

**MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MARIN PUPIL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

**MINUTES
May 13, 2025**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Megan Atkins (Larkspur-Corte Madera), Chris Carson – 9:11 a.m. (Ross Valley), Corbett Elsen (Tamalpais), Chris Kim (Reed), Robert Marcucci (San Rafael Elementary & High School Districts) & Carol Slender (Ross).

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael Ghebregziabher (Kentfield), Paula Rigney (Mill Valley) & Gina Murphy-Garrett (Sausalito–Marin City).

STAFF PRESENT:

Dennis Petri, Executive Director
Melissa Remy – Incoming Executive Director

GUESTS:

Christina Posedel – San Rafael City Schools Accounting Manager
Stacey Tachiki – Marin County Office of Education Director of Special Education

I. CALL TO ORDER (9:03 a.m.):

Chairperson Bob Marcucci called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. in the Board of Trustees Room at San Rafael City Schools District Office. 310 Nova Albion Way in San Rafael.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT: (9:03 a.m.)

There were no public comments.

III. ACTION SESSION

- 1. Review & Possible Action on the Agenda (9:04 a.m.):** – Members approved the Agenda as presented.

(M/Corbett Elsen, S/Carol Slender)

Vote by member:

Aye: Atkins, Elsen, Kim, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHS, Slender
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Carson, Ghebregziabher, Murphy-Garrett, Rigney

- 2. Review and Possible Action on Increase to Rates Charged to Non-MPTA School Districts for Students Transported. Proposed Rate Hike is in consideration of the 40.5% cost increase for transportation due to the new transportation contract. The proposed rate hike for Non-MPTA School District riders will be effective July 1, 2025 (9:04 a.m. to 9:14 a.m.)** –

(This agenda item was initially on the March 11 & April 15, 2025 meeting agendas. No action was taken at either meeting. Members asked for further review on this Action item with new information and options for possible implementation).

Chairperson Marcucci spoke of our Zoom conference with the incoming Superintendent and current Chief Business Official of the Miller Creek School District. Marcucci discussed our Board of Directors' concerns regarding this issue. During our discussion – which Melissa and I attended as well – MCSD's CBO stated she budgeted an increase in rates of 40.5% due to First Student's new contract rates.

At the end of the meeting, Chairperson Marcucci said he would discuss with our Board of Directors the options available to provide an appropriate rate hike for non-MPTA member school districts while still encouraging MCSD to contract with the MPTA for transportation services for their students with special needs as appropriate.

The Board approved Option 2 of the 3 options presented for non-MPTA school district transportation rates. Option 2 states new charges – effective July 1, 2025 – are **\$105.00 per day round trip / \$70.00 per day one-way trip.**

(M/Carol Slender, S/Chris Kim)

Vote by member:

Aye: Atkins, Elsen, Kim, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHS, Slender
Nay: Carson
Abstention: No members
Absent: Ghebregziabher, Murphy-Garrett, Rigney

Note: Vice-Chairperson Chris Carson joined the meeting at 9:11 a.m. as Action Item 2 was under discussion.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA (9:15 a.m. to 9:16 a.m.):

CA-1. Possible Action on the Minutes of April 15, 2025 Board Meeting.

CA-2. Acknowledge & Accept a letter from the Marin County Office of Education approving the MPTA's Second Interim Reporting Period Report. Letter dated April 15, 2025.

CA-3. Possible Action on the letter received from School & College Legal Services of California on "2025-2026 Annual Notice to Parents." Memo No. 05-2025. This message was dated April 22, 2025.

