



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 5, 2015

Closed Session 6:00 p.m./Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mr. Joe Nava, President; Mr. Ron Freitas, Clerk (*via teleconference*); Ms. Bonnie Cassel; Mr. Ron Heberle; Dr. Daryl Talken and Mr. Ralph Womack

Board Member Absent: Mr. George Neely, Vice President

Administrative Staff: Dr. Cathy Washer, Superintendent; Mr. Tim Hern, Associate Superintendent/CBO; and Mr. Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel

Student Representatives: Mr. Ryan Ozminkowski, Lodi High School and Ms. Alexa Douros, Tokay High School

Meeting Recorder: Ms. Valerie McFee, Executive Assistant to the Board

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the James Areida Education Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

Ms. Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association, Chapter #77, spoke regarding current negotiations between the District and the classified unit that she represents. She distributed a salary comparison showing selected classified positions in Lodi Unified as compared to surrounding districts. She asked that the Board consider this information when advising the District's negotiation representatives.

Mr. Jeff Johnston, President, Lodi Education Association, urged the Board that now is the time to act so that the negotiation process does not continue over the summer months. He noted that surrounding districts have settled with salary upgrades from three to eight percent for their teaching staff.

Mr. Johnston spoke regarding his optimism that a fair contract settlement could be reached before the end of the school year.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:08 p.m. Attendance was recorded and President Nava led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Nava reported on the following action taken in Closed Session:

- **Non Public School Students** – Dr. Talken motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board voted to approve the placement of Non-Public School Students 2014-15 numbers 101, 102 and 103, as follows:
 - Ayes: Cassel, Freitas, Heberle, Nava, Talken, Womack
 - No: None
 - Absent: Neely
 - Abstain: NoneMotion carried
- **CAHSEE Waivers** – Mr. Heberle motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board voted to approve California High School Exit Exam Waivers for students 2014/2015 numbers 28, 29 and 30, as follows:
 - Ayes: Cassel, Freitas, Heberle, Nava, Talken, Womack
 - No: None
 - Absent: Neely
 - Abstain: NoneMotion carried

Recognition

Michael David Family Foundation

Michael David Family Foundation members: Dave Phillips; Corene Phillips; Lori Phillips; Melissa Phillips Stroud and Connor Phillips were present to receive accolades for the foundation's continued support of Lodi Unified School District and for their commitment to students, education and the community.

Student Representatives to the Board of Education

On behalf of the Lodi Unified Board of Education, President Nava acknowledged Alexa Douros, Tokay High School and Ryan Ozminkowski, Lodi High School, for their year of service as Student Representatives to the Board of Education. They were each given a plaque as a thank you and to commemorate their year of service.

2015-2016 Lodi Unified Teacher of the Year

Mr. Joe Sandoval, Teacher, Bear Creek High School, was honored as Lodi Unified School District's 2015-2016 Teacher of the Year. Mr. Sandoval is currently one of four finalists for the San Joaquin Teacher of the Year award.

Science Olympiad Recognitions

The following Science Olympiad teams were recognized in the Elementary Division: Vinewood School's White Team, 1st Place and Elkhorn's Gold Team, 2nd Place. In the Middle School Division: Elkhorn School's Blue Team, 2nd Place and Elkhorn School's Gold team, 3rd Place. In the High School Division, Tokay High School's Purple Team took first place honors.

Recognition of the SkillsUSA Competition Winners

SkillsUSA winners from Bear Creek High School and Lodi High School were recognized for their recent achievements at the 48th annual SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Championships conducted in San Diego in April.

Recognition of the 1st Place Winner for the San Joaquin County Science Fair and NorCal/Sacramento Region Science Fair Competition

Mr. Erik Sandstrom, Principal, Tokay High School, recognized Tokay Student, Julie Fukunaga, as the first place winner of the San Joaquin County Science Fair and the NorCal/Sacramento Region Science Fair Competition.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Washer thanked those who supported the recent GOT Kids Casino Night, which is the foundation's main fundraiser. She reported that this year's event had the largest number of attendees. She thanked Lynn Aebi for chairing the event and Kim Collier and Valerie McFee for their assistance. Dr. Washer thanked Student Representatives, Alexa Douros and Ryan Ozminkowski; noting that she appreciated their input and voice as they represented their respective school sites over the course of the year. She wished them both well as they continue on their journey.

