

**Irvine Unified School District**  
*Irvine, California*

**Board of Education**  
**Minutes of Special Meeting**  
**October 26, 2004**

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***Call to Order***

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President McInerney at 4:04 p.m. in the District Administration Center, 5050 Barranca Parkway, Irvine, CA.

***Pledge of Allegiance***

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was led by President McInerney and was followed by a moment of silence.

***Roll Call***

**Members Present:**

Steven Choi, Sue Kuwabara, Sharon Wallin, Carolyn McInerney

**Members Absent:**

Debbie Coven (excused)

**Staff:**

Dean Waldfogel, Superintendent  
Sue Long, Deputy Superintendent, Human Resources  
Vern Medeiros, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Financial Officer  
Leah Laule, Asst. Superintendent, Education Services  
Lee Brooks, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

**Other Staff:**

Jan Benner, Mary Cliff, Janelle Cranch, Steve Garretson, Joe Hoffman, Liz Krogsdale,  
Jennifer Labrado, Chris Lohrman, Nancy Melgares

***Special Education Study Session***

Superintendent Waldfogel reviewed the topics to be discussed including revenue and expense trends, budget increases and impacts, and proposed action plans to address budget and program goals. Deputy Superintendent Vern Medeiros provided an in-depth look at the special education budget, documenting an ongoing encroachment to the General Fund and stagnant funding by both the State and federal governments. Special Education Director

Nancy Melgares reviewed program challenges including substantial increases in identified students and mandated service costs, inaccurate data collection and reporting, and intensified legal challenges. Recommended action plans were presented by Assistant Superintendent Leah Laule including increasing program staff to monitor expenditures, professional audit of contracts and services, review of the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process, improved data collection via upgraded software, and increased legislative action.

Member Wallin reported that the California Association of Suburban School Districts (CALSSD) organization has expressed interest in writing a bill in support of full funding for special education funding.

### ***Adjournment***

There being no further Board of Education business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Carolyn McInerney  
President

Dean Waldfogel  
Superintendent