



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 7, 2013

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

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

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

Student Representatives: Crystal Nguyentan, Bear Creek High School and Ella Phlai, McNair High School

Meeting Recorder: Valerie McFee, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

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.

Adjourn to Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

Reconvene Open Session

The meeting was reconvened at 7:09 p.m. Attendance was recorded and President Womack led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Condolences

The Board acknowledged the passing of both Mr. Ken Israel, teacher and former Athletic Director at Tokay High School and Ms. Carolyn Wilson, former teacher and administrator.

Closed Session

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

- **Non-Public School Student Placement** – Mr. Neely motioned, Ms. Davis seconded and the Board voted 7-0 to approve the placement of Non-Public School Student 2012-13 #s 115, 116 and 117.

Superintendent's Report

- Roy Yates, Lodi High Senior named California "Star Farmer" at the state Future Farmer's of America conference.
- Plaza Robles High School's WASC accreditation has been reaffirmed through the end of the six-year term ending in June, 2016.
- Karen Rogers, Julia Morgan music teacher and Sonja Renhult, Tokay Colony teacher, have been chosen as San Joaquin A+ "A+ Teacher of the Year" for 2013.

- Paige Blevins, Lodi Middle School teacher has been selected as one of five finalists for San Joaquin County Teacher of the Year.
- Parklane School is a 2013 recipient of a school makeover grant as part of Comcast Cares Day.
- Podesta Ranch Elementary School, lead by Pierre Kirby, has once again been named a "California Business for Education Excellence Honor Roll" school.
- Edith Holbert and Dan Maclise, of Technology Services, were interviewed for an article in *THE JOURNAL* magazine on the subject of the District's "Bring Your Own Device" program, which was piloted at a middle school last year.

Staff Member Report

Mr. Hern gave a brief budget update, noting that we are budgeting according to statute until the Governor sets another direction.

Recognitions

Student Representatives Crystal Nguyentan from Bear Creek High School and Ella Phlai from McNair High School received recognition from the Board for their service as student representatives representing their respective high schools for the 2012-2013 school year. President Womack presented plaques to each student.

Science Olympiad Recognitions – Science Olympiad teams from Vinewood, Elkhorn, Bear Creek, Tokay High and Lodi High were recognized or their names were read in their absence.

Mr. Erik Sandstrom, Principal, Tokay High School, acknowledged Tokay High student, Julie Fukunaga, who received first place in the county Science Fair. Ms. Fukunaga is also the county spelling champion and is on her way to the state spelling bee.

San Joaquin County Bi-Literacy Award recipients were recognized.

Lodi Unified 2013-14 Teacher of the Year, Paige Blevins, instructor at Lodi Middle School, was honored. Ms. Blevins will continue on to represent Lodi Unified at the county level.

Comment

Mr. Neely reminded the audience that Friday night is the GOT Kids Casino Night fundraiser.

President Womack announced National Teacher Appreciation Week (May 5-11) and California School Employee Week (May 19-25).

Consent Agenda A

Mr. Neely removed Item A-2. Mr. Heberle removed Items: A-5; A-13; A-14; A-15; A-16; and A-17. Mr. Womack removed Item A-7.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board voted 7-0 to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended:

Item A-1 Changes to the Adopted Budget

- Item A-3 Purchase Order Detail Report
- Item A-4 Minutes of the April 2, 2013 Regular Meeting
- Item A-6 Ratification of Representatives/Alternate Delegates to California Interscholastic Federation
- Item A-8 Resolution 2013-20 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Proposals for Tokay High Snack Bar Project
- Item A-9 Resolution 2013-21 Authorizing Reroofing at School Readiness & Preschool
- Item A-10 Resolution 2013-22 Kitchen Renovations at Various Sites
- Item A-11 Resolution 2013-23 Authorizing the Filing of Notice of Completion for Clairmont School Intercom System Project
- Item A-12 Resolution 2013-24 Authorizing the Filing of the Notice of Completion for Kitchen Renovations at Various Sites

No student preferential vote was taken.