Consent Agenda A, Routine Business

Mr. Heberle motioned, Dr. Talken seconded and the Board members voted, as follows, to approve Consent Agenda A, Routine Business, as presented:

- Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget
- Item A-2 Contracts List
- Item A-3 Foundations in Personal Finance Course of Study
- Item A-4 Seminar 101 Course of Study and Textbook Adoption
- Item A-5 Introduction to Technology Course of Study
- Item A-6 Integrated Math 2 Course of Study
- Item A-7 Pre-AP Integrated Math 2 Course of Study
- Item A-8 Conceptual Physics Textbook Adoption
- Item A-9 Minutes of the Regular Meeting, April 21, 2015
- Item A-10 Resolution 2015-19 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Built-Up Roof Restoration Project at McNair High School #8005

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Ayes: Cassel, Freitas, Heberle, Nava, Talken, Womack

No: None

Absent: Neely

Abstain: None

Motion carried

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

- Item B-1 Expulsion: Student #14/15-8-73
- Item B-2 Expulsion: Student #14/15-10-74
- Item B-3 Expulsion: Student #14/15-9-75
- Item B-4 Expulsion: Student #14/15-10-76
- Item B-5 Expulsion: Student #14/15-11-77
- Item B-6 Expulsion: Student #14/15-12-78

Mr. Womack motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board members voted, as follows, to approve Consent Agenda B, Student Discipline Cases, as presented:

Ayes: Cassel, Freitas, Heberle, Nava, Talken, Womack

No: None

Absent: Neely

Abstain: None

Motion carried

Personnel Matters

Mr. Mike McKilligan, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel, presented Personnel Matters for Board consideration.

Mr. Heberle, motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board members voted, as follows, to approve Personnel Matters, as presented:

Ayes: Cassel, Freitas, Heberle, Nava, Talken, Womack

No: None

Absent: Neely

Abstain: None

Motion carried

Communications

Comments from Student Representatives

Ms. Alexa Douros, Tokay High School and Mr. Ryan Ozminkowski, Lodi High School, presented reports from their respective high schools.

Comments from the Public

To comply with the agenda, President Nava asked for cooperation from the audience by adhering to the (20) twenty minute time period allotted for public comments; thereby limiting the speakers to two (2) minutes per person.

Ms. Martha Snider, Teacher, Christa McAuliffe Middle School, updated Board regarding the April 25th event featuring Discovery Education at her school site. She referred those interested to the Christa McAuliffe website to view pictures of the event. She spoke of the benefits of expanding Discovery Education to every Lodi Unified school site.

Ms. Bridget Wilson, Paraeducator, Lodi High School, referenced the District's recruitment of a Coordinator for Positive Climate. She noted that school climate could also be improved by negotiating and treating employees with respect.

Ms. Monique Kenoly Bell, Youth Registration Coordinator, spoke regarding the first annual Frederick Douglass Essay Contest sponsored by The Frederick Douglass Foundation of California and the Black Student Union of San Joaquin Delta College. More information can be obtained on Facebook at @fdessaycontest.

Ms. Susie Faith, Speech Language Pathologist, asked the Board for consideration of increased compensation and reduced caseloads in the hopes of retaining current speech language pathologists and recruiting future speech professionals.

Ms. Nancy Harlow, commented regarding Board consideration to offer comparable salary, benefits and working conditions in an effort to retain quality speech language pathologists.

Ms. Sharon Lewis, School Psychologist, shared her view of the importance that speech language pathologists bring to the educational team and the need to compensate them when such educational team meetings take place during time when they are not being compensated along with their co-workers.

Ms. Laurie Kraljev, Speech Language Pathologist, related her view of compensation disparity of area school speech language pathologists when compared to Lodi Unified.

Ms. Elizabeth Gambrah, Library/Media Assistant, Bear Creek High School, spoke regarding the need to reinstate the hours of Library Assistants back to full time positions at the high school level and the facilities at her work location.

Dr. Merced Romero, Teacher, spoke of teacher culture in Lodi Unified. He also advocated for a non-adversarial system for the negotiation process.

Ms. Susan Heberle, Community Member, gave farewell wishes and advice to the Student Representatives to the Board. She spoke regarding the National Science Bowl and noted the theme for this year's competition was supercomputing.

Ms. Ashley Ortegell, Student, Borchardt Elementary School, urged Board members to consider a fair contract settlement for teachers.

Ms. Dana Dillon, Board of Directors, California Teachers Association, as a teacher she is standing in solidarity with her brothers and sisters in Lodi. She commented that teachers are the heart of the community and should be compensated fairly.

Ms. Anne Swehla-Garcia, Teacher, Wagner-Holt Elementary School, asked the Board to offer the teachers a fair contract. As a parent and President of the Bear Creek Athletic Foundation, she voiced her concern regarding a comment made earlier in the evening regarding high schools.

Comments from Employee Group Representatives

Mr. Jeff Johnston, President, Lodi Education Association, noted that this is National Teacher Appreciation Week and today is National Day of the Teacher. He acknowledged that District teachers feel underappreciated. He asked the Board to consider their decisions to give a raise to a specific employee and add new positions, including a Coordinator for Positive School Climate. He stated the District cannot afford to have this situation drawn out and asked the Board to direct personnel to return to the table with a fair and competitive offer and make employees a top priority.

