

**Irvine Unified School District**  
Irvine, California

**Board of Education**  
**Minutes of Special Meeting**  
**January 7, 2010**

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**Call to Order**

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Wallin at 7:32 a.m., in the District Administration Center, 5050 Barranca Parkway, Irvine, California.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was led by Member Huntley-Fenner and was followed by a moment of silence.

**Roll Call**

**Members Present:**

Gavin Huntley-Fenner, Sue Kuwabara, Carolyn McInerney, Sharon Wallin

**Members Absent:**

Mike Parham (excused)

**Staff:**

Gwen Gross, Superintendent of Schools  
Lisa Howell, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
Cassie Parham, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services  
Terry Walker, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Lee Brooks, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

**Other Staff:**

Mary Bevernick, Ian Hanigan, Rick Seibert, Lauren Sipelis

**Adoption of the Agenda**

On the motion of Member Kuwabara, seconded by Member McInerney and carried 4-0, the Board adopted the agenda, as presented.

## **Items of Business**

### **California's Race to the Top Participating Local Agency Memorandum of Understanding**

Assistant Superintendent Parham expressed support for signing California's Race to the Top (RTTT) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and reviewed components of the Superintendent's Goals and Objectives and the District's Continuous Improvement Efforts which already directly support the core reform areas of the RTTT program.

Speaking to the topic:

Rick Seibert, ITA President

Board members expressed various viewpoints and discussed the benefits and concerns relative to signing the MOU. Member Huntley-Fenner discussed the rationale to support signing including alignment with district goals, additional funding to support those goals, and an opportunity to enhance the evaluation process with teacher involvement. Member Wallin argued against signing due to the ambiguity of the State's plan which has not yet been developed, unclear exit criteria, limited funding (estimated at \$140-\$180,000 over four years), and the distinct possibility of another underfunded mandate.

On the motion of Member McInerney, seconded by Member Huntley-Fenner and carried 3-1 (Member Wallin voting "No"), the Board approved the submission of the California Race to the Top Memorandum of Understanding to the California Department of Education, to include a cover letter outlining specific contingencies relative to the District's participation.

## **Adjournment**

On the motion of Member McInerney, seconded by Member Kuwabara and carried 4-0, there being no further Board of Education business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Sharon Wallin  
Board President

Gwen E. Gross, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools