, California Government Code, and California Education Code. Matters discussed in closed session may include:

- the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline or dismissal of a public employee;
- charges or complaints brought against a public employee by another person or employee, unless the accused public employee requests that the complaints or charges be heard in an open session. The employee shall be given at least twenty-four (24) hours written notice of the closed session;
- advice of counsel on pending litigation, as defined by law;
- consideration of tort liability claims as part of the District's membership in any joint powers agency formed for purposes of insurance pooling;
- Discuss labor disputes with the State Conciliator mediator) when he/she has intervened as authorized by law; (Government Code Section 54957.6)
- Examine any witnesses in a matter being investigated by the Board;
- real property transactions;
- threats to public security;
- review of the District's position regarding labor negotiations and giving instructions to the District's designated negotiator;
- discussion of student disciplinary action, with final action taken in public;
- conferring of honorary degrees;
- consideration of gifts from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous; and/or
- to consider its response to a confidential final draft audit report from the Bureau of State Audits.

The agenda for each regular or special meeting shall contain information regarding whether a closed session will be held and shall identify the topics to be discussed in any closed session in the manner required by law.

After any closed session, the Board of Trustees shall reconvene in open session before adjourning and shall announce any actions taken in closed session and the vote of every member present.

- ~~g) Discuss among the Board's members or with the Board's representatives whether expulsion, suspension, or discipline of any student when such disclosure may violate the Education Code. E.C. 72122, 48914 (c)~~
- ~~d) Consider legal matters which come within the attorney-client privilege.~~
- ~~e) Discuss labor disputes with the State Conciliator (mediator) when he/she has intervened as authorized by law. G.C. 54957.6~~
- ~~f) Discuss negotiation positions and proposals received from employee exclusive bargaining agents or to be made to them by the Board. G.C. 54957.6~~
- ~~g) Discuss matters of school security with law enforcement agents or agencies.~~
- ~~h) Examine any witnesses in a matter being investigated by the Board. G.C. 54957~~

~~The Board shall reveal the general reason or reasons for closed sessions and report at the next public meeting any action taken in such session and the roll call vote thereon, to appoint, employ, or dismiss any public employee. An exception to the announcement of the roll call exists if the vote is unanimous. G.C. 54957.1~~

Confidential notes of closed sessions shall be kept by the Board Secretary, and shall not be a public record. G.C. 54957.2

❖ **From current College of Marin Policy 1.2050 titled Removal**

Repeated violations of the confidentiality of closed sessions by a Board member shall be grounds for referral to the Grand Jury removal from office.

Also see BP 2715 titled Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice

giving out of information concerning students which would be in violation of state or federal law regarding the privacy of student records.

Before calling a closed session of the governing board of the district to consider these matters, the governing board of the district shall, in writing, by registered or certified mail or by personal service, if the student is a minor, notify the student and his or her parent or guardian, or the student if the student is an adult, of the intent of the governing board of the district to call and hold the closed session. Unless the student, or his or her parent, or guardian shall, in writing, within 48 hours after receipt of the written notice of intention, request that the hearing of the governing board be held as a public meeting, then the hearing to consider those matters shall be conducted by the governing board in closed session. If the written request is served upon the clerk or secretary of the governing board, the meeting shall be public except that any discussion at the meeting that might be in conflict with the right to privacy of any student other than the student requesting the public meeting or on behalf of whom the meeting is requested, shall be in closed session. Whether the matter is considered at a closed session or at a public meeting, the final action of the governing board of the community college district shall be taken at a public meeting and the result of that action shall be a public record of the community college district.

The governing board of a community college district may hold closed sessions to consider the conferring of honorary degrees or to consider gifts from a donor who wants to remain anonymous.

Civil Procedure Code Section 803

803. An action may be brought by the attorney-general, in the name of the people of this state, upon his own information, or upon a complaint of a private party, against any person who usurps, intrudes into, or unlawfully holds or exercises any public office, civil or military, or any franchise, or against any corporation, either de jure or de facto, which usurps, intrudes into, or unlawfully holds or exercises any franchise, within this state. And the attorney-general must bring the action, whenever he has reason to believe that any such office or franchise has been usurped, intruded into, or unlawfully held or exercised by any person, or when he is directed to do so by the governor.

whom its negotiators may negotiate.

For purposes of this section, negotiators may be members of the legislative body of the local agency.

For purposes of this section, "lease" includes renewal or renegotiation of a lease.

Nothing in this section shall preclude a local agency from holding a closed session for discussions regarding eminent domain proceedings pursuant to Section 54956.9.

54956.9. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a legislative body of a local agency, based on advice of its legal counsel, from holding a closed session to confer with, or receive advice from, its legal counsel regarding pending litigation when discussion in open session concerning those matters would prejudice the position of the local agency in the litigation.

For purposes of this chapter, all expressions of the lawyer-client privilege other than those provided in this section are hereby abrogated. This section is the exclusive expression of the lawyer-client privilege for purposes of conducting closed-session meetings pursuant to this chapter.

For purposes of this section, "litigation" includes any adjudicatory proceeding, including eminent domain, before a court, administrative body exercising its adjudicatory authority, hearing officer, or arbitrator.

For purposes of this section, litigation shall be considered pending when any of the following circumstances exist:

(a) Litigation, to which the local agency is a party, has been initiated formally.