Ms. Joni Kort, President, Lodi Pupil Personnel Association, spoke regarding contract negotiations concerning speech language pathologists. She concluded that for the SLP positions to be attractive to potential hires, additional days per year and additional minutes per day need to be added to their contract. She cited the need to additional time is for the SLPs to collaborate with their fellow support staff members on the educational team handling complex student cases. She asked for consideration to

separate the LPPA agreements for medical benefits from the concerns specific to speech language pathologists.

Ms. Debra Ladwig, President, California School Employees Association, Chapter #77, stated she attended the Local Control Accountability Plan study session the week prior. She commented she had questions from the LCAP meeting in regards to funding sources that were not listed in the budget information provided at the meeting. She commented regarding negotiations and asked the Board to compensate classified employees with wages comparative to their respective workers in neighboring school districts.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Heberle thanked the student representatives for representing their school sites and themselves well. Mr. Heberle highlighted a recent Kiwanis Club meeting and noted that the Lodi City Manager was the guest speaker. During the meeting the City Manager gave his perspectives regarding the value of employees and cultivating them as assets.

Ms. Cassel thanked the student representatives and wished them well. She spoke regarding three courses that were approved on Consent Agenda A: Foundations in Personal Finance; Seminar 101 and Introduction to Technology. Foundations in Personal Finance was created by Tim Stutz, Teacher at Liberty High School. Seminar 101 was developed by Jennifer Tillett and Kayla Kersey, from McNair High School and Charles Taylor, Instructional Coach, created the Introduction to Technology course of study.

Mr. Womack voiced his appreciation to Alexa and Ryan and noted the importance of the Board listening to what kids are saying. Mr. Womack thanked Mr. Hern and his staff for providing *Fiscal Focus* that updates the Board on budget items. He asked if this publication is made available to other staff members. He noted that April 23 was School Bus Driver Appreciation Day. He attended the Music in Our Schools program at McNair High School. Mr. Womack thanked Teacher of the Year, Joe Sandoval for his contributions and thanked the Michael David Family Foundation for their contributions to the community and the school district.

Mr. Freitas thanked the students, awardees and speakers for their valuable comments. He acknowledged Lynn Aebi, Casino Night Chairperson, and Kim Collier and Valerie McFee for their assistance to make Casino Night a successful event. He noted that not only is he teleconferencing this meeting, but he is also watching the meeting via Live Stream. He ended his comments with a "Happy Cinco de Mayo" wish to all.

Mr. Nava spoke regarding optimistically regarding current contract negotiations.

Comments from the Superintendent

No further comments.

Reports

Placement of Students in Non-Public School

Ms. Dawn Vetica, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education; Mr. Bill Saunders, Administrative Director, Student Services/SELPA and Ms. Kathy Vasquez, Coordinator, Psychological, presented the report.

The team discussed what has been put into place to address students with significant behavioral issues. Data detailing non-public school placement from 2006 was presented. Discussion ensued.

Dr. Talken asked about utilizing the funds provided to non-public entities and providing the services in Lodi Unified. Ms. Vasquez noted that many students are serviced at Turner Academy that were previously services at non-public school facilities and that Turner Academy is increasing their capacity at the former Tokay Colony site. The former Turner School site may provide an additional facility to provide services for students that would normally attend a non-public school.

Public Comments

No public comments were received.

Proposed Board Policy Revisions

Dr. Washer presented forty-five documents for revision, including Board policies, rules and exhibits.

Mr. Heberle inquired as to the Use of School Facilities policy and asked why students were charged for using high school facilities to present a sober graduation event. Mr. Hern stated he would look into the issue.

Ms. Cassel commented on the tobacco-free schools policy and the policy related to food sales.

Dr. Washer noted the proposed revisions will return for action at the next meeting of the Board of Education.

Board Discussion

Board Discussion of Current Lodi Unified Homework Policy

The Board discussion item regarding the current Lodi Unified homework policy was added to the agenda at the request of Mr. Neely; however, as he was not in attendance, Mr. Nava asked to table this item to the next meeting.

Board Advisory Committee Reports

Mr. Heberle attended the April 28th Lodi 2x2 Meeting, which is a meeting of Lodi Unified and staff from the City of Lodi. The group discussed the upcoming AMGEN bicycle race on May 11. Mr. Heberle stated that entities were identified that would aid in the process to move the Grape Bowl upgrades forward. The group discussed ways to facilitate access and provide security for Lodi track joint use. They discussed the possibility of District custodians locking facilities during weekdays and the City of Lodi will aid in securing the gate at Lodi High when they secure their parks. Mr. Heberle noted that District and City of Lodi administrative staff would work out the fine details. Mr. Heberle noted that the public benefit outweighs the cost and it was great to see such collaboration between agencies. It was noted that Mr. Neely also attended the Lodi 2x2 meeting.

Future Agenda Items

Mr. Heberle asked for an update regarding math pathways.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.


Clerk of the Board
President of the Board