CA-4. Possible Action on Financial Documents as follows:

a. Approve vendor warrants paid for the period of April 1, 2025 through April 30, 2025 in the amount of **\$119,998.71.**

CA-5. Acknowledge & Accept Monthly Student Count Tally Sheets as follows:

a. April 2025

CA-6. Acknowledge & Accept Spreadsheets of Students Listed by School of Attendance.

a. April 2025

Chairperson Marcucci introduced the Consent Agenda. There were no questions from the Board of Directors, so Chairperson Marcucci made a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

(M/Corbett Elsen, S/Carol Slender)

Vote by member:

Aye: Atkins, Carson, Elsen, Kim, Marcucci for SRES, Marcucci for SRHSD, Slender
Nay: No members
Abstention: No members
Absent: Ghebregziabher, Murphy-Garrett, Rigney

V. DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Time Certain – Transportation Issues & Discussion (9:16 a.m.): - This time is set aside for discussion with representative(s) of the Marin County Office of Education.

Stacey Tachiki – MCOE’s Director of Special Education – was in attendance. She reported the following:

a. For the Extended School Year (ESY): - Two (2) classrooms at Hamilton School in Novato will not have to relocate for the ESY session – as originally expected.

b. Also for the ESY session: The MCOE classroom located at Tamalpais High school will move to the Redwood High School campus due to school site construction. This class will join the other two (2) MCOE classes already located at Redwood High. The MCOE class at Tam HS will combine with Redwood 175 for ESY.

c. For the 2025-2026 School Year: The MCOE classroom noted above – Tamalpais High – will need to find a new home due to ongoing construction at Tamalpais High School. A new location has not yet been identified.

d. Also for the 2025-2026 School Year: One TK/K classroom currently located at Marindale EI, will relocate to Vallecito School in San Rafael.

e. There will be some configuration of classes at Marindale EI & Magnolia Park EI sites for the 2025-2026 school year as follows: The plan is for 4 Pre-K classes and 5 TK/K classes total amongst the 2 school sites. The plan is for 4 pre-k classrooms at Marindale, with DHH Early Start and DHH PreK/TK staying at Mag Park.

This discussion ended at 9:18 a.m. The Board thanked Stacey for her attendance and input.

2. **Executive Director's Report (9:18 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.):**

a. **Second Look at the 2025-2026 Budget & Bill Back figures:**

Director Petri asked the Board to use the projected budget figure in Column 8 of the Bill Back Spreadsheet (located on Page 40 of the Agenda packet) for their district's transportation budget planning for the 2025-2026 school year. These are the same financial figures presented last month to the Board of Directors.

b. **2025-2026 Budget Public Hearing & Adoption Information:**

The proposed Budget is now available for public input. It is posted on our website, as well as at the offices of the Marin County Office of Education and San Rafael City Schools district office.

The Public Hearing will be held on June 3, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at San Rafael City Schools District Office, 2nd floor meeting room.

c. **Golden Bell Award:**

Petri noted that the MPTA won the Golden Bell Award for the third time! Presentation of the award will be on May 22, 2025, at the Dominican University campus in San Rafael.

Previously we received Golden Bell Awards in 2013, 2022 and now 2025!

d. **Extended School Year (ESY) 2025 Calendar – updated:**

Petri included an updated ESY calendar for the Board's information.

3. **Executive Director Transition – Discussion & Progress (9:22 a.m.)**

a. For future discussion, Vice-Chairperson Chris Carson asked that the topic of how and what non-MPTA school districts are charged for transportation costs should be reviewed. One possible idea is to align their costs to what the member districts pay on a per child cost structure. Non-MPTA school districts should not pay any less than member districts do currently.

b. Secretary Corbett Elsen suggested a multi-year approach to change or correct non-MPTA member districts fees for transportation.

4. **Future agenda items requested by Board members (9:24 a.m.)**
 - a. The Board of Directors said they may wish to look at options for meeting dates, times, and location for future years.
5. **Reminder of next meeting date.**

June 10, 2025

VI. ADJOURNMENT: 9:27 a.m.

Public Records:

In accordance with Government Code section 54957.5 and the Public Records Act, public records that are distributed to a majority of the Board of Directors concerning open session agenda items will be made available upon request by emailing Dennis Petri at dpetri@marinschools.org or by calling (415) 258-8511. Such records distributed during a public meeting will be made available for inspection at the meeting if prepared by the Agency, or after the meeting if prepared by another party.

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