



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
February 4, 2014
Closed Session 6:00 p.m./Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Ms. Bonnie Cassel, President; Mr. Joe Nava, Vice-President; Ms. Ruth Davis, Clerk; Mr. Ron Freitas; Mr. Ron Heberle; and Mr. Ralph Womack

Board Member Absent: Mr. George Neely

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

Meeting Recorder: Lynn Aebi, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

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

No comments were received at this time.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:10 p.m. Attendance was recorded and President Cassel led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session

President Cassel reported on the following actions taken in Closed Session:

- **Non-Public School Student Placement – Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board voted as follows to approve the placement of Non-Public School Students 2013-14 #s 46, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85 and 86:**

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

Noes: None

Absent: Neely

Abstain: None

Motion carried

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Washer reported the District is working with Stockton's Chief of Probation to implement the Restorative Justice Program at Creekside and Beckman Elementary Schools. It is an intervention program to help students who are having behavior issues at school, as an alternative to the suspension/expulsion route. She reported a group from McNair attended the Health Occupation

Students of America (HOSA) area leadership conference and congratulated two students who earned high honors at the event; Lily Pham, placed third in the job seeking skills competition and Jeremiah Quilantang placed third in medical math and first in job seeking skills. The Lodi-Tokay Rotary Club conducted their annual speech contest which featured students from Liberty and Tokay High Schools. The students' personal stories were amazing and demonstrated how attention from an adult can change the direction of a students' life. This is one example of how the District needs to continue efforts of involving community members in the educational process. She thanked John Chapman, Teacher, Tokay High School; Steve Jordan, Teacher, Liberty High and Liberty Principal, Tami Somera for helping their respective students with this event.

The District continues to move forward with LCAP, so far conducting four community forums with combined attendance of over 100 people. Staff is currently planning a "field trip" for high school students to give their input to the LCAP process, date to be determined. The students will have the same presentation by Mr. Hern that he has been given to parents and staff.

Save the date - Dr. Washer announced that on March 13th the LUSD Adaptive Physical Education staff and the Recreational Sports Club of San Joaquin County will host the sixth annual 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament at Millswood. In the past, there has been up to 400 participants and it has been a popular event for our adaptive P.E. students.

Recognitions

The Carlston Family Foundation presented McNair High School with an award in the amount of \$5,000 and awarded \$15,000 to Elizabeth Lawson, McNair teacher, for being selected as one of their 2013 Outstanding Teachers of America recipients.

Bear Creek High School's student journalism program was recognized for receiving two high honors from the National Scholastic Press Association for articles in "The Bruin Voice." Lodi Unified students returned from the national conference with the Pacemaker and Best of Show awards. The Pacemaker award is considered to be the Pulitzer Prize of student journalism.

Public Hearing

Waiver for Assessment Apportionment

Ms. Cassel declared open the Public Hearing: Waiver for Assessment Apportionment. There were no comments and the hearing was declared closed.

Consent Agenda A

Ms. Ruth Davis pulled Item A-1, Ms. Cassel pulled Item A-3 and Mr. Womack pulled Item A-12. No items were pulled by the public.

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board members present voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda A, Routine Business, as amended:

- Item A-2 Contracts List
- Item A-4 AB1200 and 2013/14 proposed salary scheduled for Lodi USD Employee Group:
LUSDAA
- Item A-5 AB1200 documents for Lodi USD Employee Group: Confidential

- Item A-6 Resolution 2014-05 Authorizing the Notice of Completion (NOC) for the 2013 Re-Roofting Portables at Various Sites Under Open Contract Extension
- Item A-7 Approval of 2012-13 School Accountability Report Cards, Published during 2013-14
- Item A-8 Minutes of the January 14, 2014, Regular Board Meeting
- Item A-9 Resolution 2014-04 Application for Continued Funding from the California Department of Education (CDE), Early Education and Support Division (EESD), for the 2014-2015 School Year for State Preschool
- Item A-10 Vincent Shalvey Charter Renewal
- Item A-11 Resolution 2014-06 Lincoln Day Holiday 2014-15 School Year. Proposal to Observe Lincoln Day on Friday, February 6, 2015
- Item A-13 Waiver for Assessment Apportionment

Ayes: Cassel, Davis, Freitas, Heberle, Nava and Womack
Noes: None
Absent: Neely
Abstain: None

Motion carried

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-1, Changes to the Adopted Budget

Ms. Davis expressed concern regarding the status of the District's Reserve Fund balance and allocation of funds from this fund. She asked staff for an accounting report to chronicle how the monies from the Reserve Fund have been spent up to this point.