Item A-2 Contracts Lists

Mr. Neely asked for an explanation of the item from Zonar System, Inc., to provide Global Positioning System (GPS) installation, training and maintenance for 2013-2016. Mr. Hern stated it was for safety reasons, as the system would tell when a bus is off route. It would also be a useful tool to maintain and adjust timing of routes, allow for tracking, etc.

Mr. Neely motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-2 Contracts List. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-5 Minutes of the April 16, 2013, Regular Meeting

Mr. Heberle asked to alter the minutes of April 16th to reflect that Item A-4, not Item A-5 was approved on Consent Agenda A.

Mr. Heberle moved, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-5 Minutes of the April 16, 2013, Regular Meeting. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-7 Approval of Associate Superintendent/Chief Business Officer Employment Contract

The item was pulled by Mr. Womack so that an addendum to the contract could be added.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Womack seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-7 Approval of the Associate Superintendent/Chief Business Officer Employment Contract with addendum. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-13 U.S. History Course of Study

Mr. Heberle indicated his comments and questions would cover Items A-13 to A-17. Mr. Heberle questioned the course catalog in reference to the course code selection sheet, regarding standard or CP, and how they get changed (blended) within the system. He also had a question regarding grading scales, as mentioned in the item, and the limits within eSchoolPLUS. Jackie Heinrich, Teacher at Lodi High School, addressed the question and explained the existing grading process within eSchoolPLUS and the limitations of the program in regards to grading scale parameters.

Ms. Cassel commented on recommended pathways, stating the attachment describes the choice of pathways that the parent, student and counselor may recommend for a particular student. She feels it is very important that we understand that there be flexibility for the student to go from one recommended pathway to the next. One example would be to change from U.S. History Course of Study to College Prep. She elaborated that the world that children are entering is a world, that in order to be successful in terms of career, aspirations and financial security, where it would be wise to take course work beyond high school. That could be vocational, career technical education or regular college, or something else. Their world is an A-G world, so if these students wish to make a change, there needs to be flexibility within the two pathways. Changes should probably be made during the first part of the semester, understanding the constraints of the master calendar.

Mr. Neely asked Mr. Eldridge for clarification regarding teachers being able to change the grading scale in eSchoolPLUS. Mr. Munsch fielded the question, stating there is a way teachers can change the grading scale. He explained the scale for an "A", "B", "C", or "D" can be changed. He noted, for teachers to be careful regarding course names, as those are aligned with CALPADS data collection.

Mr. Nava asked Ms. Kotowski why the textbooks have publication dates ranging from 1990 to 2005. Ms. Kotowski answered that there is a seven-year cycle for textbook adoption. With the budget crunch over the last few years, not all books were updated.

Mr. Heberle noted that this is still a pilot program and that no data exists for an entire year, only a one semester viewpoint. He would like to see this item come back to the Board after completed for one year to see how the pilot worked, including a teacher and student assessment.

Mr. Neely wanted confirmation that the courses will still be offered next year.

Public Comment

Martha Snider

Item A-13 U.S. History Course of Study

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-13 U.S. History Course of Study. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-14 World History Course of Study

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-14 World History Course of Study. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-15 Economics Course of Study

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-15 Economics Course of Study. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-16 World Geography: Physical and Human Geography Course of Study

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-16 World Geography and Human Geography Course of Study. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Item A-17 United States Government Course of Study

Mr. Heberle motioned, Mr. Nava seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item A-17 United States Government Course of Study. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases

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

- Expulsion: Student #12/13-7-69
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-11-70
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-10-71
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-6-72
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-9-73
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-7-74
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-6-75
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-10-76
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-4-77
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-4-78
- Expulsion: Student #12/13-10-79
- Admission: Student #12/13-6-A4

Other Action Items

Resolution 2013-19 Elimination of Classified Staff Due to Lack of Work and/or Funds

Mr. McKilligan presented the item for Board consideration and stated that principals at the specific school sites affected were present. Principals Jim Davis, McNair High School, Denice Shigematsu, Oakwood School and Allison Gerrity, Houston School were available for questions.

