



PFT Staff <union@pft1603.org>

Fw: PCCD Board Watch 11.14.17 ed.

1 message

Matthew Goldstein <mgoldstein@peralta.edu>
To: PFT 1603 <union@pft1603.org>

Fri, Jan 19, 2018 at 12:29 PM

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From: Jennifer Shanoski
Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2017 8:24 AM
To: Jennifer Shanoski
Subject: PCCD Board Watch 11.14.17 ed.

PFT led the dance at the Nov. 14 meeting of the Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees, a road-show stop at Berkeley City College.

Prior to the meeting, BP 6340, which would have increased the threshold required for Board approval was pulled from the agenda after the PFT raised serious concerns.

Another concern raised by the union focused on the district's radical downward revision of its reserves—some \$12 million suddenly erased. Trustees pulled a routine agenda item and opened it up for discussion. The board's move came after the troubling change came to light in the last PFT e-Communique.

In the BCC auditorium, PFT President Jennifer Shanoski questioned the budget blunders made apparent by reviewing the district's Quarterly Financial Statement Report and the budget presentation done at Laney College a few weeks ago. Oddly, at the end of the meeting, the board hailed the Peralta finance team for its "bravery" in finally bringing forth an honest accounting; it didn't acknowledge PFT, without whose vigilance the budget issues would likely have gone unnoticed.

Ultimately, the BoT voted 6-1 to approve the report, Berkeley's hometown trustee Nicky González-Yuen the lone no. PFT remains deeply skeptical about the district's repeated claim that the drop comes from unexpected increases in pension contributions, medical costs, and part-time salaries. STRS and PERS bumps were well publicized across the state and energetically discussed within the district, healthcare prices have stabilized over the last few years, and the district has

repeatedly lowballed part-time expenditures in preliminary budgets. In fact, part-time expenditures listed in the 17-18 budget book were almost \$2 million lower in 16-17 than in 15-16!

Clearly, the trouble is with administrative overspending and feckless budgeting.

In other news:

*At its Nov. 16 meeting, PFT's Executive Council unanimously voted to oppose the Oakland A's proposal to build a baseball stadium on Peralta land. The vote came after reps from the union's A's Working Group urged that PFT take a no-stadium position, a recommendation based on member surveys, consideration of position papers, and forums held at each of the colleges.

*Join PFT for its annual winter party, Th., Dec. 14, 5-7 p.m., at union HQ ([500 E. Eighth St., Ste. B, Oakland](#), catty-corner from district A&R). Local 1603's holiday get-down is, far and away, Peralta's liveliest. "Damning with faint praise," you say? Come see—and eat and drink—for yourself. RSVP to union@pft1603.org by Dec. 11.

Have a safe, happy, and healthy holiday!

In solidarity,

Jennifer Shanoski, President

Peralta Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 1603

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Follow the union on Twitter [@PFT1603](#), and like PFT on [Facebook](#), too. Keep up with the trustees' latest at [BoardDocs.com](#) and on [YouTube](#). Note: the Nov. 14 PCCD BoT meeting was not recorded, apparently due to technical deficiencies at the off-district site.