

Fountain Valley School District  
Superintendent's Office

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

10055 Slater Avenue  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

**July 23, 2008**

**MINUTES**

President Allcorn called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The following board members were present:

ROLL CALL

Mrs. Christine Allcorn	President
Mrs. Joanne Lew	President Pro Tem
Mr. Tony McCombs	Clerk
Mrs. Judy Edwards	Member
Mrs. Pat Harney	Member

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Harney.

Mrs. Allcorn noted that staff offered a correction to the board agenda on Item #3-B (Personnel Items), number 1.4.

**Motion:** Mrs. Edwards moved to approve the agenda as corrected.

AGENDA APPROVAL

**Second:** Mrs. Lew

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

There were no requests to address the board prior to closed session.

Mrs. Allcorn announced that the board would retire into closed session with action anticipated. The following would be addressed:

CLOSED SESSION

- Pupil Personnel: Education Code 48912(b) and 48918(c)  
*Student Expulsion or other disciplinary matters*
- Personnel Matters: Government Code 54957 and 54957.1  
*Appointment/Assignment/Promotion of employees; employee discipline/dismissal/release; evaluation of employee performance;*
- Property Negotiations: Government Code 54956.8  
*Real property negotiator Barry Blade will speak to the board about the property known as the Crossroads Building located at 265 S. Anita, Orange CA*

**CLOSED SESSION READOUT**

Following closed session, the following motion was publicly made.

**Motion by Mrs. Edwards:**

“Based on this board’s review and acceptance of the Administrative Hearing Panel’s findings of fact and recommendation for expulsion, I move that students 273133, 275004, 264260, 993700049, 273161, 268264, 993700153, and 273053 be expelled from all schools in the Fountain Valley School District through December 5, 2008 of the 2008-09 year.”

Second: Mrs. Lew

Vote: Unanimously approved 5-0

At 7:16 p.m. the board meeting was recessed to allow for a meeting of School Assets Management, Inc. The regular board meeting resumed at 7:17 p.m.

**STUDY SESSION ON DISTRICT STRATEGIC GOALS**

Mrs. Allcorn opened the study session in which the board would deliberate, ask questions and suggest changes to the proposed District 2008-09 Goals as created by the Instruction, Business and Human Resources Divisions. Dr. Barry Blade and Mrs. Rosemary Eadie were prepared to respond to board questions and comments. Dr. Ecker pointed out that the 2008-09 goals reflect the recent changes in the District’s senior management configuration.

For Goal #1, Mrs. Lew asked if the District is considering the funding which the Educational Foundation has set aside for visual arts and performing arts. Mrs. Eadie replied that currently the Foundation’s planned funding is the largest resource the District has for arts curriculum. Mrs. Allcorn said she enjoys accessing the District and school websites for such things as homework assignments for her children. The board proposed no changes for Goal #1.

For Goal #2, Mrs. Allcorn asked if the Response to Intervention model is currently the favorite method for intervention, and she asked if the board could see a summary report that tells more about this model. There was board consensus and Mrs. Eadie agreed that she would create a report to provide the board additional information on what this method of intervention is about. The board proposed no changes for Goal #2.

For Goal #3, Mrs. Edwards asked if all teachers receive GATE training. Mrs. Eadie responded that only those teachers that have GATE identified students receive the training, and noted that Mrs. Minnesang has offered some exceptional GATE teacher trainings utilizing GATE funding. The board proposed no changes for Goal #3.

For Goal #4, Mrs. Allcorn suggested some wording changes for this goal with the change to read, *“The Fountain Valley School District shall attract and retain teachers and certificated management personnel who possess the talent and potential to assure sustained success.”* The board and staff concurred.

For Goal #5, Mrs. Harney suggested spelling out the acronym of FRISK: Facts-Rules-Impacts-Suggestions-Knowledge. The board and staff concurred.

For Goal #6, Mr. McCombs pointed out that the Nieblas escrow has just closed. Dr. Blade concurred. It was also pointed out that the objective concerning the Crossroads Building was soon to be determined and the board would receive an update on the disposition of this property. The board proposed no changes for Goal #6.