Ms. Davis asked the principals if this item would affect parent involvement at their sites.

Mr. Davis stated that McNair is losing one hour of time. Their enrollment was 2200 now at 1700 students. The need is no longer present.

Allison Gerrity responded for Houston School stating the position was on a timecard beyond the school day, thus not servicing students in the classroom.

Denice Shigematsu stated that at Oakwood, they do not have the number of students to support the programs. Elimination will not affect the parents.

Public Comment
Charlie Yee Cha

Mr. Nava motioned, Mr. Neely seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2013-19 Elimination of Classified Staff Due to Lack of Work and/or Funds. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Personnel Matters

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

Public Comment

None

Mr. Nava, motioned, Mr. Heberle seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the Personnel Matters as presented. The student preferential vote was unanimously aye.

Communications

Comments from Student Representatives

Crystal Nguyentan from Bear Creek High School and Ella Phlai from McNair High School reported on activities from their respective high schools.

Comments from the Public

Susan Heberle – shared highlights from the National Science Bowl conducted in Washington, D.C.

Rod Gaines, teacher, Tokay High School – addressed the Board for a second time regarding fees and usage of District vans.

John Chapman, Teacher, Tokay High School – reported on the Tokay High Parent Outreach Committee.

Employee Group Representatives

Jeff Johnston, Lodi Educator's Association, thanked the Board for their recognition of National Teachers Week and commented on the 150th anniversary of California Teachers Association (CTA). He commented on the 28 teachers that are retiring and recent lobbying efforts at the state Capitol. He spoke out regarding class size reduction and asked the Board to give direction to their District negotiators. Mr. Johnston reported that Special Education classrooms are still in need of paraprofessionals. He announced the three recipients of the LEA student scholarships. He mentioned the incident at Caesar Chavez High School last week and the need for teachers to have techniques for dealing with school safety in the classroom.

Comments from Board Members

Mr. Nava congratulated students, staff and administration of Lodi High School for moving up on the ranking from Bronze to Silver on *U.S. News & World Report*, Best Scholarships of America.

Mr. Neely reported that public education has lost a good friend in Sara Cazares, Stockton Unified School Board Member. He attended the Christa McAuliffe Technology Day featuring the Discovery Show Network. Mr. Neely discussed the transportation issue and asked if the District could cut expenses for transportation for sites at least in half.

Mr. Heberle attended the Bear Creek Every 15 Minutes assembly. He attended the Music In Our Schools concerts at Tokay for Lodi area schools and at McNair High School for Stockton area schools. Mr. Heberle attended the Christa McAuliffe Technology Day.

Ms. Cassel attended a UOP Volleyball clinic conducted at Morada, where UOP coaches and players came to speak to seventh and eight grade female students. The UOP players were representatives of students receiving full ride scholarships based on athletic ability. She attended Music in Our Schools. She attended the training for Common Core Standard training, Math and K-3. She visited Tokay Colony School and viewed the students working with their iPads. She attended the Christa McAuliffe multicultural celebration.

Mr. Freitas thanked Ansel Adams for inviting him to their multicultural event and John Muir for inviting him to the 4th grade presentations. He thanked Westwood for inviting him to their parent and volunteer appreciation luncheon. Mr. Freitas announced that Mr. Womack was recognized by Peace Keepers for his leadership within that group.

