

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

F-3

Meeting Date: October 26, 2010

Item Title: Report on the Condition of AUSD Swimming Pools

Item Type: Information

BACKGROUND: On October 20th, the Superintendent hosted a community meeting to inform students, parents and the public as to the status of the recently closed pools at AHS and EHS. On October 21, 2010, the District posted the documents relating to the pool closure, which it had previously received from the City of Alameda on October 12th, on its website, www.alameda.k12.ca.us

Currently, the District is working with City Staff to verify that the repairs have been satisfactorily completed and to get the pools open again as soon as possible. Moreover, the District has retained the services of the Aquatic Design Group to help determine the most appropriate course of action to meet County compliance standards as put forth in AB 1020. Failure to comply with AB 1020 could result in significant safety hazards, as well as the imposition of hundreds of thousands of dollars in monetary fines against the District.

Staff will provide information and updates on current status of pool closures.

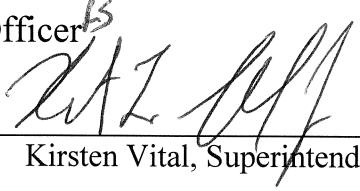
FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: Pending evaluations and recommendations made by the Aquatic Design Group

RECOMMENDATION: Receive information as presented

AUSD Guiding Principle: #6-Allocation of funds must support our vision, mission, and guiding principles

Submitted by: Robert Shemwell, Chief Business Officer^{BS}

Approved for Submission to Board of Education


Kirsten Vital, Superintendent

for K. V.

Status report on condition of Emma Hood Swim Center and Encinal Swim Center.

Maintenance, Operations & Facilities

October 26, 2010

What happened - Title XIV Pool and Spa Safety 15 USC 8001

- Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) and City of Alameda (City) had a joint use agreement in effect, prior to the new federal and state pool and spa safety law, on maintaining, cleaning and scheduling the operations of the swimming pools at Alameda High School and Encinal High School.

- Federal Title XIV Pool and Spa Safety 15 USC 8001 - The *Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act* (P&SS Act) law became effective on December 19, 2008. Under the law, all public pools and spas must have ASME/ANSI A112.19.8-2007 compliant drain covers installed and a second anti-entrapment system installed, when there is a single main drain other than an unblockable drain.

Timeline

- The City, in communication with Director of Maintenance for AUSD (MOF), was working with Alameda County Department of Public Health to make repairs to both pools in order to comply with the new law.
- During summer of 2010, City completed repairs to drain gates and sumps.
- In September of 2010, City received certification from an engineering company, certifying that the main drains in the pools at the Emma Hood and Encinal Swim Centers conformed to the ASME/ANSI A112.19.8a-2008 regulation of the pool safety act as relates to the Federal law.

Timeline

- In January 2010, California legislation regarding public swimming pools and spas passed (Assembly Bill 1020). This new law required 1) adoption of the federal drain cover standard, and 2) compliance with additional safety requirements by July 1, 2010.
- May/June 2010 – City meets with contractor to develop scope of work.
- June 2010 – Contractor begins work on drains/drain covers.
- June 2010 – City and Director of MOF met to discuss new code requirements. City is working with County Health inspector and consultant, Arch-Pac, Inc., on necessary measures to take for compliance.
- July 2010 – City submits scope of work to County and contractor completes additional drain work.

Additional Timeline

- July 1, 2010 – City receives letter from Alameda County Department of Public Health regarding public swimming pools and spas (Assembly Bill 1020) reminder that public pools must be in compliance.
- October 7, 2010 –City receives faxed letter from Alameda County Department of Public Health, referring to VGB Pool and Spa Safety Act and AB 2010 and asking for further information regarding code violations at Encinal Swim Center.
- October 12, 2010 - City and Director of MOF meet to review County Public Health documentation and call Aquatic Design consultant to schedule a meeting to assess pool structures at both swim centers.
- October 14, 2010 - City and Director of MOF meet with Dennis Berkshire of Aquatic Designs and review with him both swim centers. Information is shared with Executive Cabinet and Superintendent. Decision is made to comply with County Department of Public Health and close pools until AUSD has confirmation that pools are legally compliant and safe for use.

Next Steps

- AUSD and City are working together to ensure the pools are safe and so they can be open for student and public use as soon as possible.
- Both High School site administrators have communicated alternative pool sites and schedules to all swim students and families. AUSD is providing transportation to the alternative sites.
- AUSD is contracting the services of Aquatic Design consultants. Aquatic Design will be responsible for studying all pool facilities at AUSD in order to make a recommendation to AUSD and the City concerning compliance requirements at both swim centers.