Public Comments
Susan Heberle

Mr. Nava motioned, Ms. Cassel seconded and the Board voted as follows to approve Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget:

Ayes: Cassel, Davis, Freitas, Heberle, Nava, Womack
Noes: None
Absent: Neely
Abstain: None

Motion carried

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-3, Donations

Ms. Cassel pulled this Item to recognize the generous donations from various entities, companies and individuals were gifted to the District.

Ms. Cassel motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted, as follows, to approve Item A-3 Donations:

Ayes: Cassel, Davis, Freitas, Heberle, Nava, Womack
Noes: None

Absent: Neely
Abstain: None

Motion carried

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-12, Instructional Calendar for 2014-15

Mr. Womack pulled this Item to inquire if there were any attendance problems last year due to starting school on a Friday, as the calendar before the Board also shows a Friday as the start date for the new school year. Dr. Washer answered that although it was a concern last year, only positive comments were received.

Ms. Davis asked what the District's Average Daily Attendance was for that day. Dr. Washer stated the District did not see a significant difference in attendance on that day.

Mr. Womack motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted, as follows, to approve Item A-12 Instructional Calendar for 2014-15:

Ayes: Cassel, Davis, Freitas, Heberle, Nava, Womack
Noes: None
Absent: Neely
Abstain: None

Motion carried

The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

Expulsion: Student #13/14-10-48
Expulsion: Student #13/14-4-49
Expulsion: Student #13/14-8-50
Expulsion: Student #13/14-8-51
Readmission: Student #12/13-7-53
Readmission: Student #12/13-8-55

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

Ayes: Cassel, Davis, Freitas, Heberle, Nava, Womack
Noes: None
Absent: Neely
Abstain: None

Motion carried

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Amend Board Policy to Remove Driver's Education and Health as a Graduation Requirement

The Item was presented by Lisa Kotowski, Administrative Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Christine Casillas, Counselor and Cindy Mettler, Instructional Coach. The Driver's Education requirement was removed for the current freshman class. Staff would like to proceed with removing it as a graduation requirement. Discussion ensued.

President Cassel opened the floor for public comment on this item.

The following individuals addressed their position on the proposal to amend policy to remove Driver's Education and Health as a graduation requirement: Sonja Renhult, Teacher, Live Oak; Jennifer Taylor, Teacher, Lodi High; Kelly Garrett, Teacher, Lodi High; Cynthia Phipps, Teacher, Bear Creek High; Anthony Sahyoun, Teacher, Bear Creek High; Marena Henne, Parent; Sue Kenmotsu, Teacher, Julia Morgan; John Hunt, Counselor, Tokay High School; and Jeff Johnston, President, Lodi Education Association.

Seeing no others, President Cassel closed public comment and brought the item to the Board for further questions and comments. There was an extensive discussion.

Student Representatives Comments

Mr. Green stated he is against the proposal of eliminating Driver's Education as a graduation requirement, adding that class time for this purpose is very valuable. He believes that students won't take it if it is not a requirement. Academically, it is very hard to comprehend online classes; he added that he believes every student should learn about Health and Driver's Ed. at school.

Ms. Truong agreed with Mr. Brooks. She stated that, it does not apply as much to McNair, as they are on a block schedule and they have more flexibility in their schedule to fit in additional classes.

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board members voted as follows to amend Board policy to remove Driver's Education and Health as a graduation requirement:

Ayes: Cassel, Heberle, and Womack
Noes: Davis, Freitas, Nava
Absent: Neely
Abstain: None

Motion Failed

The student preferential vote was unanimously nay.