Mr. Womack attended the Every 15 Minutes programs at Bear Creek and Tokay High Schools, and Music in Our Schools. He visited the art show at Delta Sierra, attended the Common Core Standards training, and took part of the Parklane School clean up day. He attended the open house at Lodi Middle School and a talent show at Millswood Middle. He attended the open house at Beckman and the multicultural event at Christa McAuliffe. He congratulated the Olympiads at all levels. He visited Ansel Adams and John Muir Schools. He referred to a newspaper article regarding suspension and dropout rates in Stockton USD. He encouraged the superintendent to have our Child, Welfare & Attendance administrator chat with Dee Alimbini at SUSD to see what they are doing to lower these rates, adding that he would be happy to sit in on such a meeting.

Comments from the Superintendent

None

Reports

Recommendations to Change Graduation Requirements for Students in AVID or AP Human Geography in Relation to Driver's Education and Health

The report item was presented by Ms. Vetica, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education and Ms. Kotowski, Administrative Director, Curriculum & Instruction. Freshmen are currently choosing from three options: Driver's Education; Health/Safety; and Family Life Geography. Students taking AVID or AP Human Geography (10 credits) do not have room for Driver's Education and Health/Safety and Family Living, which were usually offered in summer school.

Mr. Neely stated he is not for doing away with Driver's Education. He feels this should be a required course.

Mr. Heberle agreed. Students need more experience regarding Driver's Education. If it is not provided, we are missing the safety quotient.

Ms. Vetica stated that students are required by the state to take a driver's education course. Some students take an online course and receive credit on their transcript.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Vetica explained that they are not suggesting removing the requirement from all, only 440 students (188 in AP Human Geography and 252 in AVID as 9th graders).

Mr. Nava stated he doesn't believe that students get the same benefit from an online driver's education class as from classroom instruction. He is not in favor of changing standards to exempt two groups.

Ms. Cassel stated she is delighted that we are expanding AVID down to primary grades. She envisions a seamless pathway for AVID students from primary to 12th grade. She agrees with the proposal.

Mr. Neely stated we should be able to support AVID; we should be able to do both.

Dr. Washer noted that students will take driver's education from Lodi USD or another source to get their license. If we make it a requirement, it then becomes our obligation to fund it.

Ms. Davis believes it is the students' choice, believing that most will do what they need to do to get their driver's license, but that may not be the case to continue AVID or HP Geography.

Discussion ensued regarding adding the health and safety portion to physical education classes.

Discussion then moved to valedictorian criteria. Ms. Vetica stated there is a need to change the policy as it worked in SASI but does not work in eSchoolPLUS. The suggested criteria would be:

First step: GPA of 4.0 or higher, and have no grade less than an "A" except in an AP or UC approved course. Second step: The highest UC/SCU GPA will determine the valedictorian.

Ms. Davis suggested that everyone should have the chance to be the valedictorian, not just AP students. Dr. Washer clarified the AP/valedictorian correlation.

Mr. Heberle reminded all to be mindful changes do not just affect their status as LUSD students, as transcriptions must be understandable to colleges.

Ms. Vetica explained the academic GPA. Board Rule 5121 states letter grades in grades 7-12. She wanted to make sure it is supported by the Board.

Mr. Heberle asked what classes would change from pass/no pass to a letter grade.

Ms. Vetica responded that CAHSEE intervention classes and Teacher's Assistant are the two major ones.

Mr. Heberle stated he has been on regional and corporate scholarship committees and if we change our students' GPA, we are washing them out of these kinds of scholarship opportunities.

Mr. Womack thanked Ms. Vetica and Ms. Kotowski for the report.

Public Comments

John Hunt, Susan Heberle

Review Strategic Plan Draft 2

Dr. Washer asked the Board if Strategic Plan, Draft 2 reflected the conversation from the April 17th Study Session.

Ms. Cassel asked if the Board could put the report item off for a later time, as Closed Session will be reconvened this evening.

Ms. Davis asked if Board Members could e-mail Dr. Washer comments, so as to be better prepared for the next time the item is presented.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. and the Board reconvened Closed Session.


Clerk of the Board


President of the Board