The board proposed no changes for Goal #7.

Dr. Ecker said the minor changes recommended by the board would be inserted and the District goals will be brought back for adoption by the board on August 21. Dr. Ecker pointed out that a draft of this evening's goals would be shared with the management team when they next meet on August 12.

### **STUDY SESSION ON 2008-09 BOARD INTERESTS**

Mrs. Allcorn opened the study session on the Board Interests for 2008-09 and noted that the board had been given an update on the outcomes from the 2007-08 Board Interests. Mrs. Allcorn suggested to the board that last year's interests could be discussed, but that the board would not need to reach consensus on a new list of 2008-09 Board Interests at this meeting. Board interests will be deliberated again at the board meeting in August.

- *Interest #1: Elementary and Middle School Music*

Mrs. Lew said she felt it is important to replace the retired middle school music teachers with other certificated instructors. Mrs. Lew said that parents still need to pay out of pocket for instrumental music instruction, and she wished this would not be the case. Lastly, Mrs. Lew said her interest would be for the District to "Reinstate middle school music as a District funded program." Dr. Ecker said between now and the August board meeting and with Mrs. Lew's help, staff will bring forward this Board interest with some revised wording.

- *Interest #2: Visual and Performing Arts Education*

Mrs. Harney suggested changing "music education" to "arts education." Mrs. Lew said with the new visual arts curriculum that will focus on dance and theater in 2008-09, she felt it is important to keep this as a Board Interest.

- *Interest #3: Interest-Based Bargaining*

Mrs. Harney said it was acceptable to her to remove this as a Board interest, but she wanted to point out that the time to offer bargaining training is when the bargaining teams are working collaboratively. Dr. Ecker was in agreement, and suggested that although this might be removed as a Board Interest, the board may wish to prioritize this as a goal for the certificated and classified bargaining teams. Dr. Ecker pointed out that interest-based bargaining cannot be just for the board and not just for the two bargaining associations. Everyone needs to buy into it, and additionally, there is a cost factor which must be considered.

- *Interest #4: All-Day Kindergarten*

There was consensus among the board to keep this as a board interest. Despite the fact that at this time budget will not permit the District to move forward, it remains a keen interest of the board.

- *Interest #5: Support for ACE and SPC and community involvement*

Mrs. Allcorn noted the success of this Board Interest in 2007-08 with a parent and student Internet and Tobacco Awareness information night, the successful Sacramento Safari and board meeting presentation. There was board consensus to keep this as an interest.

Mrs. Allcorn said she wanted to proposed a new Board Interest concerning the District website. She said she had noted positive changes in recent months, but feels it could still be made better. Mrs. Allcorn noted that the website contains things the District thinks parents and community want to know, and Mrs. Allcorn suggested seeking community input on “what would you like to see and access on the District’s website?” Mr. McCombs said perhaps creating a survey and recording the responses could be a new board interest for 2008-09. The board concurred and this will be reworded and brought back for more discussion in August.

## **BOARD REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Lew said the Educational Foundation has continued to meet during the summer. Work is beginning on Taste of Fountain Valley which will be held the evening of November 14. Mrs. Lew said the Foundation is also working on a new corporate donation campaign. A gathering of Foundation and PT leaders is planned for August 18.

Mr. McCombs said he shared with Dr. Blade some information from Edison on a software program to help save on power consumption.

Mrs. Edwards said she had visited the summer school programs at Courreges and Newland, and attended a recent city “Concert in the Park” held at Masuda.

Mrs. Allcorn said she had visited the two summer school programs.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Three people addressed the board.

- A community member from Newland asked for help concerning her son’s severe peanut allergy especially as it concerns creation of a 504 Plan for his disability and the proper cleaning of lunch tables at Newland School to remove all traces of peanut products.
- A trustee from the Ocean view School District told the board that the District’s refusal to agendize his “In God We Trust” Resolution for board vote was illegal and he will be submitting formal complaints against the District with the District Attorney, OCDE and the Grand Jury.
- A community member and former superintendent from the Ocean View School District spoke in support of Fountain Valley School District’s enthusiasm for and teaching of patriotism, and he urged the trustee from Ocean View to visit Fountain Valley schools to witness patriotic displays and teachings at our schools. Also pointed out that a District that spends a lot of time producing requested documents that have nothing to do with educating children is counter-productive and he felt the community would not tolerate it.