Further discussion on the Item ensued post vote, including amending the item to remove Driver's Education and Health for incoming (2014-2015) freshman, as proposed by Mr. Heberle. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Freitas seconded and the Board voted, as follows, to amend the item to remove Driver's Education and Health as a graduation requirement for the 2014-2015 incoming freshman:

Ayes: Cassel, Freitas, Heberle and Womack
Noes: Davis, Nava
Absent: Neely
Abstain: None

Motion carried

No student preferential vote was taken.

Public Comments

Anthony Sahyoun; Teacher, Bear Creek; Jen Cassel, Teacher/Parent, Tokay High; and Jennifer Taylor, Teacher, Lodi High; and Tammy Naylor, Teacher, Bear Creek.

Ms. Cassel comment that she would like to extend this to all students for next year while the Board continues to explore this issue. Discussion continued.

Personnel Matters

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

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

Ayes: Cassel, Davis, Freitas, Heberle, Nava and Womack
Noes: None
Absent: Neely
Abstain: None

Motion carried

Communications

Comments from Student Representatives

Brooks Green, Bear Creek High School and Jennifer Truong, McNair High School, presented reports from their respective high schools.

Comments from the Public

Susan Heberle, Community Member, commented on the differences of charter schools from public school. She spoke on the lengths parents, students and teachers go to towards providing for students' education.

Comments from Employee Groups

None

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Nava commented on the retirement of Tokay High School Instructor, Coach and icon in wrestling, Rod Gains.

Mr. Womack thanked Dr. Washer for including the students in the LCAP process. He spoke on prevention and intervention. He commented on an article in *The Record* regarding student suspensions and noted, Lodi Unified is lower; however we need to continue to monitor this issue. He will make a visit to both McNair and Bear Creek High Schools in the coming week to visit their in-school suspension programs.

Mr. Heberle commented on the Skills USA competition last week at Delta. He attended the PLC at Needham and noted it was nice to hear how the staffs are finding success and were very open about the direction they would like to go. The topic came up at the LCAP and GOT Kids meetings regarding what isn't being funded out of site budgets. Specifically, at the LCAP meeting many groups identified the need for additional school site staffing, school supplies and equipment repairs. He affirmed his commitment to reallocating funds back to the sites, as soon as possible.

Ms. Cassel reported she attended two workshops in the last two weeks, including the California School Boards Association's Board President workshop, which was attended by eighty other board presidents,

and the Governor's Budget workshop. She was invited to attend a Common Core workshop, and noted that only elementary teachers from Reese School were in attendance. She is concerned that there might be more attendance from Title 1 schools, and expressed that the instructor of the workshop noted that all teachers need to be trained. Ms. Cassel asked Dr. Washer to report to the Board on how close we are with the new funding and to give a dollar amount to have all teachers trained on Common Core.

Comments from the Superintendent

None

REPORT

Middle and High School Textbook Adoption and Math Pathways Update

Lisa Kotowski, Administrative Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, along with a team of instructors: Tammy Naylor; Agatha Smith; Julie Serrando; and Kevin Anderson presented the report item. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Nava questioned the group regarding the new textbooks and how they will be utilized. Ms. Kotowski stated they will develop a plan and return to a future Board meeting.

Mr. Womack spoke of keeping younger students in the conversation and was pleased to see further discussion on placement criteria.

Presenter Agatha Smith, when asked by Mr. Freitas about the program, stated she was excited, as Common Core is bringing some contextual understanding to math.

Mr. Heberle voice concerned about the intended pathways and implementation, specifically he is not sure the accelerated math pathway gets us to where we need to be.

Ms. Cassel asked how this will look when school begins. Ms. Kotowski said there will be a better answer at the end of February, after the materials are reviewed. Ms. Kotowski noted that if teachers have doubts, the District could implement Common Core without the adoption.

Public Comments

Parent (unnamed); Leanne Goble, Parent; Lee Starkovich, Parent; Susan Heberle, Community Member; Adam Rucker, Parent; and Jen Cassel, Teacher/Parent, Tokay High.

As much of the concern was pathway opportunities and college acceptance, Dr. Washer stated that the District would never put LUSD students at a disadvantage regarding college acceptance standards. As per the state of California, Common Core Standards are to be implemented starting next school year. She stated she has faith the District committee will do the best for our students.


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Board Advisory Committee Reports

None

The meeting adjourned at 10:46 p.m.


Clerk of the Board


President of the Board