(b) (1) A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the legislative body of the local agency on the advice of its legal counsel, based on existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the local agency.

employee of the local agency receiving knowledge of the threat makes a contemporaneous or other record of the statement prior to the meeting, which record shall be available for public inspection pursuant to Section 54957.5. The records so created need not identify the alleged victim of unlawful or tortious sexual conduct or anyone making the threat on their behalf, or identify a public employee who is the alleged perpetrator of any unlawful or tortious conduct upon which a threat of litigation is based, unless the identity of the person has been publicly disclosed.

(F) Nothing in this section shall require disclosure of written communications that are privileged and not subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 of Title 1).

(c) Based on existing facts and circumstances, the legislative body of the local agency has decided to initiate or is deciding whether to initiate litigation.

Prior to holding a closed session pursuant to this section, the legislative body of the local agency shall state on the agenda or publicly announce the subdivision of this section that authorizes the closed session. If the session is closed pursuant to subdivision (a), the body shall state the title of or otherwise specifically identify the litigation to be discussed, unless the body states that to do so would jeopardize the agency's ability to effectuate service of process upon one or more unserved parties, or that to do so would jeopardize its ability to conclude existing settlement negotiations to its advantage.

A local agency shall be considered to be a "party" or to have a "significant exposure to litigation" if an officer or employee of the local agency is a party or has significant exposure to litigation concerning prior or prospective activities or alleged activities during the course and scope of that office or employment, including litigation in which it is an issue whether an activity is outside the course and scope of the office or employment.

employee personally or by mail at least 24 hours before the time for holding the session. If notice is not given, any disciplinary or other action taken by the legislative body against the employee based on the specific complaints or charges in the closed session shall be null and void.

(3) The legislative body also may exclude from the public or closed meeting, during the examination of a witness, any or all other witnesses in the matter being investigated by the legislative body.

(4) For the purposes of this subdivision, the term "employee" shall include an officer or an independent contractor who functions as an officer or an employee but shall not include any elected official, member of a legislative body or other independent contractors. Nothing in this subdivision shall limit local officials' ability to hold closed session meetings pursuant to Sections 1461, 32106, and 32155 of the Health and Safety Code or Sections 37606 and 37624.3 of the Government Code. Closed sessions held pursuant to this subdivision shall not include discussion or action on proposed compensation except for a reduction of compensation that results from the imposition of discipline.

54957.6. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a legislative body of a local agency may hold closed sessions with the local agency's designated representatives regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of its represented and unrepresented employees, and, for represented employees, any other matter within the statutorily provided scope of representation.

However, prior to the closed session, the legislative body of the local agency shall hold an open and public session in which it identifies its designated representatives.

Closed sessions of a legislative body of a local agency, as permitted in this section, shall be for the purpose of reviewing its position and instructing the local agency's designated representatives.

chapter.

(c) Violation of this section may be addressed by the use of such remedies as are currently available by law, including, but not limited to:

- (1) Injunctive relief to prevent the disclosure of confidential information prohibited by this section.
- (2) Disciplinary action against an employee who has willfully disclosed confidential information in violation of this section.
- (3) Referral of a member of a legislative body who has willfully disclosed confidential information in violation of this section to the grand jury.

(d) Disciplinary action pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision

(c) shall require that the employee in question has either received training as to the requirements of this section or otherwise has been given notice of the requirements of this section.

(e) A local agency may not take any action authorized by subdivision (c) against a person, nor shall it be deemed a violation of this section, for doing any of the following:

- (1) Making a confidential inquiry or complaint to a district attorney or grand jury concerning a perceived violation of law, including disclosing facts to a district attorney or grand jury that are necessary to establish the illegality of an action taken by a legislative body of a local agency or the potential illegality of an action that has been the subject of deliberation at a closed session if that action were to be taken by a legislative body of a local agency.
- (2) Expressing an opinion concerning the propriety or legality of actions taken by a legislative body of a local agency in closed session, including disclosure of the nature and extent of the illegal or potentially illegal action.
- (3) Disclosing information acquired by being present in a closed session under this chapter that is not confidential information.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit disclosures under the whistleblower statutes contained in Section 1102.5 of the Labor Code or Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 53296) of Chapter 2 of this code.

11125.4. (a) A special meeting may be called at any time by the presiding officer of the state body or by a majority of the members of the state body. A special meeting may only be called for one of the following purposes when compliance with the 10-day notice provisions of Section 11125 would impose a substantial hardship on the state body or when immediate action is required to protect the public interest:

- (1) To consider "pending litigation" as that term is defined in subdivision (e) of Section 11126.

specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted. The written notice shall additionally specify the address of the Internet Web site where notices required by this article are made available. No other business shall be considered at a special meeting by the state body. The written notice may be dispensed with as to any member who at or prior to the time the meeting convenes files with the clerk or secretary of the state body a written waiver of notice. The waiver may be given by telegram, facsimile transmission, or similar means. The written notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes. Notice shall be required pursuant to this section regardless of whether any action is taken at the special meeting.

(c) At the commencement of any special meeting, the state body must make a finding in open session that the delay necessitated by providing notice 10 days prior to a meeting as required by Section 11125 would cause a substantial hardship on the body or that immediate action is required to protect the public interest. The finding shall set forth the specific facts that constitute the hardship to the body or the impending harm to the public interest. The finding shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the body, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present. The finding shall be made available on the Internet. Failure to adopt the finding terminates the meeting.