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

**Motion:** Mr. McCombs moved to approve all items on the Consent Calendar in one action.

**Second:** Mrs. Lew

The Consent Calendar included:

- Board meeting minutes from the regular meeting held on June 26, 2008
- Personnel Items
- Donations
- Warrant Registers
- Purchase Order listing
- Budget Transfers
- Membership renewal in the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development in the amount of \$219.00
- Membership renewal in Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$309.00
- Record of Eighth Grade Promotion, 2008
- English language Acquisition Program Application for funding, 200u8-09
- Resolution 2009-01: Southern California Relief (SCR) annual membership renewal
- Approval of the Energy Management Conservation Policy for second reading and adoption
- Approval of changes to Policy 5131.7 for second reading and adoption
- Approval of changes to Board Bylaw 9322 for second reading and adoption
- Approval of the temporary Loan from Fund 40
- Approval of submittal of the Williams Quarterly Report for the Fourth Quarter of 2007-08
- Approval of the agreement with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo through 6/30/09
- Adoption of Resolution 2009-03: Authorization of Signature for State Preschool
- Approval of an amendment to the Grant Agreement between Children and Families Commission for Orange County and the Fountain Valley School District for the School Readiness Initiative through June 30, 2010
- Approval of a special education agreement with the parents for reimbursement not to exceed \$1,500.00
- Approval of a special education agreement with Caroline Zuk, Attorney at law for professional services through June 30, 2009

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no requests to address the board.

## NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS

**Mrs. Lew:** Said she is proud of the District's music program, and pointed out that at the Festival of the Arts each spring, most of the songs performed are of a patriotic nature, and these patriotic songs have been rehearsed most of the year and the music teachers enforce their meaning.

- Mr. McCombs: Said most of the special person/grandparent day celebrations at our schools also have themes that are of patriotism for our nation. Pointed out that he had attended the Huntington Beach parade on July 4 and that our superintendent had participated in the marathon race that morning.
- Mrs. Eadie: Pointed out the annual Veterans' Day celebration held at Masuda each year which includes the presence of the Masuda family and a stirring ceremony.
- Mrs. Allcorn: Spoke of schools and classrooms that have adopted a U.S. soldier and write regularly to that serviceman. Also said when she visited summer school classrooms just prior to July 4, every classroom with the exception of math was conducting a patriotic lesson about Independence Day.
- Dr. Ecker: Showed the board the current issue of Money magazine which lists the 100 best small cities in America and that Fountain Valley is on the list at #91, a tribute to the city's safety and quality school district.
- Thanked everyone who made comments at tonight's meeting. Thanked the board for its fine work during the study sessions and thanked Dr. Blade and Mrs. Eadie for their work in writing the District goals.
- Thanked Mr. John Briscoe for remaining at the meeting to hear closing comments.
- Said he had talked to his father, a veteran of WW II and the Korean War, on the subject of patriotism and his father told him that patriotism is like faith. It's not wearing a flag on one's lapel or putting a sign on a wall. Patriotism is in one's heart, and he warned against allowing others to define what patriotism is, for these individuals may have a hidden agenda.
- Mrs. Allcorn: Asked staff to check into the comments made by the parent this evening concerning her child's peanut allergy. Asked Dr. Blade if the cleaning of the tables could be re-investigated.
- Dr. Blade: Agreed with Mrs. Allcorn. Said that senior managers have already discussed this child's allergy before and a plan for peanut allergies will be discussed again when principals return with a focus on how to make some lunch tables safer for students with severe peanut allergies. Said that some school districts declare certain tables as "peanut free" tables. Said a proactive plan will be created before the opening of school.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Motion:** Mrs. Lew moved to adjourn the board meeting at 8:35 p.m.

**Second:** Mr. McCombs

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

/sg